

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 10, 2020

Greetings Commissioners:

On behalf of Attorney General William Barr and his executive team, we want to thank you again for your willingness to serve and provide you an update on the many activities and actions related to the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice. Since the last communication with you, several significant activities and events have occurred, including the following:

- Attorney General Barr provided plenary remarks to the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) during their Winter Training and Exposition Conference and addressed the establishment of the President's Commission and opportunity to provide a lasting roadmap for the future;
- Commission Chair Phil Keith, Director of the COPS Office, provided remarks to 10 working committees of the National Sheriffs Association (NSA) and provided a briefing on the President's Commission to each;
- Attorney General Barr provided plenary remarks to the Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA) Winter Conference and discussed the President's Commission. Additionally, he received the MCSA Presidential Citation for Leadership and Service;
- Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs Katie Sullivan provided plenary remarks to the National Narcotics Officers Association Coalition;
- Attorney General Barr meet with the Executive Board of the National Narcotics Officers Association Coalition to discuss the President's Commission and the challenges facing state, local, and tribal law enforcement in confronting the relentless fight against illegal narcotics and dangerous drugs;
- The Attorney General's leadership team, Rachel Bissex and Jeff Favitta, along with both the Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission met with the MCSA's Executive Board to discuss the President's Commission;
- Commission Chair Phil Keith provided remarks to MCSA and discussed the President's

Commission with the membership;

- Commissioner Bob Gaultieri (Sheriff) spoke to the MCSA about the President's Commission;
- Commissioner John Samaniego (Sheriff) attended the National Narcotic Officers Association Coalition meeting;
- Commissioner Regina Lombardo (Acting Director of ATF) spoke to the MCSA about gun violence and level of cooperation from local, state and tribal law enforcement to attack gun violence;
- Commissioner David Bowdich (Deputy Director of FBI) spoke to the MCSA about a wide range of issues and challenges from the dark web, cybercrime to transnational criminal organizations; and,
- Listening sessions continue to be conducted around the country, focusing on rural law enforcement, grants, crime reduction efforts and other law enforcement challenges. A summary report will be provided to the appropriate Working Groups and available to all Commissioners.

Highlights for the Week of February 10, 2020

Travel:

IIR's travel team is facilitating your arrangements for Miami. If you have any questions about travel and logistics you can reach out to Michelle Miller at IIR for assistance. She can be reached at mmiller@iir.com or via phone at 850-385-0600 x366. Next week you will receive an electronic travel package containing all final logistical instructions for Miami. We continue to plan the Social Problems Impacting Public Safety Hearing. The hearing will take place in Orange County, California on March 19 and 20, 2020. We are continuing to refine the draft agenda for the hearing and have a very in depth two days planned to explore homelessness, addiction, and mental health issues, and the impacts those issues have on the criminal justice system.

Working Groups:

A map of Commission representation, including Commissioners, Working Group Members, and Working Group Chairs is attached in this update email, although that list is somewhat fluid as the working group members become final. Outreach to all Working Group members is occurring to make introductions and plan Working Group conference calls to start next week, the majority of which have been scheduled. Each Working Group is assigned a senior federal program manager facilitator under the direction of Working Group Chairs. Federal program manager staff have developed draft implementation plans that outline proposed field visit locations, hearing dates, and other key activities, as well as a list of relevant resources that will be expanded as work expands. You will be receiving these implementation plans next week.

Map of Law Enforcement Commissioners, Working Group Chairs, and Working Group Members



Map of Law Enforcement

Commissioners



Map of Working Group Chairs



Map of Working Group Members



Looking Ahead:

Over the next two weeks, the Commission Chair and staff will meet with the following groups:

- The National Governor's Association (NGA) to discuss ways Commission can engage governors' offices and other state leaders.
- The U.S. Department of Justice Jails Technical Assistance Workgroup Listening Session, and;
- The American Correctional Association to learn more about corrections officer safety and wellness.

The Commission staff will also continue their engagement of the Working Groups and setting up proposed site visits and listening sessions for the Working Groups to consider.

Upcoming Stakeholder Meetings:

- February 29 to March 4, 2020—National Association of Counties (NACo) Winter Meeting in Washington, DC
- March 8 to 11, 2020—National League of Cities (NLC) Capitol City Conference in Washington, DC

March 24 to 26, 2020—IACP State and Provincial, State Associations of Chiefs of Police, and Midsized Agencies Divisions Midyear Meeting in Denver, Colorado

- March 27 to 28, 2020—National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) CEO Symposium in Atlanta, Georgia

**Updated Draft/Not for External Dissemination Agenda for Miami:
HEARING ONE –
OFFICER SAFETY and WELLNESS**

February 27

IACP Office Safety and Wellness Conference

8:00 a.m. - Commissioner Executive Meeting

8:45 a.m.

10:00 a.m. AG Remarks at IACP Symposium

Commissioners seated in front row

Opening Ceremonies at IACP Symposium Conclude

Commissioners depart Opening Ceremonies

Assemble in Hearing Room

**10:45 a.m. President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice
Hearing on Officer Health and Wellness**

Call to Order and Welcome

Phil Keith, Chair

10:50 a.m. Opening Statements by Commissioners

11:05 a.m. Testimony – Panel One—Framing the Issue

- **Report of the Officer Wellness Working Group**

Commissioner William Gross

- **Patrick Yoes, National President, Fraternal Order of Police**

Attacks Against Law Enforcement

- **Alexa James, Executive Director, National Alliance on Mental Illness**

Exposure to Critical Incidents and Trauma

- **Chief Steve Casstevens, President, International Association of Chiefs of**

Police

11:45 a.m. Lunch Break

1:00 p.m. Call to Order

1:00 p.m. Testimony – Panel Two—Experts

- **Dr. Scott Coyne, Medical Director, Suffolk County, NY Police Department**

Medical Crisis Action Team

- **Professor William King, Boise State University**

Burnout and job dissatisfaction

- **Dr. Alexander Eastman, DHS Medical Officer/Dallas PD**

1:30 p.m. Testimony – Panel Three—Promising Practices

- **Representative from Finest Care/NYPD**

The Finest Care program at New York-Presbyterian offers uniformed NYPD members of service access to free and confidential mental health services. The program allows officers to make an appointment to see a psychologist or psychiatrist in their office. Finest Care is available for all kinds of emotional challenges.

- **Aaron Snyder & Officer Nicole Juday, Indianapolis PD's Police Wellness Program**

- **Sherri Martin, Director of Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness, Fraternal Order of Police**

- **Mick McHale, President, NAPO**

2:00 p.m. Break

2:15 p.m. Testimony – Panel Four—Support

- **Karen Solomon, President, Blue H.E.L.P.**

It is the mission of Blue H.E.L.P. to reduce mental health stigma through education, advocate for benefits for those suffering from post-traumatic stress, acknowledge the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers we lost to suicide, assist officers in their search for healing, and to bring awareness to suicide and mental health issues.

- **Janice McCarthy, President, Care of Police Suicide Survivors**

Care of Police Suicide Survivors ministers to the needs of Law Enforcement Suicide Survivors by offering support through our network of Support Angels, care in the form of affordable mental health counseling for Law Survivors, and prevention of suicide

by educating officers about the symptoms of PTSD.

Stephanie Samuels, Founder – COPLINE

COPLINE serves law enforcement officers and their families by providing 24/7 trained peer support for crisis intervention along with referrals to specifically skilled mental health professionals for follow up and continued assistance.

Cherie Castellano, Cop2Cop

National Center for Crisis Management (American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress)

Dianne Bernard, Executive Director, Concerns of Police Survivors

Rebuilding shattered lives of survivors and co-workers affected by line-of-duty deaths.

3:05 p.m. Testimony Concludes

3:15 p.m. Commission Executive Session

4:15 p.m. Adjourn

4:15 p.m. IACP Officer Safety and Wellness Conference Welcome Reception

Your Commission staff is fully operational and working diligently to support all of your efforts as we approach the full Commission meeting in Miami. The Working Groups are being engaged to set-up their initial conference calls and design and commence with their work. We are always looking for ways to improve our support for the Commission and improve our communications, so please let us know about any suggestions or ideas. The Attorney General and his executive team have assembled a dedicated professional staff to support the Commission and we look forward to seeing you in Miami.

Phil Keith

Director

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 17, 2020

Greetings President's Commission Working Group Members:

On behalf of Attorney General William Barr and his executive team, we want to thank you again for your willingness to serve and provide you an update on the many activities and actions related to the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice. Since the last communication with you, several significant activities and events have occurred, including the following:

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- Listening sessions continue to be conducted around the country, focusing on rural law enforcement, grants, crime reduction efforts and other law enforcement challenges. A summary report will be provided to the appropriate Working Groups and available to all Commissioners.

Highlights for the Week of February 17, 2020

Working Groups:

As you likely know, each Working Group is assigned a senior federal program manager facilitator under the direction of Working Group Chairs. These federal program managers have been reaching out to introduce themselves and set-up Working Group kickoff meetings, which will be taking place starting this week. Federal program managers have developed draft implementation plans that outline proposed field visit locations, hearing dates, and other key activities, as well as a list of relevant resources that will be expanded as work commences. Note that this represents a starting point for your work, however you will be actively engaged in helping to shape and focus your working group activities and you will be receiving these implementation plans shortly. In addition to the implementation plans, your federal program managers are also finalizing resource listings of materials relevant to your topic. These resources lists will not be exhaustive, rather the process of continuing to provide you with relevant resources as your group's work evolves will continue.

Map of Law Enforcement Commissioners, Working Group Chairs, and Working Group Members



Looking Ahead:

Over the next two weeks, the Commission Chair and staff will meet with the following groups:

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- The U.S. Department of Justice Jails Technical Assistance Workgroup Listening Session, and;
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wellness.

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**HEARING ONE –
OFFICER SAFETY and WELLNESS
DRAFT AGENDA, FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY**

Miami, Florida

February 27

IACP Officer Safety and Wellness Conference Symposium

8:00 AM Commissioners' Executive Meeting

10:00 AM AG Remarks at IACP Symposium

Commissioners seated in front row

10:30 AM Opening Ceremonies at IACP Symposium Conclude

Commissioners depart Opening Ceremonies

Assemble in Hearing Room

**10:45 AM President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice
Hearing on Officer Health and Wellness**

Call to Order and Welcome

Phil Keith, Chair

10:50 AM Opening Statements by Commissioners

11:05 AM Testimony – Panel One—Framing the Issue

- **Report of the Officer Wellness Working Group**

Commissioner William Gross

- **Patrick Yoes, National President, Fraternal Order of Police**
- **Alexa James, Executive Director, National Alliance on Mental Illness**
- **Chief Steve Casstevens, President, International Association of Chiefs of Police**

11:55 AM Lunch Break – On Your Own

1:10 PM Call to Order

1:10 PM Testimony – Panel Two—Experts

- **Dr. Scott Coyne, Medical Director, Suffolk County, NY Police Department**

Medical Crisis Action Team

- **Professor William King, Boise State University**

Burnout and job dissatisfaction

- **Dr. Alexander Eastman, DHS Medical Officer/Dallas PD**

1:40 PM Testimony – Panel Three—Promising Practices

- **Representative from Finest Care/NYPD**

The Finest Care program at New York-Presbyterian offers uniformed NYPD members of service access to free and confidential mental health services. The program allows officers to make an appointment to see a psychologist or psychiatrist in their office. Finest Care is available for all kinds of emotional challenges.

