



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Thomas F. O'Mara

## Statement from Senate Republican Leader Rob Ortt and Senator O'Mara: Cop killers should not be serving on "police reform" boards

THOMAS F. O'MARA March 31, 2021

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The appointment of Richard Rivera to one of Governor Cuomo's so-called 'Police Reform' boards in Ithaca and Tompkins County is a punch in the gut to police officers around New York State and their families.

Following **news reports this week that a paroled cop-killer has been serving on the city of Ithaca's Police Reform Board** (read more **HERE**, and **HERE**), New York State Senate Republican Leader Robert Ortt and Senator Tom O'Mara released the following statement:

*"The appointment of NYPD cop killer Richard Rivera to one of Governor Cuomo's so-called 'Police Reform' boards in Ithaca and Tompkins County is a punch in the gut to police officers around New York State and their families. We understand the importance of second chances. But a second chance should never include giving power over police reform to a cold-blooded criminal who killed a member of our law enforcement community execution-style. It is completely inappropriate, and he should be removed immediately.*

*"Mr. Rivera never should have been appointed to this police reform board. The only value he brings is a shock factor to appease anti-police activists. We proudly support our men and women in law enforcement. These attacks against our police must stop."*