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Operator: Good day and welcome to the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice conference call. Today's conference is being recorded.

At this time, I would like to turn the conference over to Phil Keith. Please go ahead.

Phil Keith: Thank you, Shelby. Good afternoon and thank you for joining us today. I call the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice to order. On behalf of Attorney General Barr, we thank you for joining us today for this important commission teleconference meeting. This is our last call of the week and as I mentioned yesterday, we will continue with three calls per week through May the 18th and if the operating environment changes in a positive way, we'll consider our final meeting of three days for the week of June the 8th in a traditional face-to-face meeting.

At this time, I'd ask the Executive Director Dean Kueter to conduct the roll call of commissioners.

Dean Kueter: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And before I call the roll, I'd just like to remind everyone that today's event is open to the press and for any members of the media on the call, if you have any questions or need verification, please contact Kristina Mastropasqua in the Justice Department's Office of Public Affairs. And with that, I will begin the roll call. Commissioner Bowdich?

Female: He will be joining momentarily, thank you.

Dean Kueter: Commissioner Clemmons?

Commissioner Clemmons: Present.

Dean Kueter: Commissioner Evans? Commissioner Frazier?

Commissioner Frazier: Present.

Dean Kueter: Commissioner Gaultieri?

Commissioner Gaultieri: I'm here.

Dean Kueter: Commissioner Hawkins? Commissioner Lombardo?

Commissioner Lombardo: Here.

Dean Kueter: Commissioner MacDonald?

Commissioner MacDonald: Good afternoon, I'm here.

Dean Kueter: Commissioner Moody? Commissioner Parr?

Commissioner Parr: I'm here.

Dean Kueter: Commissioner Price?

Commissioner Price: Good afternoon. I'm here.

Dean Kueter: Commissioner Ramsey?

Commissioner Ramsey: Here.

Dean Kueter: Commissioner Rausch?

Commissioner Rausch: I'm here.

Dean Kueter: Commissioner Samaniego?

Commissioner Samaniego: I'm here.

Dean Kueter: Commissioner Smallwood?

Commissioner Smallwood: I'm here.

Dean Kueter: Vice Chair Sullivan?

Vice Chair Sullivan: I'm here.

Dean Kueter: And Commissioner Washington?

Commissioner Washington: Here.

Dean Kueter: Mr. Chairman that concludes the roll call.

Phil Keith: Thank you. Any other announcements Dean?

Dean Kueter: No sir, we are good to go.

Phil Keith: Thank you. Our focus this week continues to be on crime reduction. Today we're going to be discussing strategies and practices for law enforcement and technology used in crime reduction. All the commissioners should have received agendas and bios for this week. And for this particular panel. We will post the testimony as soon as we receive them. Again, we appreciate your patience as we continue the work of the President's Commission.

As noted on previous calls, we encourage commissioners to take notes during the panel discussion delivery, and we will then open up for questions after the witnesses have completed their testimony.

Our first distinguished panelist is Chief Tom Ruocco. I hope I got that right, Chief, who is the Chief of criminal law enforcement for the Texas Department of Public Safety. Chief Ruocco has extensive law enforcement experience including an impressive career at the FBI before joining the Texas Department of Public Safety. Chief Ruocco, thank you for joining us today and you're recognized.

Chief Tom Ruocco: Thank you Chairman Keith and members of the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice. Thank you for affording me the opportunity to speak

before you this afternoon. As introduced, my name is Tom Ruocco. And I am the Chief of the Texas Department of Public Safety Criminal Investigations Division. I am also the co-chair of this commission's Technology Working Group and my testimony today will include some of the work and recommendations of that working group.

In my written testimony, I formulated two recommendations regarding how law enforcement should respond to the changing technological environment. The first recommendation is for law enforcement agencies to employ a consistent and comprehensive framework when considering the adoption and implementation of new technologies. As you are aware, the technological ecosystem is rapidly evolving. And the expansion of communication technology makes collecting evidence much more complex than ever before.

My division in the Texas Department of Public Safety conducts statewide investigations against criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking, human trafficking, illegal gang activity and other specialized investigations such as fraud, cargo theft, human smuggling, vehicle theft, and illegal gambling. We utilize sophisticated technology and software-driven analytics to identify criminals and combat criminal activity. If we are to continue to succeed in this rapidly evolving digital technology environment, we must consistently consider new technology and use of datasets.

Moreover, we must understand the complexities of deploying new technologies and datasets. At a minimum, one needs to consider capability and functionality implications, legislative and regulatory implications, public and law enforcement implications, financial and privacy implications and governance and cybersecurity implications. I believe using frameworks that are general enough to be applied across a broad range of technologies, yet specific enough to ensure that agencies consider at a minimum, the predictable costs and risks with the technology, provides decision makers with the information they may otherwise fail to consider.

Take unmanned aircraft systems or drones as an example. A law enforcement decision maker utilizing a technology framework would be asked, among all the other relevant information, to consider is this technology currently in or approved for use by law enforcement and if so, it's implementation and use by that agency. Do current legislative authorities support use of this technology? And will the general public support use of this technology by law enforcement?