- **Officer Nicole Juday, Indianapolis PD's Police Wellness Program**
- **Sherri Martin, Director of Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness, Fraternal Order of Police**
- **Mick McHale, President, NAPO**

2:20 PM Break

2:30 PM Testimony – Panel Four—Support

- **Karen Solomon, President, Blue H.E.L.P.**

It is the mission of Blue H.E.L.P. to reduce mental health stigma through education, advocate for benefits for those suffering from post-traumatic stress, acknowledge the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers we lost to suicide, assist officers in their search for healing, and to bring awareness to suicide and mental health issues.

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Care of Police Suicide Survivors ministers to the needs of Law Enforcement Suicide Survivors by offering support through our network of Support Angels, care in the form of affordable mental health counseling for Law Survivors, and prevention of suicide by educating officers about the symptoms of PTSD.

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National Center for Crisis Management (American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress)

- **Dianne Bernard, Executive Director, Concerns of Police Survivors**

Rebuilding shattered lives of survivors and co-workers affected by line-of-duty deaths.

3:30 PM Testimony Concludes

3:30 PM Commission Executive Session

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

When we began working on this historic Commission several months ago, none of us foresaw that we would be facing a global pandemic that would affect us at the level we find ourselves today. I can assure you, the Administration and the Department of Justice leadership remain committed to the safety and wellness of the Nation.

Travel restrictions have resulted in the postponement of the Commission's in-person hearings until further notice. We continue to press forward with the Commission's work using teleconferences. We hope that this shift will allow the Commission to continue its work while minimizing the impact on you as you continue to perform your primary duties in your home jurisdictions.

Going forward, the Commission will take testimony via a series of teleconference hearings each week. Working group activities (including conference calls, interviews and meetings with subject-matter experts, review of testimonies, and the development of report content and recommendations) will also continue using teleconferences. These are unprecedented times and we appreciate the many competing demands that you face. The Attorney General, those of us within the Department of Justice, and your colleagues across the Nation appreciate your continued contributions.

Our first teleconferences were this week. Highlights from the three hearings are included here, along with relevant attachments:

Highlights from testimony this week:

On Tuesday, we heard from Sheriff McMahon, John Snook from the Treatment Advocacy Center and Sgt. Sarah Shimko of Madison, WI Police Department's Mental Health Unit. On Wednesday, we heard from Sheriffs Barnes and Penzone and Dr. Shannon Robinson of Health Management Associates. During this compelling testimony, we heard about the prevalence of people with mental illness who come in contact with law enforcement and in jails and the difficulty in treating and transitioning them back into the community. We heard about specialized training for law enforcement and jailers, and the opportunity that crisis stabilization units offer to take some of the burden off the justice system. John Snook referenced in his testimony a recent report titled *Road Runners: The Role and Impact of Law Enforcement in Transporting Individuals with Severe Mental Illness, A National Survey*. You can find that full report [here](#). Sheriff Barnes mentioned the Orange County Integrated Service Plan several times during his testimony and you can also find that plan [here](#).

On Thursday, we received a presentation from Dr. Keith Humphreys of Stanford University on the link between alcohol and crime and the evidence base behind 24/7 Sobriety and Alcoholics Anonymous. For more information about these topics please refer to: <https://addictionpolicy.stanford.edu/>.

Please continue to check the [Commission's website](#) as it will be updated regularly with public facing documents, including panel testimony.

The working groups continue to meet regularly to prepare the outlines for the chapters and final document that will be presented to the Attorney General, the President, and Congress. A writer has been assigned to all working groups, and the working groups have begun to incorporate that writer into their weekly calls, virtual presentations, and other efforts.

We are aware of the impact that COVID-19 is having on the working groups, and we thank you for your tireless efforts to stay on track. The working groups are making important progress in reaching out to subject-matter experts, leading practitioners, and organizations with important perspectives on the topics under examination. For example, this week, the Law Enforcement Officer Health and Wellness Working Group talked with Dr. John Violanti from the University of Buffalo. Dr. Violanti is an internationally known expert on police stress and is a researcher and a police veteran who served as a New York State Police trooper

for 23 years. The Intersection of Criminal Justice Personnel Working Group organized a call around the topic of managing prison contraband. Subject-matter experts included Jefferson Dunn, Commissioner, Alabama Department of Correction; Wendy Kelly, Secretary, Department of Corrections, Arkansas; and Tony Parker, Commissioner of Correction, Tennessee. The Data and Reporting Working Group has arranged to have subject-matter experts speak about data methods and validity, evidence-based policing, and federal data in the coming weeks. These are just a few examples among many of how the working groups are springing to action to hear from experts in all of the subject matters that we've been charged to review.

Additionally, we have seen tremendous collaboration and communication between overlapping working groups. The Juvenile Justice and Youth Crime Working Group has been coordinating with the Reentry Programs and Rural and Tribal Law Enforcement Working Groups. The Intersection of Criminal Justice Personnel Working Group has been coordinating on overlapping recommendations and topic areas with the Technology and Reentry Programs Working Groups. This type of collaboration will contribute to the success of the working groups and we highly encourage the chair of each working group to coordinate with relevant working groups and inform them of presentations of interest and potential overlapping recommendations.

Next week, we will continue to examine social problems that have an impact on public safety and will hear from experts on homelessness, federal programming, and substance abuse. The schedule for next week follows:

Hearing Teleconferences

Social Problems Impacting Public Safety:

Homelessness Panel, Federal Programming, & Substance Use Panels

- **Tuesday, March 31, Hearing 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Eastern Time – Homelessness Panel**
Participant Call-In Number (800) 368-1029, Passcode 838652
 - Chief Mike Brown, Salt Lake City Police Department
 - John Ashmen, Citygate Network
 - Chief Brian Redd, Utah Bureau of Investigation

- **Wednesday, April 1, 3:00pm to 4:00pm, Eastern Time – Federal Programming**

Participant Call-In Number (800) 357-9083, Passcode 164577

- Christopher Patterson, Regional Administrator, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; National Lead, Foster Youth to Independence Initiative
- Matthew Miller, Acting Director for Suicide Prevention, Department of Veterans Affairs (invited)
- Robert Marbut, Jr., Executive Director, US Interagency Council on Homelessness

- **Thursday, April 2, Hearing 2:00pm to 4:00pm, Eastern Time – Substance Use Panel**

Participant Call-In Number (800) 207-0293, Passcode 689888

- Carson Fox, CEO, National Association of Drug Court Professionals
- Michael Sena, Director, Northern California High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area
- Sheriff Peter Koutoujian, Middlesex County (MA)
- **3:00 pm: 15 minute Break**
- Michael Stuart, United States Attorney, Southern District of West Virginia
- Sue DeLacy, Chief Deputy, Orange County Probation Department

Commissioners will be receiving advance copies of next week's testimony and witness bios under a separate email.

All of next week's teleconferences will be open to the press.

Again, we understand that your priority is working in your community and jurisdiction, and we appreciate your continued contributions to the work of the President's Commission. The Department of Justice leadership and the federal staff assigned to work with you on the Commission are planning ways to continue gathering insights, input, and other subject matter during this challenging time. We will communicate regularly with you about upcoming working group calls and

Commission updates.

I hope you and your families stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Phil Keith, Chair

Director

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



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Date:

Friday, April 3, 2020 4:50:50 PM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

Thank you for your extraordinary work during these challenging times. Your contribution will help shape the future of our criminal justice system for years to come. I encourage you to continue to suggest relevant subject-matter experts and practitioners, to seek input from your affiliated organizations on the national and state level, and to request written submissions from an array of experts so the Commission hears from diverse perspectives. Written statements of submissions can be sent to LE.Commission@usdoj.gov. We have modified the submission date to Thursday, April 30, and the [COPS Office](#) is now collecting the public comments.

Highlights from testimony this week:

On Tuesday, we heard about successful programs in place to address homelessness, including the Salt Lake City Police Department's (SLCPD) Homeless Outreach Services Team (HOST). Since the HOST program's inception, SLCPD has continued to innovate and expand service and collaboration in support of vulnerable populations. See more: <https://www.slchost.org/>. On Wednesday, panelists discussed federal programs available for law enforcement and communities. Commissioners heard the compelling story of Christopher Patterson with the Department of Housing and

Urban Development (HUD), who began his life in foster care and now runs HUD's [Foster Youth to Independence Initiative](#). Thursday's testimony focused on substance abuse, and panelists discussed the benefits of drug courts, the challenges of administering medication-assisted treatment in the criminal justice system context, and the scourge of the opioid epidemic. Please note that the [Commission website](#) is updated regularly with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony.

Our team is deploying a new strategy for social media and promoting panelists' photos and testimony. We invite you to share the website link through your social channels and retweet our Commission posts. Please consider adding #LECommission to your social media posts.

Working Groups

The Working Groups continue to meet regularly on a virtual basis, even through COVID-19 challenges and commitments to their regular jobs. They are preparing their chapter outlines for the final document that will be presented to the Attorney General, the President, and Congress.

The Working Groups have been busy reaching out to subject-matter experts, leading practitioners, and organizations to help inform and shape the final document. Some highlights include Dr. John Roman, Ph.D. speaking to the Intersection of Criminal Justice Personnel Group on drug court research; and Dr. Kevin Scott, Chief of the Law Enforcement Statistics Unit and Acting Chief of the Prosecution and Judicial Statistics Unit at the Bureau of Justice Statistics, presenting to the Data and Reporting Group on data quality in collection and reporting. Next week, the Law Enforcement Officer Health and Wellness Group has lined up Chief Michael Kehoe (ret.) from the Newtown Police to speak about Sandy Hook and the effect mass shootings have on officer health and wellness. Rafael Mangual, a Fellow and Deputy Director of Legal Policy at the Manhattan Institute, will speak to the Respect for Law Enforcement Group; he has authored and coauthored reports and op-eds on issues ranging from urban crime and jail violence to criminal and civil justice reform, and many national media outlets have interviewed him.

