April 21, 2020

The Honorable Chad F. Wolf  
Acting Secretary of Homeland Security  
Office of the Secretary, United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS)  
Washington, DC  20528  

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The COVID-19 crisis engulfing the Nation has called for sacrifices by many federal employees.
At the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Transportation Security Officers (TSOs), law
enforcement officers and other front-line employees are often in close contact with persons who
are suffering from the effects of COVID-19. Because of their heroic efforts, too many of these
employees have fallen ill with the COVID-19 virus, and some have even died.

Therefore, we request that in recognition of the ultimate sacrifice made by DHS employees,
including TSOs and law enforcement personnel, who, while serving their Country, have died as a
result of COVID-19 infection, that you as Secretary, utilize your authority under the Civilian
Service Recognition Act of 2011, Pub. L. 112-73, to present a United States flag to the
beneficiary of the deceased as a way to formally express sympathy and gratitude on behalf of the
Nation.

The current crisis has highlighted the work and severe sacrifices made by so many federal
employees. It is only fitting that those who have fallen as a result of their dedication to duty be
recognized accordingly.

Sincerely,

Everett B. Kelley  
AFGE National President