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## Police Condemn Trump for Speech 'Condoning Law Enforcement Brutality'

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Arlington Police Chief Will Johnson did not go as far as some law enforcement officials, who are distancing themselves and their departments from President Donald Trump's comments Friday on police use of force, did.

The cops standing behind Trump gave a loud round of applause.

And the line - "W\$3 hen you see these thugs being thrown into the back of a paddy wagon - you just see them thrown in, rough - I said, please don't be too nice", did get some laughter. Like, don't hit their head and they've just killed somebody - don't hit their head.

"We're going to secure our border against illegal entry and we will build the wall, that I can tell you", Trump said, noting that the House on Thursday advanced \$1.6 billion for the first wave of construction, though that still has to pass the Senate.

Police departments across the country are hitting back at President Donald Trump after a "joke" he made about roughing up suspects. Today, the Justice Department estimates roughly 30,000 members worldwide and more than 10,000 in the USA, a number that has held steady for some years but that the department believes is trending upward. I do not agree with or condone @POTUS remarks today on police brutality.

Suffolk County Police Department came under fire last November when its former chief James Burke was sentenced to almost four years in prison for beating a handcuffed man in an interrogation room.

Civil rights groups that have spoken out against a number of Mr. Trump's policies were critical of the remarks, with the American Civil Liberties Union saying the comments would exacerbate tension between police and civilians.

Ben Tobias, a spokesman for the police department in Gainesville, Florida, also criticized the president's remarks.

I think he is doing our nation a disservice by encouraging police departments to engage in unlawful, unconstitutional behaviour. His audience was largely law enforcement officers, including members of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. A punishment is specified by courts, not by police. Hours after the commander in chief seemed to endorse police brutality during a speech at a Long Island community college by calling on cops to be a little less nice to suspects, the police department begged to disagree.

"The Boston Police Department's priority has been and continues to be building relationships and trust with the community we serve".

"Causing intentional injury to a handcuffed suspect is not only against police procedure, but is a federal crime for which police officers have been sent to prison", said Jonathan Blanks, managing editor of the National Police Misconduct Reporting Project at the libertarian Cato Institute.

The president praised the increasing militarization of USA police, saying "You know, when you wanted to take over and you used military equipment - and they were saying you couldn't do it - you know what I said?"