The Chair, Vice Chair and Executive Director will schedule a meeting with the Working Group Chairs within the next 10 days to discuss the plan ahead.

Hearing Teleconferences

Crime Reduction:

Crime Overview, Guns, and Gangs Panels

We will hear from experts regarding the expansive topic of Crime Reduction. The schedule for next week follows:

- **Tuesday, April 7, at 2:00pm to 3:15pm, EDT – Panel on National/Local Impact of Violent Crime**
 - Amy Blasher, Unit Chief, FBI
 - Justin Herdman, U.S. Attorney, Northern District of Ohio
 - Sheriff Jim Skinner, Collin County (TX)
 - Chief Steve Anderson, Nashville Police Department
 - Chief Scott Thomson (Retired), Camden County Police Department
- **Wednesday, April 8, at 2:00pm to 3:00pm, EDT – Panel on Guns**
 - Tom Chittum, Assistant Director, ATF
 - Melissa Nelson, State Attorney, 4th Judicial District State of Florida
 - Assistant Chief Paul Neudigate, Cincinnati Police Department
 - Zach Terwilliger, U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Virginia
- **Thursday, April 9, at 11:00am to 12:00pm, EDT – Panel on Gangs**
 - Tim Sini, District Attorney, Suffolk County, NY
 - Commissioner Geraldine Hart, Suffolk County, NY
 - Victor Gonzalez, Director of Program Services, City of Houston
Mayor's Anti-Gang Office Department of Neighborhoods

Commissioners will receive advance copies of next week's testimony and witness bios in a separate email.

Next week's teleconferences will be open to the press.

Working Group members will receive further information on the panels via their Federal Program Manager.

Thank you for your continued support for this important work. Please don't hesitate to contact me or Vice Chair Katie Sullivan with any questions.

Sincerely,
Phil Keith, Chair
Director
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

As we end week four of social distancing and various quarantines, the work of the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice continues. I hope this message finds you, your families and your colleagues safe and well during this extremely challenging time. Highlights from this week's activities and a preview of next week's schedule is included below.

Highlights from This Week's Testimony

On Tuesday, Amy Blasher from the FBI recommended a transition to NIBRS by January 1, 2021. Justin Herdman, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, recommended that the Commission promote constructive partnerships like Project Safe Neighborhoods, and that federal prosecutions focus on guns and drugs. Collin County, Texas Sheriff Jim Skinner talked about the success of highway interdiction teams and the expanded use of license plate readers (LPRs). Nashville Chief Steve Anderson told Commissioners about Nashville's success in targeting violent crime through neighborhood engagement teams. He acknowledged this approach is resource intensive, but that Nashville saw a 40% reduction in violent crime in the targeted neighborhoods within two years. Tuesday's panel closed with J. Scott Thomson, retired Chief from Camden County, New Jersey. Chief Thomson touted his success in Camden County by

focusing on community policing. He told the commissioners that community policing cannot be a unit; it has to be in the culture of the department.

On Wednesday, the focus was gun crimes. Key takeaways included aggressively prosecuting gun traffickers, embedding prosecutors with law enforcement, increasing the number of ATF agents to be laser focused on investigations, and targeting the small group of repeat offenders that commit these crimes.

Thursday tackled the issue of gangs, and Commissioners learned of the successes in Suffolk County, New York from Police Commissioner Geraldine Hart and District Attorney Tim Sini. Suffolk County targeted MS-13; however, targeted enforcement alone will not lead to the eradication of MS-13 without youth prevention programs and community and clergy partnerships. Commissioners also heard success stories from Houston to Polk County.

As information becomes available, the [Commission website](#) is updated with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony. Please consider sharing the Department's [press release](#), which includes a more thorough summary of this week's hearings.

Working Groups

Despite the continued challenges regarding COVID-19, the Working Groups continue working diligently. Working Groups are hearing from a variety of subject matter experts, which will have a significant impact on the final Commission product. The Victim Services team heard from Deborah A. Richardson, PhD, FBI, VSD Clinical Services Coordinator, and Sgt. Chris Scallon, (Ret.) of the Norfolk Police Department on Trauma Informed Care for Victims and Officers. A tremendous amount of work is happening on individual chapters and outlines. The annotated outlines are being developed in three waves across the 15 Working Groups: the first group came in last week, the next group is due today, and the final group will come in next Friday. These outlines will be used for the development of the final chapters.

As mentioned in last week's summary, the Chair, Vice Chair, and Executive Director plan to schedule a meeting with the Working Group Chairs to discuss the plan ahead.

We thank you for continued patience as we continue adjusting to this new model. We will provide copies of testimony as we receive them.

Next week's teleconferences will be open to the press.

Reduction of Crime Hearing Teleconferences

Week of April 13th, 2020

Tuesday, April 14, from 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Eastern Time – Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

- Matthew Gamette, Director of Forensic Services, Idaho State Police
- Kim Garrett, CEO, Palomar, Oklahoma City's Family Justice Center
- Richard Hertel, Prosecutor, Ripley County, IN
- Robert Hawkins, Chief of Police, Muscogee Creek Nation

Wednesday April 15, from 4:00pm to 5:30pm, Eastern Time

- ***Part 1. Issues and Problems that Technology Presents to Law Enforcement in Crime Reduction***
 - Tom Chittum, Assistant Director, ATF
 - Melissa Nelson, State Attorney, 4th Judicial District State of Florida
 - Assistant Chief Paul Neudigate, Cincinnati Police Department
 - Zach Terwilliger, U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Virginia
- ***Part 2. Contraband Cellphones and Other Security Technology Issues in Jails and Prisons***
 - Bryan Stirling, Director South Carolina Department of Corrections
 - Todd Craig, Chief, Office of Security Technology, Federal Bureau of Prisons

Thursday, April 16, from 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Eastern Time – Strategies and Practices for Law Enforcement and Technology Use in Crime Reduction

- Tom Ruocco, Chief of Criminal Law Enforcement, Texas Department of Public Safety
- Chief Bill Partridge, Oxford, AL Police Department

Christopher Amon, Chief of Firearms Operations Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives

- David LeValley, Deputy Chief, Detroit Police Department

Please stay safe and do not hesitate to reach out to the Commission staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Phil Keith, Chair
Director
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



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Date:

Friday, April 10, 2020 3:58:15 PM



Correction: This update has been amended to include the correct panelists for the Wednesday, April 15, 2020 Part 1 teleconference.

We apologize for the inconvenience.

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

As we end week four of social distancing and various quarantines, the work of the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice continues. I hope this message finds you, your families and your colleagues safe and well during this extremely challenging time. Highlights from this week's activities and a preview of next week's schedule is included below.

Highlights from This Week's Testimony

On Tuesday, Amy Blasher from the FBI recommended a transition to NIBRS by January 1, 2021. Justin Herdman, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, recommended that the Commission promote constructive partnerships like Project Safe Neighborhoods, and that federal prosecutions focus on guns and drugs. Collin County, Texas Sheriff Jim Skinner talked about the success of highway interdiction teams and the expanded use of license plate readers (LPRs). Nashville Chief Steve Anderson told Commissioners about Nashville's

success in targeting violent crime through neighborhood engagement teams. He acknowledged this approach is resource intensive, but that Nashville saw a 40% reduction in violent crime in the targeted neighborhoods within two years. Tuesday's panel closed with J. Scott Thomson, retired Chief from Camden County, New Jersey. Chief Thomson touted his success in Camden County by focusing on community policing. He told the commissioners that community policing cannot be a unit; it has to be in the culture of the department.

On Wednesday, the focus was gun crimes. Key takeaways included aggressively prosecuting gun traffickers, embedding prosecutors with law enforcement, increasing the number of ATF agents to be laser focused on investigations, and targeting the small group of repeat offenders that commit these crimes.

Thursday tackled the issue of gangs, and Commissioners learned of the successes in Suffolk County, New York from Police Commissioner Geraldine Hart and District Attorney Tim Sini. Suffolk County targeted MS-13; however, targeted enforcement alone will not lead to the eradication of MS-13 without youth prevention programs and community and clergy partnerships. Commissioners also heard success stories from Houston to Polk County.

As information becomes available, the [Commission website](#) is updated with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony. Please consider sharing the Department's [press release](#), which includes a more thorough summary of this week's hearings.

Working Groups

Despite the continued challenges regarding COVID-19, the Working Groups continue working diligently. Working Groups are hearing from a variety of subject matter experts, which will have a significant impact on the final Commission product. The Victim Services team heard from Deborah A. Richardson, PhD, FBI, VSD Clinical Services Coordinator, and Sgt. Chris Scallon, (Ret.) of the Norfolk Police Department on Trauma Informed Care for Victims and Officers. A tremendous amount of work is happening on individual chapters and outlines. The annotated outlines are being developed in three waves across the 15 Working Groups: the first group came in last week, the next group is due today, and the final group will come in next Friday. These outlines will be used for the development of the final chapters.

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Week of April 13th, 2020

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- Kim Garrett, CEO, Palomar, Oklahoma City's Family Justice Center
- Richard Hertel, Prosecutor, Ripley County, IN
- Robert Hawkins, Chief of Police, Muscogee Creek Nation

Wednesday April 15, from 4:00pm to 5:30pm, Eastern Time

- ***Part 1. Issues and Problems that Technology Presents to Law Enforcement in Crime Reduction***
 - Darrin Jones, Executive Assistant Director for Science and Technology, FBI
 - Cyrus R. Vance, Jr., District Attorney, New York County, NY
 - Chuck Cohen, Vice President, The National White Collar Crime Center
- ***Part 2. Contraband Cellphones and Other Security Technology Issues in Jails and Prisons***
 - Bryan Stirling, Director South Carolina Department of Corrections
 - Todd Craig, Chief, Office of Security Technology, Federal Bureau of Prisons

Thursday, April 16, from 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Eastern Time – Strategies and Practices for Law Enforcement and Technology Use in Crime Reduction

- Tom Ruocco, Chief of Criminal Law Enforcement, Texas Department of Public Safety
- Chief Bill Partridge, Oxford, AL Police Department
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- David LeValley, Deputy Chief, Detroit Police Department

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Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



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Date:

Friday, April 17, 2020 6:14:05 PM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

Here's an update from this week's work of the Law Enforcement Commission. I hope this message finds you well as we proceed with our new normal.

Highlights from This Week's Testimony:

On Tuesday, we tackled the difficult topic of domestic violence. Testimony and discussions focused on preventing and reducing domestic violence and sexual assault. Director Gamette addressed the issue of forensic resources. In response to a question regarding reports of increased allegations of domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic, CEO Garrett stated that Oklahoma City had experienced a 28% increase in domestic violence calls. Mr. Hertel spoke about the lack of criminal charges brought in domestic violence and sexual assault cases, either because of underreporting or case attrition. Chief Hawkins detailed the complexities of prosecuting domestic violence and sexual assault cases under tribal law.

