



**\*\* EMBARGOED UNTIL 00:00hrs, 22 April 2020 \*\***

**PRESS RELEASE** Issued by the National Black Police Association

# **NBPA on the Fulbright-Stephen Lawrence Scholar Award in Policing (22.04.20)**

**By Police Sergeant Tola Munro, Avon & Somerset Police, President of the National Black Police Association, Fulbright Police Research Fellow 2010-11**

“Because of Stephen... we can have hope for a better future” and a lasting legacy worthy for Stephen Lawrence would be a police related award in his name.

As President of the National Black Police Association I am delighted to announce on this second Stephen Lawrence Day that the first police funded bursary now exists and we are working with the US-UK Fulbright Commission to establish the **Fulbright-Stephen Lawrence Scholar Award in Policing**. This award, supported by Baroness Lawrence is expected to send one of our black, Asian or minority ethnic Association members to the United States of America in the 2021-22 academic year - a future leader to conduct innovative research, engage with US communities, and learn lessons invaluable for policing black British communities.

Police forces are already welcoming the first of the 20,000 extra officers promised by Prime Minister Johnson. Many of these are from BAME communities and members of our 47 affiliated associations. They will add much to 21st century policing, but many of these will not have heard the Stephen Lawrence name. Many were born after 22 April 1993 when he was murdered by a racist gang in Eltham, London, England - one of the most significant events for policing in the past thirty years. I want this policing award to maintain that legacy of hope that Stephen promises.

Recruitment, screening and selection of candidates will be open competition and merit-based, with Baroness Lawrence review the short-listed applications. Her views will inform the interviews conducted with the assistance of the NBPA. The Baroness has also promised to meet the award recipient.

The £20,000 bursary funding comes from UK Police and Crime Commissioners, the Northern Ireland Policing Board-PSNI and the NBPA. I'd like to particularly thank David Munro, PCC Surrey, and Richard Denham from the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners for their work over the past two years in putting this together. All this, because of Stephen... #ChallengeAccepted

Note to Editors: *Images attached for your use*

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