



August 20, 2014

Colonel Ron Replogle  
Superintendent  
Missouri State Highway Patrol  
1510 East Elm Street  
P.O. Box 568  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

By facsimile to (573) 751-9419

Colonel Replogle:

We are writing to ask you to identify and remove a police officer who has demonstrated an inability to perform appropriately in Ferguson. Because the Missouri Highway Patrol has endeavored to deescalate the situation in Ferguson, we are confident that you will agree that law enforcement officers who are unable to maintain a professional demeanor and exercise appropriate restraint should not be involved.

Last evening, a police officer—who we believe to be a municipal police officer—pointed an assault weapon at civilians and threatened to kill them. When asked for his identity, the officer invites citizens to fuck themselves. A recording may be viewed at <http://youtu.be/3AFia3Uo0TQ>.

We understand that the situation in Ferguson has tense moments and that other officers appear to have intervened to diffuse the situation. However, this officer's conduct—from pointing a weapon, to threatening to kill, to responding with profanity to a request for identity—was from start to finish wholly unacceptable. Such behavior serves to heighten, not reduce, tension. It is also contrary to Missouri State Highway Patrol's effort to build a positive relationship with the community.

Please take immediate action to identify the officer in question and remove him from further duties in Ferguson.

Sincerely,

  
Anthony E. Rothert  
Legal Director

American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri Foundation  
454 Whittier Street · Saint Louis, Missouri 63108