On Wednesday, the hearing was held in two parts. Part one focused on lawful access and the dark web. DA Vance and Mr. Jones stressed the need for federal legislation to achieve lawful access. Vice President Cohen discussed the corruption of technology by criminals, specifically related to online child sexual

exploitation and online sex trafficking. As a reminder, the Attorney General hosted a [summit](#) on lawful access in October 2019.

Part two focused on contraband cellphones and other technology issues concerning security in jails and prisons. Director Stirling and Chief Craig stressed that—although inmates are physically removed from the public—inmates who have access to a cell phone can continue to commit crimes.

On Thursday, the testimony and discussion focused on leveraging technology to aid law enforcement. Chief Ruocco discussed the need to identify and integrate new technologies and methodologies into law enforcement procedures and work flows and Chief Partridge explained that because smaller jurisdictions do not have the same technology capacity as larger departments, a regional model of crime centers can be a force multiplier for fighting crime in all areas of a county. Chief Amon discussed NIBIN and stressed that, due to the high probability of shooters to reoffend, law enforcement must be able to identify these reoffenders swiftly. Assistant Chief LeValley spoke about Project Green Light Detroit, which is a mix of real-time crime fighting and community policing aimed at improving neighborhood safety, while also revitalizing and growing local business.

The [Commission website](#) is updated regularly with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony.

The Commission continues its social media strategy to promote panelists' photos and testimony. We invite you to share the website link through your social channels and retweet the Commission's posts. Please add #LECommission to your social media posts. We encourage you to send us photos of how you continue to do the work of the Commission, even if it's a selfie with your headphones! We'd love to have candid photos of you solving problems while social distancing. Please send photos to Shannon.long@usdoj.gov or any of your Commission staff.

Working Groups Update

The Commission Chair and Vice-Chair hosted a meeting of the Commission Working Group Chairs and Co-Chairs on April 16. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an update on progress of all the working groups, including subject-matter expert interviews, the collection and review of testimony and statements, the development of draft recommendations and chapter materials, and virtual field visits. We also wanted to provide an update on the shift towards

panel-style hearings via conference call and an upcoming schedule of virtual hearings. Finally, we provided an overview of the Commission chapter and report timeline.

Most importantly, we wanted to hear from the chairs and co-chairs about any challenges they are having as they balance their duties in their home jurisdiction—in particular regarding the COVID-19 outbreak—with their considerable contributions to the Commission work. Several specific comments and recommendations were made to Chairman Keith and Vice-Chair Sullivan, which will be acted upon. We appreciate the Working Group Chairs and Co-Chairs for their extraordinary commitment and dedication to the work of the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice as they continue to contribute to the development of the report and recommendations.

We have also attached [an updated timeline](#), which projects key activities and deadlines.

Commission Hearing Teleconferences – Week of April 20, 2020

We continue to have strong participation in these virtual hearings, with 100 or more Commissioners, Working Group Chairs and Members, staff, and press in attendance for each of the hearings.

- **Tuesday, April 21, Reduction of Crime Hearing, 2:00pm to 3:00pm Eastern Time – Technology Tools Panel**
 - Colonel Edwin Roessler Jr., Chief, Fairfax County Police Department
 - Damon Mosler, Assistant District Attorney, San Diego County
 - Dr. Richard Vorder Bruegge, Senior Physical Scientist, Federal Bureau of Investigation
 - Kevin Jinks, Senior Counsel, Department of Justice Office of Legal Policy

- **Wednesday, April 22, Reduction of Crime Hearing, 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Eastern Time – Survivors of Crime Panel**
 - Joyce Bilyeu, Director of Client Services, Sacramento Regional Family Justice Center
 - Adrianna Griffith, SA/DV Specialist/Lived Experience Expert,

Women's Center -Youth and Family Services

- Bella Hounakey, Subject Matter Expert, United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking
- Natasha Alexenko, Founder, Natasha's Justice Project
- **Thursday, April 23, Reentry Hearing, 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Eastern Time – State of Reentry Panel**
 - Tony Lowden, Executive Director, Federal Interagency Council on Crime Prevention and Improving Reentry
 - Jason Hardy, Author of The Second Chance Club: Hardship and Hope After Prison, and Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation
 - John Koufos, National Director of Reentry Initiatives, Right on Crime
 - Grant Duwe, Director of Research, Minnesota Department of Corrections

Commissioners will receive advance copies of next week's testimony and witness bios in a separate email.

Next week's teleconferences will be open to the press.

Working Group members will receive further information on the panels via their Federal Program Manager.

Please stay safe, and do not hesitate to reach out to the Commission staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Phil Keith, Chair

Director

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



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Date:

Friday, April 24, 2020 7:02:03 PM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

I hope this message finds you well as we proceed with our new normal. Here's an update from this week's work on the Commission of Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice.

Highlights from This Week's Testimony

On Tuesday, testimony and discussions focused on technology tools for law enforcement. Colonel Roessler and Assistant District Attorney Mosler discussed body worn cameras and stressed accountability. Dr. Voder Bruegge touched on facial recognition and Mr. Jinks discussed public and private use of drones.

On Wednesday, testimony and discussion featured the personal experiences of survivors of sexual and domestic violence and human trafficking. Ms. Bilyeu shared her story as a survivor of domestic violence. She stressed the challenges victims face to leave their abusers, noting that each time she tried to take control of her situation by calling the police, her husband spiraled further out of control and the abuse worsened. Ms. Griffith shared her experiences of witnessing abuse as a child and falling into the cycle of crime. She advocates for early social services intervention for children who experience or witness abuse so that they have the chance to lead healthy lives. Ms. Hounakey shared her story of being

trafficked by her aunt from Togo to the United States as a nine-year-old child. She described the conditioning trafficking victims experience from their traffickers, such as to not trust law enforcement. In addition to the federal agents who rescued her in 2014, she would have liked to have been met by medics, social workers, and translators so that she and the other victims would have better understood their situation. Ms. Alexenko provided the final testimony of the day, sharing her story as a survivor of sexual assault at gunpoint. She waited 10 years for her rape kit to be tested and 15 years for her rapist to face a jury.

On Thursday, the Commission began its hearing on reentry. Executive Director Lowden testified and explained that reducing recidivism is one of the most effective ways to reduce crime. Special Agent Hardy discussed the economic benefit to quality reentry programs and Mr. Koufos offered similar testimony, stating, "Successful reentry empowers people to participate in meaningful work opportunities, which helps many pay child support and restitution, and strengthens tax bases." Mr. Koufos also stressed the need for state issued identification cards upon release and job training in careers in which reentrants will not be barred from entering by collateral consequences. Dr. Duwe provided the day's final testimony and stressed that reentry actually begins the day a person walks into prison, and that we need to focus time in prison on quality evidence-based programming and not simply warehousing people behind bars.

The [Commission website](#) is updated regularly with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony.

Working Groups Update

The Working Groups continue having SME calls and developing outlines and chapters. They are on pace to meet the July target for the draft report to the Attorney General. Some key milestones over the last week include—

- A Homeland Security Working Group Border Security call with Sheriff Mark Dannels (Cochise County); Director Steve McCraw (Texas Department of Public Safety); Section Chief Mike Nordwall (FBI); Executive Director Roland Suliveras (CBP); and Sheriff Mark Napier (Pima County).
- Training and Retention call with Darin Beck, Executive Director of the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center (KLETC), and Mark Damitio, Grants and Accreditation Manager for the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST).
- Rural and Tribal Joint Call with the Victim Service Working Group with

Stacie Harris, National Coordinator for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction and the National Human Trafficking Coordinator at the Department of Justice, and Bill Woolf, Principal Deputy Director for the Office for Victims of Crime.

As previously discussed, the Commission will soon hold an executive session to discuss the current progress, issues, concerns, or any other matters important to Commissioners. This information will be shared separately.

Commission Hearing Teleconferences – Week of April 27, 2020

Tuesday, April 28, Reentry Hearing from 3:00pm to 4:00pm, Eastern Time: Getting Back to Work

- BJay Pak, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia
- Dan Meyer, Chief Executive Officer, Nehemiah Manufacturing Company
- Nate Brown, Director of Programs, Oklahoma Department of Corrections
- John Wetzel, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Corrections

Wednesday, April 29, Reentry Hearing from 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Eastern Time: Transitioning from Institution to Community

- Tim Johnson, Founder and President, Orlando Serve Foundation
- Jay Sanders, Assistant Commissioner, Georgia Department of Corrections
- Steven Perkins, Warden, Georgia Department of Corrections Metro Reentry Facility
- H. Jean Wright, II, Psy.D., Director of Behavioral Health and Justice Related Services, Philadelphia Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual Disability Services

Thursday, April 30, Grants Hearing: Supporting Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (Time TBD)

- Jennifer Brinkman, Assistant Director, Criminal Justice Programs, Tennessee Department of Administration and Finance
- A.J. Louderback, Sheriff, Jackson County (Texas) Sheriff's Office

- Keith Kauffman, Chief of Police, Redondo Beach (California) Police Department
- TBD

Commissioners will receive advance copies of next week's testimony and witness bios in a separate email.

Next week's teleconferences will be open to the press.

Working Group members will receive further information on the panels via their Federal Program Manager.

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Sincerely,
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Director
U.S. Department of Justice
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Date:

Friday, May 1, 2020 9:15:53 PM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

I hope this message finds you well as we proceed with our new normal. Here's an update from this week's work on the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice.

Highlights from This Week's Testimony:

On Tuesday, testimony and discussions focused on returning to work after incarceration. United States Attorney Pak discussed adapting the Credible Messenger program to reentry, while Mr. Brown testified on the stigma of a felony conviction and its long-term effects. Secretary Wetzel urged the Commission to look at reentry as a continuum that begins at a person's entry into a correctional facility.

On Wednesday, testimony and discussion focused on transitioning from incarceration to the community. Mr. Johnson spoke about the Orlando Serve Foundation and its focus on compassionate restorative social justice. Assistant Commissioner Sanders discussed efforts the Georgia Department of Corrections is taking to reduce recidivism rates, and Dr. Wright spoke on how families help break the cycle of crime.

On Thursday, testimony and discussion focused on federal grants and

perspectives from the field. Assistant Director Brinkman testified that the grant process can be time consuming and arduous for many applicants, and Sheriff Louderback stressed the need to simplify the grant process. Chief Kauffman reinforced the complexity of writing grants. He noted that they are time consuming and pull him away from his law enforcement duties; however, grants also propel him, because they allow law enforcement agencies to do their jobs better.

The [Commission website](#) is updated regularly with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony.

Working Groups Update

The working groups are busy drafting recommendations and their first chapter drafts while still supporting the work of the hearings, speaking to subject matter experts, and conducting virtual site visits. Some highlights include—

- The Data and Reporting Working Group heard a presentation by Dr. Jerry Ratcliffe, Professor at Temple University, on the importance of evidence-based policing.
- The Homeland Security Working Group spoke with several subject matter experts on Border Security and vulnerabilities, including two presentations from John Miller, Deputy Commissioner of Intelligence and Counterterrorism of the NYPD, and Thomas Galati, Chief of Intelligence of the NYPD.
- The Juvenile Justice and Youth Crimes and Respect for Law Enforcement Working Groups teamed up to hear from subject matter experts of mutual interest.
- The Law Enforcement Officer Health and Wellness Working Group conducted outreach on how the Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) program handles death benefit claims from families who lost their officer to suicide attributed to a mental illness or condition, like Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Dr. Kathy Platoni, a clinical psychologist on Officer Resiliency, also presented.
- The Law Enforcement Recruitment and Training Working Group took a virtual site visit to Madison, WI.
- The Victim Services Working Group heard a presentation on mass

casualties from Pamela Elton, Unit Chief of the Victim Program Management Unit, and Kevin Gutfleish, Unit Chief of the Terrorism and Special Jurisdiction Unit, both from the FBI's Victim Services Division.

As previously discussed, next week the Commission will hold an executive session to discuss the current progress, issues, concerns, or any other matters important to Commissioners. This information will be shared separately.

Juvenile Justice Commission Hearing Teleconferences

Week of May 4, 2020

- **Tuesday, May 5, Juvenile Justice Hearing, 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Eastern Time – Framing the Issue and the Need for Accountability**
 - Tim Irwin, Juvenile Judge, Knox County, TN
 - Brett Kyker, Juvenile Division Chief, Cuyahoga County, OH
 - John F. Clark, President & Chief Executive Officer, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC)
- **Wednesday, May 6, Juvenile Justice Hearing, 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Eastern Time – How Law Enforcement Addresses Juveniles Involved in Crime**
 - Addison Davis, School Superintendent, Hillsborough County Public Schools (Q&A)
 - John Newman, Chief of Security & Emergency Management, Hillsborough County Public Schools
 - Mo Canady, Executive Director, National Association of School Resource Officers
 - Bill E. Waybourn, Sheriff, Tarrant County, TX
 - Thomas Lemmer, Member, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #7, Deputy Chief, Chicago Police Department
- **Thursday, May 7, Juvenile Justice Hearing, 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Eastern Time – Mentorship of Juveniles**
 - Pam Iorio, President & Chief Executive Officer, Big Brothers Big

Sisters of America

- Steve Salem, President & Chief Executive Officer, Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation
- Wintley Phipps, Founder, President & Chief Executive Officer, U.S. Dream Academy, Inc.
- Jim Clark, President & Chief Executive Officer, Boys & Girls Clubs of America

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Next week's teleconferences will be open to the press.

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Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



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Date:

Friday, May 8, 2020 7:31:19 PM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

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I hope this message finds you well as we proceed with our new normal. Here's an update from this week's work on the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice.

Highlights from This Week's Testimony

On Tuesday, testimony and discussions focused on framing the issue and the need for accountability. Judge Irwin stated that juvenile courts need to work with all the other pieces of juvenile justice—especially social services—in rehabilitating children and keeping them and their communities safe. Chief Kyker recommended that law enforcement assess juveniles upon first encounter and provide them with tailored services to keep them out of the criminal justice system. National Center for Missing and Exploited Children President Clark testified that his organization provides age-appropriate safety and prevention resources on topics of online and real-world safety. He emphasized that prevention, education, and awareness are especially essential in times of unpredictability for children.

On Wednesday, testimony and discussion focused on how law enforcement addresses juveniles involved in crime. Executive Director Canady told the

Commission that the goal of any successful school resource officer must be to bridge the gap between law enforcement and youth. Sheriff Waybourn stressed the importance of directing funding on the front end before at-risk youth enter the juvenile justice system. Deputy Chief Lemmer urged the Commission to acknowledge the role of the juvenile court structure, and Superintendent Davis asked the Commission to consider initiating a standardized threat assessment instrument that is accessible to all school districts.

On Thursday, testimony and discussion focused on youth mentorship. President Iorio discussed the benefits of the Big Brothers Big Sisters' one-to-one mentoring programs and their role in keeping children out of the juvenile justice system. President Clark discussed how the COVID-19 pandemic is presenting new challenges to juvenile justice, and President Phipps testified that "intergenerational incarceration fuels the normalization of incarceration" and that when the family disintegrates, mentoring is often the last hope. President Salem recommended that police executives encourage and reward officers that engage in youth development programs to provide positive interactions between police and youth.

The [Commission website](#) is updated regularly with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony.

Working Groups Update

The working groups continued the review and edits of their respective chapters, adding supporting content, refining recommendations, and securing quotes and examples from subject matter experts. A few highlights from the working groups include—

- The Victim Services Working Group heard presentations on victims of crime by Bonnie Brandl, Founder and Director of the National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life (NCALL), and Alison Boak, Executive Director of the International Organization for Adolescents.
- The Juvenile Justice and Youth Crime Working Group held a call with Judge Steve Teske, Chief Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court of Clayton County, Georgia, regarding school-justice partnerships and response to school disciplinary issues. In coordination with the Respect for Law Enforcement Working Group, they also heard from Jeff Hood, Chief Executive Officer for the National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues, Inc. to discuss the promotion of partnerships between the youth

and law enforcement.

- The Law Enforcement Officer Health and Wellness Working Group heard a presentation from Brandy Donini-Melanson, Program Manager for the Law Enforcement Coordination Program for the Executive Office for U.S. Attorneys and Coordinator of the DOJ Health and Wellness Working Group.
- The Rural and Tribal Law Enforcement Working Group held a number of calls with subject matter experts from the Office of Tribal Justice, the FBI's CJIS Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Working Group, and OVC's Tribal Financial Management Center. Other working groups also joined for these calls.
- The Intersection of Criminal Justice Personnel Working Group provided outreach to CNA Corporation regarding digital media evidence integration.
- The Homeland Security Working Group had follow-up conversations with subject matter experts at DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and the FBI.

Cross collaboration is highly evident as each of the working groups continue to build out their respective chapters. Working groups are participating in recommendation workshops to increase coordination, ensure cohesiveness, and mitigate duplicative or conflicting concepts.

Recruitment, Training, and Retention Hearing Documents **Teleconferences – Week of May 11**

Tuesday, May 12, Recruitment Hearing, 2:00pm to 3:30pm, Eastern Time – Recruitment

- Dr. Charlie Scheer, Assistant Professor, University of Southern Mississippi
- Will Johnson, Chief, Arlington, TX Police Department
- Valerie Cunningham, Deputy Chief, Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department, IN
- Mike Yankowski, Assistant Director (retired Chief), Institutional Ethics and Compliance Assistant

Wednesday, May 13, Training Hearing, 2:00pm to 3:30pm, Eastern Time –

Training

- Erik Bourgerie, Director, Colorado Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST)
- Ric Bradshaw, Sheriff, Palm Beach County, FL
- Grady Judd, Sheriff, Polk County, FL

Thursday, May 14, Retention Hearing, 2:00pm to 3:30pm, Eastern Time – Retention

- William “Bill” Johnson, Executive Director, National Association of Police Organizations, Inc.
- Mark Napier, Sheriff, Pima County, AZ
- Michael Harrison, Commissioner, Baltimore Police Department, MD
- Sylvia Moir, Chief, Tempe, AZ Police Department

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U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

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Highlights from This Week's Testimony:

On Tuesday, testimony and discussions focused on recruitment. Dr. Scheer provided the results of a comprehensive survey on police recruitment, and Chief Johnson recommended grant funding for police cadet programs to encourage young people to commit to the profession. Deputy Chief Cunningham recommended a focus on marketing campaigns, while Chief Yankowski discussed the need to hire people who fit the community policing mindset – individuals who are highly ethical, of good moral character, and good communicators.

On Wednesday, testimony and discussion focused on training. POST Director Bourgerie testified about the need for experienced-based training and Sheriff Bradshaw testified about the lack of management training and succession building. Sheriff Brueggemann recommended regional training centers and reforms to training academies in order to provide more seats for small and rural

departments.

On Thursday, testimony and discussion focused on retention. Executive Director Johnson stressed the importance of peer-to-peer services and Chief Moir shared that successful agencies are starting wellness programming in the academy and continuing it throughout an officer's career. Sheriff Napier testified that "there is inadequate funding for substantive research into the development of best practices for law enforcement leaders confronting modern policing challenges." Commissioner Harrison conveyed the importance of a department's culture.

The [Commission website](#) is updated regularly with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony.

Working Groups Update

As the working groups prepare to submit preliminary drafts for review, they continued clarifying language, enhancing recommendations and defining key terms for their respective chapters. Meetings both within and across teams were evident to ensure cohesion and de-conflict recommendations when necessary.

In addition, the working groups heard from a variety of subject matter experts with important perspectives on their relevant topics. The Business and Community Development Working Group heard a presentation with representatives from Uber, Truckers Against Trafficking, and Professional Police Officers Credit Union. The Data and Reporting Working Group heard from Dr. Jeffrey Sedgwick, Executive Director of Justice Research and Statistics Association, who gave a presentation about the challenges of collecting federal criminal justice data. Additionally, the Homeland Security Working Group held calls with Paul Knierem, Chief of Intelligence at the DEA and Thomas Sobocinski, Deputy Assistant Director of the International Operations Division at the FBI, to discuss target identification and foreign operations.

Rural and Tribal Hearing Teleconferences

Week of May 18th, 2020

Tuesday, May 19th, Rural and Tribal Hearing 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Eastern Time

Challenges Law Enforcement Face in Rural Areas

- Ronald Parsons, United States Attorney, District of South Dakota
- Michael Keller, Chief of Police, Andover, KS
- John Letteney, Chief of Police, Apex, NC
- Cheryl Laurenz-Bogue, States Attorney, Ziebach County, SD

Wednesday, May 20th, Rural and Tribal Hearing 3:30pm to 4:30pm, Eastern Time

Geographic Issues for Rural Communities

- Mark Dannels, Sheriff, Cochise County, AZ
- Bryan Schroeder, United States Attorney, District of Alaska
- Danny Glick, Sheriff, Laramie County, WY
- Kelly Lake, Sheriff, Carleton County, MN

Thursday, May 21st, Rural and Tribal Hearing, 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Eastern Time

Criminal Justice System in Indian Country

- Trent Shores, United States Attorney, Northern District of Oklahoma
- Matthew Rourke, Chief of Police, Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Police, NY
- Richard Blake, Chief Judge, Hoopa Valley Tribal Court, CA
- Bill Denke, Chief of Police, Sycuan Tribe, CA

Commissioners will receive advance copies of next week's testimony and witness bios in a separate email.

Next week's teleconferences will be open to the press.

Working Group members will receive further information on the panels via their Federal Program Manager.

Please stay safe, and do not hesitate to reach out to the Commission staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Phil Keith, Chair
Director
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



The year 2020 marks the 150th anniversary of the Department of Justice. Learn more about the history of our agency at www.Justice.gov/Celebrating150Years.



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

I hope this message finds you well as we proceed with our new normal. Here's an update from this week's work on the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice.

Highlights from This Week's Testimony:

On Tuesday, May 19, testimony and discussions focused on challenges faced by law enforcement in rural areas. All panelists spoke of the urgent need for resources in rural communities across the country. There is a lack of recruits, funding, technology, and training. In addition, across rural America, substance abuse, specifically methamphetamine, is having a significant impact on communities and leading to an increase in crime.

On Wednesday, May 20, the Commission heard testimony on geographic issues for rural communities. The panelists spoke of the hardship that long distances and challenging terrain present to rural law enforcement. There are too few law enforcement officers given the sizes of the jurisdictions they are tasked with policing. For instance, the transport times from jails to courts or for an officer to respond to an emergency call can take hours. Similarly, law enforcement agencies need proper equipment and vehicles for some of the more challenging

landscapes – especially in Alaska, where there are often few roads.

On Thursday, May 21, testimony and discussion focused on the criminal justice system in Indian Country. The panelists testified to the need for more law enforcement partnerships, more law enforcement officers on the ground, and, if the officers or agents are non-tribal, the need for law enforcement to have an awareness and appreciation for tribal culture.

The [Commission website](#) is updated regularly with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony.

Working Groups Update

The working groups continue to work on their drafts with strong coordination among all the groups to ensure cohesion and de-conflict recommendations when necessary. The working groups continued to participate in various Commission hearings and virtual field visits.

The working groups heard from a variety of subject matter experts with important perspectives on their relevant topics. The Criminal Justice System Intersection Working Group has been busy lining up a hearing for June with a strong cross-section of panelists that will focus on indigent defense. The Data and Reporting Working Group held virtual learning sessions on statewide reporting systems, which highlighted the NIBRS conversion and reporting in Minnesota and the singular statewide RMS/CAD system in Rhode Island. The Law Enforcement Officer Health and Wellness Working Group conducted a virtual field visit to the Indianapolis (IN) Metropolitan Police Department, which provided the working group members with an in-depth look into the health and wellness programs within that agency. Additionally, the Technology Working Group heard from subject matter experts on lawful access. The Victim Services Working Group received subject matter expert briefings on victims with limited English proficiency and victims of vehicle crashes.

We thank all the working group members for their tireless efforts, and for their coordination to bring forth recommendations for subject matter experts and virtual field visits that will enhance the final product and recommendations of the Commission.

Justice

Hearing Teleconferences Week of May 25th, 2020

Wednesday, May 27th, Rural and Tribal Hearing 2:00pm to 3:15pm, Eastern Time – Public Safety Challenges within American Indian and Alaska Native Communities

- Kurt Alme, United States Attorney, District of Montana
- Kevin Allis, Chief Executive Officer, National Congress of American Indians
- Leanne Guy, Executive Director, Southwest Indigenous Women’s Coalition
- Vivian Korthuis, Chief Executive Officer, Association of Village Council Presidents
- Charles Addington, Director, Office of Justice Services (OJS), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)

Thursday, May 28th, Community Engagement Hearing 2:00pm to 3:00pm, Eastern Time – Civil Rights, Oversight, and Community Engagement

- Farhio Khalif, Founder and Executive Director, Voice of East African Women in Minnesota
- Susan Hutson, President, National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement
- Phillip Atiba Goff, PhD, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Center for Police Equity

Commissioners will receive advance copies of next week’s testimony and witness bios in a separate email.

Next week’s teleconferences will be open to the press.

Working group members will receive further information on the panels via their Federal Program Manager.

Please stay safe, and do not hesitate to reach out to the Commission staff if you

have any questions. Have a lovely Memorial Day as we honor the sacrifices made by the veterans of this great country.

Sincerely,

Phil Keith, Chair

Director

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



The year 2020 marks the 150th anniversary of the Department of Justice. Learn more about the history of our agency at www.Justice.gov/Celebrating150Years.



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

I hope this message finds you well. Here's an update from this week's work on the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice.

Highlights from This Week's Testimony

On Wednesday, May 27, the five panelists discussed the public safety challenges within American Indian and Alaska Native communities. The testimonies touched on the need for more law enforcement resources, such as training, equipment, and funding for salaries. The panelists also emphasized the disproportionate rates of substance abuse disorders and violence faced by American Indian and Native Alaska communities, particularly the rates of sexual violence. They highlighted the fact that a significant percentage of the crime in Indian country is perpetrated by non-tribal members, yet tribal law enforcement does not have the jurisdiction to prosecute offenders who are not tribal members.

On Thursday, May 28, the commission heard testimony that focused on civil rights, community engagement, and civilian oversight. Ms. Khalif stressed that thriving, safe communities require strong partnerships and mutual trust between community leaders – particularly women – and law enforcement. Ms. Hutson discussed the benefits of civilian oversight of law enforcement, and Ms. Blasher

outlined the role the FBI plays in training law enforcement agencies on hate crime investigations.

The [Commission website](#) is updated regularly with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony.

Working Groups Update

The working groups continue to work on their drafts with strong coordination among all the groups to ensure cohesion and de-conflict recommendations when necessary. The working groups continued to participate in various Commission hearings and virtual field visits.

The working groups heard from a variety of subject matter experts with important perspectives on their relevant topics. The Juvenile Justice and Youth Crime Working Group held a Subject Matter Expert Call with Levi K., a system-involved youth, to ensure that the group had the opportunity to hear from an individual with lived experience that could be informative to their chapter. Dr. Cynthia Lum, Professor at George Mason University and Director at the Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy, presented to the Data and Reporting Working Group on implementing evidence-based policing.

The Social Problems Working Group had a very successful virtual site visit to learn about efforts in Orange County, California. The first presentation was given by Commander Joe Balicki of the Orange County Sheriff's Department and Deputy Agency Director Erin Winger of the Orange County Health Care Agency, and focused on the jail efforts and their Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program. Commander Baliciki reported that 70 people were saved with naloxone in the jail in 2019. The second presentation was given by Captain Pat Rich of the Orange County Sheriff's Department and focused on the Homeless Outreach Team partnership and a new smart phone app for deputies to use to collect field information when interacting with homeless individuals.

The Victim Services Working Group heard from a variety of experts focused on hate crimes and received virtual presentations from Arlington Chief Will Johnson, Mansfield Chief Ron Sellon and Brittany E. Hayes, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the School of Criminal Justice at the University of Cincinnati.

We thank all the working group members for their tireless efforts, and for their coordination to bring forth recommendations for subject matter experts and virtual field visits that will enhance the final product and recommendations of the Commission.

**Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of
Justice**

Hearing Teleconferences - Week of June 1st, 2020

**Tuesday, June 2nd, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Eastern Time - The Role of Public
Defenders**

- Geoffrey Burkhart, Executive Director, Texas Indigent Defense Commission
- Douglas Wilson, Colorado State Public Defender (Retired) / Aurora Municipal Public Defender
- Carlos Martinez, Miami-Dade Public Defender, Miami-Dade County, Florida
- Mark Stephens, Former Elected Public Defender, Knox County, Tennessee

Thursday, June 4th, 2:00 pm to 3:15 pm, Eastern Time – Executive Session

- Commissioners and Working Group Members will be receiving information regarding the Executive Session separately.

Commissioners will receive advance copies of next week's testimony and witness bios in a separate email.

Next week's June 2nd teleconference will be open to the press.

Working Group members will receive further information on the panels via their Federal Program Manager.

Planning is moving forward on the in-person meeting in Tampa, Florida on June 22-23, 2020. More details are forthcoming!

Please stay safe, and do not hesitate to reach out to the Commission staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Phil Keith, Chair

Director

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)

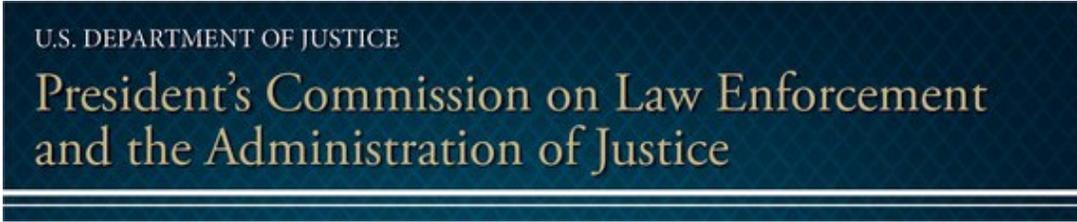


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Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

I wanted to take a minute to let you know that we have decided to postpone the planned in person meeting of the Commission scheduled for the week of [June 22, 2020](#) in Tampa, Florida.

As you know, we had been planning a robust two-day hearing along with business meetings, however, in light of recent events and recognizing the competing demands on your time and that of our prospective witnesses, we have decided to postpone this meeting and will tentatively reschedule it for the week of [July 20, 2020](#).

While we are disappointed, we are hopeful that the Commission will meet in person in July to continue our work.

Please stay safe, and do not hesitate to reach out to the Commission staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Phil Keith, Chair
Director
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



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Date:

Friday, June 5, 2020 4:42:54 PM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

I hope this message finds you well. Here's an update from this week's work on the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice.

Highlights from This Week's Testimony

The Commission held one hearing this week. The panelists discussed the role of the public defender in the criminal justice system. Mr. Burkhart's opening testimony argued that public defenders are key to a fair justice system and the right to an attorney is a threshold right.

In Mr. Martinez' testimony, he maintained that public defenders' roles are critical to communities, and all four testimonies touched on the need for more resources. Mr. Wilson also discussed that there is no federal mandate on the delivery of indigent defense, and Mr. Stephens' testimony discussed the impacts of poverty and lack of worth that can often be felt by those that need public defense.

The [Commission website](#) is updated regularly with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony.

Working Groups Update

The working groups continue to work on their drafts with strong coordination among all the groups to ensure cohesion and de-conflict recommendations when necessary. The working groups continued to participate in various Commission hearings and virtual field visits.

The majority of the work revolved chapter reviews, edits, etc. The Respect for Law Enforcement Working Group met with an attorney in the San Diego County Sheriff's Office to discuss adding a recommendation on qualified immunity, and members of the Data and Reporting Working Group attended the American Society of Evidence-Based Policing (ASEBP) virtual conference.

The Federal Program Managers are aware that many of the Commissioners and working group members are currently experiencing issues in your own communities and managing difficult situations on the ground. We thank you for your continued efforts to support the work of the Commission while working overtime to protect members of your communities.

Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Hearing Teleconferences - Week of June 8th, 2020

Tuesday, June 9th, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Eastern Time – Community Engagement

- Rabbi Lipskar, Aleph Institute
- Glen Gilzean, President and CEO, Central Florida Urban League
- Norman Reimer, Executive Director, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- Deena Hayes-Greene, Managing Director, Trainer, Organizer, Racial Equity Institute

Commissioners will receive advance copies of next week's testimony and witness bios in a separate email.

Next week's June 9th teleconference will be open to the press.

Working Group members will receive further information on the panels via their Federal Program Manager.

As a reminder, in light of recent events and recognizing the competing demands on your time and that of our prospective witnesses, we have decided to postpone the planned in-person meeting of the Commission scheduled for the week of [June 22, 2020](#) in Tampa, Florida. It is tentatively rescheduled for the week of [July 20, 2020](#). While we are disappointed, we are hopeful that the Commission will meet in person in July to continue our work.

Please stay safe, and do not hesitate to reach out to the Commission staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Phil Keith, Chair
Director
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



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Date:

Friday, June 12, 2020 2:35:43 PM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

I hope this message finds you well. Here's an update from this week's work on the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice. To date, we have conducted hearings on 10 topics over 13 weeks. The Commission has heard from 129 witnesses, and received written statements from over 190 experts, organizations, and interested individuals.

See Commissioner Gualtieri's recent media appearance responding to calls to cut funding to law enforcement:

<https://www.foxnews.com/media/florida-sheriff-bob-qualtieri-dangerous-defund-police>

Highlights from This Week's Testimony:

The commission received testimony from Glen Gilzean, President and CEO of the Central Florida Urban League; Norman Reimer, Executive Director of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; and Deena Hayes-Greene, Managing Director, Trainer, and Organizer of the Racial Equity Institute.

The panelists discussed the role of community engagement in the criminal justice system. Mr. Gilzean testified to the importance of building trust between the African American community and law enforcement and provided a number of examples of programs that have demonstrated success in fostering dialogue between the two communities. Ms. Hayes-Greene testified to the systemic disparities that exist for African Americans across all professional fields, but particularly throughout the criminal justice system. She cited examples of sentencing disparities between white and black defendants. Mr. Reimer's testimony provided many recommendations for reforms for law enforcement; one in particular, he argued, is the need for law enforcement to be subject to certification and de-certification like other professional fields, such as lawyers, social workers, doctors, etc. The prospect of losing one's certification could serve as a deterrent to wrongdoing and abuse.

The [Commission website](#) is updated regularly with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony.

Working Groups Update

The Working Groups continue working at lightning speed to ensure the report recommendations will be ready for the Attorney General. To date, the 15 working groups have met 275 times outside of the hearings. These meetings included planning, recommendation, and report development discussions, virtual field visits, and interviews with subject-matter experts.

Recently, the Rural and Tribal Law Enforcement Working Group met with Deputy Assistant Director Andrew Graham from the Enforcement Program Services (EPS) Directorate and his team. The purpose of this discussion was to gain a better understanding of the National Firearms Act (NFA) and the Gun Control Act (GCA) and the impact it has on tribal law enforcement in effectively carrying out their duties.

We look forward to re-scheduling in the next several weeks an Executive Session during which Working Group Chairs can brief the Commissioners on each group's approach and prioritization of topics and recommendations within their chapters. We also look forward to receiving feedback from Commissioners on the chapters and the recommendations they contain. All members will be invited to listen in on the Executive Session, and members will also hear from the federal program managers to discuss any feedback received from Commissioners on their chapters.

**Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of
Justice**

Hearing Teleconferences - Week of June 15th, 2020

Our hearings will commence again next week with two panels, and another great group of distinguished witnesses to provide you with testimony related to Community Engagement, as well as the Researcher and Academic perspective on issues under examination by the Commission. We will provide you with the hearing agenda, and witness bios and testimony prior to the hearing.

Next week's teleconferences will be open to the press.

Working Group members will receive further information on the panels via their Federal Program Manager.

As a reminder, in light of recent events and recognizing the competing demands on your time and that of our prospective witnesses, we have decided to postpone the planned in-person meeting of the Commission scheduled for the week of [June 22, 2020](#) in Tampa, Florida. It is tentatively rescheduled for the week of [July 20, 2020](#). While we are disappointed, we are hopeful that the Commission will meet in person in July to continue our work.

Please stay safe, and do not hesitate to reach out to the Commission staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Phil Keith, Chair
Director
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

I hope this message finds you well. Here's an update from this week's work on the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice.

Rose Garden Ceremony and Meeting with Attorney General Barr

All Commissioners were invited to the White House on Tuesday where President Trump signed the "Safe Policing for Safe Communities" Executive Order. There's a direct nexus with the work outlined in the Executive Order and the Commission work.

Following the Rose Garden ceremony, the Attorney General met with the Commissioners and tasked them with forging ahead with their existing work, and asked them to look at three areas of the President's Executive Order in tandem. Attorney General Barr said three points in the Executive Order must be prioritized: Certification, Databases, and Social Problems.

Work on certification would explore ways to incorporate a standardized certification process across law enforcement, acknowledging that the certification requirements will have to be flexible, given disparities in size and resources between urban, rural, and tribal agencies. Developing a database would allow agencies to report use of excessive force into a uniform system accessible by all law enforcement agencies. Rethinking the law enforcement response to social problems would delve into the intersection of homelessness, mental health, and

substance abuse and identify ways to fund social service providers who could reduce the burden of social service calls on law enforcement.

The Commission work will now meld the thinking of existing work by the points addressed in the Executive Order on Safe Policing.

Highlights from This Week's Testimony:

On Thursday, panelists discussed the role of community engagement in the criminal justice system. Each panelist testified to the overarching goal of building trust between law enforcement and communities, especially in high crime neighborhoods. Mr. Turner discussed the federal government's role in fostering economic development in distressed communities, while Reverend Hutchins testified to the impact of getting to know one another across communities to break through stereotypes. Reverend Harrison spoke about engaging with community members, especially those with past criminal justice system contact, to get feedback about law enforcement while also engaging law enforcement leadership. Eventually, Reverend Harrison was able to facilitate small group dialogues between young men in the communities and law enforcement officers to help bridge divides.

On Friday, panelists discussed research perspectives in criminal justice. Professor Alpert testified about the importance of knowing as much as possible about policing, so that shortcomings can be identified in policies, training, supervision, and systems of accountability. Professor Cordner provided recommendations to improve American policing – measuring what matters, evidence-based policing, and police education. Ms. Guardiola discussed how programs that partner youth with cops, educators, and other stakeholders can be models of success for bridging divides between the community and law enforcement. Professor MacDonald testified about how place-based programs and policies can incentivize reinvestment in high crime places, changing the psychological environment of disadvantaged places and generating health and public safety benefits.

The [Commission website](#) is updated regularly with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony.

Working Groups Update

The Working Groups continue working to ensure the report chapters will be ready for the Attorney General. To date, the 15 working groups have met 275 times outside of the hearings. The majority of last week's work focused on chapter edits and reviews.

The Rural and Tribal Law Enforcement Working Group will host a series of subject matter expert discussions to ensure all voices have been heard on the issues and how the proposed recommendations may impact communities within Indian country and Alaska. The sessions will be conducted by webinar from June 25 through June 30:

- Thursday, June 25th from 2-4 pm ET (Alaska)
- Friday, June 26th from 2-4 pm ET (Alaska)
- Monday, June 29th from 2-4 pm ET (Tribal)
- Tuesday June 30th from 2-4 pm ET (Tribal)

As mentioned last week, we look forward to re-scheduling in the next several weeks an Executive Session during which Working Group Chairs can brief the Commissioners on each group's approach and prioritization of topics and recommendations within their chapters.

Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Hearing Teleconferences - Week of June 22nd, 2020

Based on input and guidance from the Attorney General, Commission leadership is planning hearings for the week of June 22 on topics related to Use of Force, Culture, and Accreditation. Commissioners will be receiving Outlook invitations for those hearings, and final agendas, testimony, and witness bios once they are available.

Next week's teleconferences will be open to the press.

Working Group members will receive further information on the panels via their Federal Program Manager.

Please stay safe, and do not hesitate to reach out to the Commission staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Phil Keith, Chair
Director
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



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Date:

Friday, June 26, 2020 5:40:11 PM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

I hope this message finds you well. Here's an update from this week's work on the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice.

Highlights from This Week's Testimony:

On Tuesday, the panelists discussed policing culture and reasonable use of force. An overarching theme throughout the panel was the need to use evidence-based research to inform successful reforms regarding police use of force.

Wednesday's panel focused on the use of force and culture change. The panelists discussed the importance of leading by example within the department, especially with regard to new officers; integrating community policing values throughout an entire academy curriculum instead of teaching it as a standalone course; acknowledging that while no single police incident represents an entire department, nothing undermines years of work developing community trust as quickly as incidents where police use unnecessary or excessive force; and learning from the successes of other departments and agencies regarding use of force policies and practices.

On Thursday, the panel focused on the relationship between religious minorities and law enforcement. The panelists discussed the importance of building

relationships with law enforcement at a community level in order to change dynamics; the need for law enforcement to take steps at every level to investigate and prevent hate-based crime, as well as hold officers accountable for engaging in racial or religious profiling, targeting, and surveillance; and the value of breaking stereotypes and “challenging the narrative.”

The [Commission website](#) is updated regularly with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony.

Working Groups Update

The working groups have completed the initial drafts of their report chapters, and those chapters are currently under review by the Commissioners. In the coming weeks, each Working Group Chair(s) will determine if additional issues need to be examined, if their chapters need additional attention, or if the working group’s level of study of issues is complete. Because of your hard work we are still on track to release a report sometime this fall.

Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Hearing Teleconferences - Week of June 29, 2020

- **Tuesday, June 30th, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Eastern Time - Accreditation/Standards**
- **Wednesday, July 1st, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Eastern Time - Community Relations, Training, and Law Enforcement**
- **Thursday, July 2nd, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Eastern Time - Community Engagement and Respect for Law Enforcement**

Commissioners will be receiving Outlook invitations for these hearings, and final agendas, testimony, and witness bios once they are available.

Next week’s teleconferences will be open to the press.

Working Group members will receive further information on the panels via their Federal Program Manager.

Please stay safe, and do not hesitate to reach out to the Commission staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Phil Keith, Chair
Director
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



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Date:

Thursday, July 2, 2020 4:26:51 PM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

I hope this message finds you well. Here's an update from this week's work on the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice.

Highlights from This Week's Testimony:

On Tuesday, the panelists discussed accreditation and standards in law enforcement. They focused on the value of accreditation and the impact it has on enhancing law enforcement and building trust in communities, what it takes to develop a successful accreditation program, the differences between state and national models, and the need for credentialing bodies to involve law enforcement practitioners and other subject matter experts to develop and maintain accreditation standards.

On Wednesday, the panel focused on interactions and relationships between communities and law enforcement. Testimony delved into the role implicit bias plays when trying to build community trust, and the need for a culture shift across the nation in order for law enforcement at all levels to perform in the safest way possible.

On Thursday, the panel focused on community engagement and respect for law enforcement. Panelists described a successful model of using community

residents to help train law enforcement in community policing and interpersonal communication and that hours spent on law enforcement training are not as important as the quality and caliber of the training when it comes to optimal performance in the field.

The [Commission website](#) is updated regularly with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony.

Working Groups Update

The working groups have completed the initial drafts of their report chapters, and those chapters are currently under review by the Commissioners. In the coming weeks, each Working Group Chair(s) will determine if additional issues need to be examined, if their chapters need additional attention, or if the working group's level of study of issues is complete. Because of your hard work we are still on track to release a report sometime this fall.

Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Hearing Teleconferences - Week of July 6, 2020

- **Tuesday, July 7th, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm, Eastern Time – Commissioner Executive Session**
- **Wednesday, July 8th, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Eastern Time - Community Trust and Respect for Law Enforcement**

Commissioners will be receiving Outlook invitations for the Commissioner Executive Session as well as Wednesday's hearing, and final agenda, testimony, and witness bios once they are available.

Next week's teleconferences will be open to the press.

Working Group members will receive further information on the panels via their Federal Program Manager.

Please stay safe, and do not hesitate to reach out to the Commission staff if you have any questions. Have a wonderful weekend and a very Happy 4th of July!



Sincerely,
Phil Keith, Chair
Director
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



The year 2020 marks the 150th anniversary of the Department of Justice. Learn more about the history of our agency at www.Justice.gov/Celebrating150Years.



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Date:

Friday, July 10, 2020 3:25:20 PM

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

I hope this message finds you well. Here's an update from this week's work on the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice.

Highlights from This Week's Testimony:

On Tuesday, the Commissioners held a closed press executive session. There was a robust two-hour discussion around use of force, policy, training, accrediting, reporting and best practices. Guidance will be provided to the working groups on examining the use of force issues that were raised by Commissioners and incorporating use of force in their respective chapters.

On Wednesday, the commission received testimony from Brian Marvel, President of the Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC); Dr. Paul Lilly, Judge, Brown County, Texas; Mick McHale, President of the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO); and Lieutenant Christopher Cook, Arlington (Texas) Police Department.

The discussion focused on community trust and respect for law enforcement. The panelists discussed the importance of building relationships; consideration for military-style uniform choices; redirecting certain types of emergency calls from police to social workers or mental health professionals; the importance of

public messaging, especially after a critical incident; and consideration for rewarding positive policing rather than relying on, for instance, the quota system, such as traffic stops, to measure success.

The [Commission website](#) is updated regularly with hearing transcripts and audio, summaries, and testimony.

Working Groups Update

The working groups have completed the initial drafts of their report chapters, and once feedback is received by all Commissioners, they will determine how to best address those comments. We remain on track to deliver the full report in the fall.

Next Week

We do not have any hearings scheduled for next week. We were tentatively scheduled to hold an in-person hearing and meeting on July 21-22. Unfortunately due to travel and meeting restrictions, as well as other considerations, we are shifting the final hearing from an in-person event in Washington, D.C. back to our telephonic conference call hearing method, with a focus on Respect for Law Enforcement and Rule of Law. The teleconferences will be scheduled for the afternoons of Tuesday, July 21 and Wednesday, July 22. You will be receiving an Outlook calendar invite once the times are finalized. We hope that this will allow for a more efficient method for participation in these final hearings.

We continue to appreciate your patience as we navigate the challenges that COVID-19 has presented to us. Although we have adjusted plans as we have proceeded through our activities, we know that everyone remains committed to the completing the work of this historic Commission.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,

Phil Keith, Chair

Director

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

I hope this message finds you well. Here's an update from this week's work on the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice.

Highlights from This Week

Following up on last week's Use of Force Executive Session, several Commissioners and Working Group Chairs have met to begin discussing the potential for additional draft recommendations related to use of force policy, training, investigations, and other critical force topics. These discussions will continue through next week as additional draft recommendations are formulated for Commission consideration.

Working Groups Update

The working groups have completed the initial drafts of their report chapters. Once feedback is received from all Commissioners, each Chair will determine how to best address those comments. We remain on track to deliver the full report in the fall.

Next Week

While we are all disappointed that the ongoing challenges of COVID-19 have prevented us from holding our final hearings in person, we're eager to hear from several panels of respected subject matter experts on Respect for Law Enforcement and the Rule of Law.

Respect for Law Enforcement and the Rule of Law Panel Hearing Teleconference –

July 21, 2020, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm, Eastern Time

An Overview 1:05pm-2:00pm, Eastern Time

- Michael Mukasey, 81st U.S. Attorney General & Judge, United States District Court, Southern District of New York

Rule of Law Panel Hearing 2:00pm-3:00pm, Eastern Time

- Rafael Mangual, Fellow & Deputy Director, Legal Policy, Manhattan Institute
- Gail Heriot, Professor of Law, University of San Diego
- Jonathan Turley, J.B. & Maurice C. Shapiro Professor of Public Interest Law, George Washington University Law School

Attorney Panel Hearing 3:00pm-4:00pm, Eastern Time

- William McSwain, United States Attorney, Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- McGregor Scott, United States Attorney, Eastern District of California
- Nick Trutanich, United States Attorney, District of Nevada

Rule of Law Panel Hearing Teleconference –

July 22, 2020, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm, Eastern Time

Overview of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Report 1:05pm-2:00pm, Eastern Time

- Robert Gualtieri, Sheriff, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office, FL

State and Local Prosecutors Panel 2:00pm-3:00pm, Eastern Time

- Daniel Cameron, Attorney General, Kentucky
- Leslie Rutledge, Attorney General, Arkansas
- Eric Olsen, Commonwealth's Attorney for Stafford County, VA
- Jonathan Blodgett, District Attorney, Essex County, MA

Police Panel 3:00pm-4:00pm, Eastern Time

- Hank Stawinski, Chief (retired), Prince George's County, MD
- Bill Brown, Sheriff (retired), Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office, CA
- Lazaro "Larry" Cosme, National President, Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association
- Mark Young, Lieutenant, Detroit Police Department
- Art Acevedo, Chief, Houston Police Department

Closing Remarks 4:00pm-4:15pm, Eastern Time

- 75thS. Attorney General Edwin Meese

Have a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,

Phil Keith, Chair

Director

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)

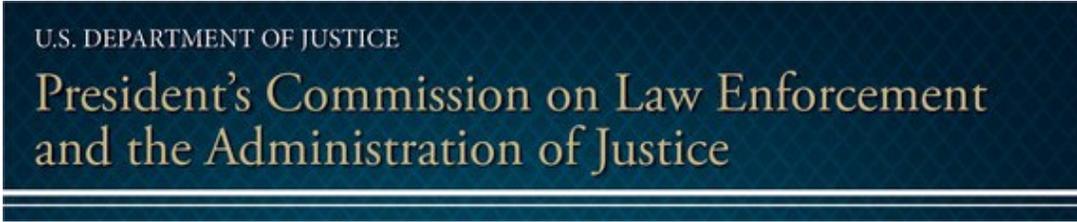


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Dear Commissioners and Working Group Members,

I hope this message finds you well. Here's an update from this week's work on the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice. We wrapped up our teleconference hearings and are turning to the work of completing the recommendations and report for delivery to the Attorney General and the President.

Highlights From This Week

On Tuesday, the Commission heard from Michael Mukasey, the 81st U.S. Attorney General and a former U.S. District Court Judge, who provided an overview of the issues regarding respect for law enforcement and the rule of law. The first panel featured Rafael Mangual, Fellow & Deputy Director of Legal Policy for the Manhattan Institute; Gail Heriot, Professor of Law at the University of San Diego; and Jonathan Turley, J.B. & Maurice C. Shapiro Professor of Public Interest Law at the George Washington University Law School. The panelists spoke about various issues in law enforcement, such as race and technology, and specifically biometrics. The hearing concluded with a panel featuring U.S. Attorneys William McSwain of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, McGregor Scott of the Eastern District of California, and Nick Trutanich of the District of Nevada, where topics included experiences working in districts with

progressive prosecutors.

On Wednesday, the Commission heard first from Pinellas County (Fla.) Sheriff Robert Gualtieri, who offered an overview of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School public safety report. The next panel featured Kentucky Deputy Attorney General Barry Dunn; Arkansas Attorney General Leslie Rutledge; Stafford County (Va.) Commonwealth Attorney Eric Olsen; and Essex County (Mass.) District Attorney Jonathan Blodgett, who provided the commission with the state and local prosecutor's perspective. Five members of law enforcement also provided testimony: Prince George's County (Md.) Chief (retired) Hank Stawinski; Santa Barbara (Calif.) County Sheriff Bill Brown; National President of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association Lazaro "Larry" Cosme; Detroit Police Department Lieutenant Mark Young; and Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo. The hearing concluded with remarks from the 75th U.S. Attorney General, Edwin Meese III, who shared his experiences working on Lyndon B. Johnson's historic law enforcement commission.

Working Groups Update

Following up on the recent Commissioner Use of Force Executive Session, several Commissioners and Working Group Chairs continued to meet to discuss and develop draft recommendations related to use of force policy, training, investigations, and other critical force topics. These draft recommendations and new chapter content will be provided to the full Commission for their consideration next week.

Special Note

The Commission has completed its last set of hearings, and the working groups have largely completed their work. We will provide you with the next email update to announce additional significant activities, as major milestones are met, and to inform you of additional upcoming events related to the Commission's work. I want to thank each of you again for all that you have contributed, and we are looking forward to sharing next steps for the work of the Commission and the status of the report.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Sincerely,
Phil Keith, Chair
Director
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)



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