Hopefully, this decision maker would have been provided with information that other police departments address these concerns when they obtained acceptance from the public and government officials by communicating the utility of the technology and its benefits for law enforcement and public safety prior to purchase and implementation of unmanned aircraft systems.

The framework could also be informative when considering new potential use of technology. During the current COVID-19 pandemic, some European government agencies are utilizing unmanned aircraft systems to conduct quarantine checks and monitor social distancing policies. They're utilizing this technology to minimize their personnel's exposure to the virus. In the United States, a local, state, or federal agency considering similar use for drones who utilizes the framework prior to deployment would be made aware that residents in a certain city raise concerns for their privacy when drones equipped with loudspeakers were utilized to broadcast a prerecorded warning message to individuals observed violating the COVID-19 social distance policies.

The second recommendation is for law enforcement agencies to employ a consistent and comprehensive framework when considering the creation or use of new datasets. Datasets may originate exclusively from within an agency, through for which use of productivity tools, crime

statistics or data collected from implemented technology tools, such as automated license plate readers, and rapid DNA machines. Other datasets may be obtained from sources outside an agency such as commercial advertising data and data from vehicle maintenance systems.

New datasets can also be an amalgamation of both internal and external data as in the Golden State killer case where law enforcement effectively leveraged forensic genealogy data originally collected by a private entity to trace people's ancestry to identify a suspect in a cold case. Now framework questions associated with the creation and use of new datasets will flow along similar lines as those seen in dealing with new technologies. However, even in the case of well-defined, discrete datasets, it may be difficult for agencies to predict the full extent and consequences and benefits that may be associated with a new dataset. New and much more sophisticated data aggregation and analysis techniques such as artificial intelligence may imbue new attributes and values to data not anticipated when it was first collected or obtained.

For this reason, more care may be needed in setting up processes and procedures to ensure agencies return to the framework when new potential uses for a dataset are discovered. In addition, since the vast majority of the data that may be subject to a framework review will be stored, accessed and analyzed in a digital world, it is important that well-established, cybersecurity frameworks and data handling best practices are utilized to ensure the security of the new datasets.

I believe the recommendations I have outlined cover two key issues that must be addressed by law enforcement in order to successfully identify and integrate new technologies and methodologies into our procedures and workflows. Law enforcement agencies at all levels of government - local, state and federal - strive to do their best to protect citizens while dealing (inaudible) with all manners of threats and criminal activities. We can best succeed in meeting

this objective by ensuring that the tools at our disposal continue to meet our needs and serve the best interest of the communities. It is important to note that the frameworks being recommended do not dictate or prescribe how 18,000 law enforcement executives will use it. But an opportunity to pick and choose what parts of the framework are relevant to their individual decision-making process.

This concludes my presentation. I, again thank you for allowing me to speak for the committee and I stand by to answer any questions.

Phil Keith: Thank you, Chief Ruocco for your informative testimony and certainly for your distinguished service to our country.

Our next panelist is distinguished Oxford, Alabama Chief of Police Bill Partridge. Chief Partridge we hope you and your department of first responders remain safe especially considering the extreme storms and 23 tornados you've been confronted with as well as the COVID-19 virus challenges. Chief Partridge, thank you for joining us today and you're recognized.

Chief Bill Partridge: Thank you, Mr. Keith. Thank you to the commission for allowing me to speak today. I want to talk to you a little bit about crime centers for smaller agencies that will create a better crime-fighting tool for regional areas of the country. What we did was we started looking at this five years ago, trying to figure out how we could best utilize law enforcement technology and utilize personnel to fight crime and to lower crime. One of the things that we looked at was creating a regional crime center. This crime center now consists of 28 agencies throughout the north-central area of Alabama. We started this last year and this crime center itself uses an array of different types of technologies such as license plate readers, pole cameras, trailer cameras, voice to text technologies for inmate cellphone calls and calls through the Sheriff's offices.

Phone and computer forensic labs, video enhancement software, facial recognition, mobile lab for computer and phone forensics to respond to crime scenes, Firefly gunshot detection and ballistic analysis using NIBIN. What we have found out that is most of the time you hear of crime centers being in major metropolitan areas. What we wanted to do, was we wanted to bring these smaller departments together who can't afford on their own to be able to buy this type of technology. And what we did is we compiled this into one facility. And what we have seen over the last year basically of its use is we've seen dramatic decreases in crime, especially violent crime, across this region.

Some of the crime that we have talked about, and we have had drastic reductions in, such as homicides, home invasions, burglaries, and gun crime. By these agencies coming under one roof and working together, we have found that we've been able to share more information on a timely basis to be able to prevent crime and also to solve it. Whereas you know, most agencies now are set up that they're not allowed - they're not able to share information the way we'd like to share information from department to department because we don't one, have time to do that for the personnel, especially for smaller agencies.

Like for instance in Alabama, the average size of the law enforcement agency is 10 officers or less. So you can imagine these smaller departments, they don't have the type of technology that is out there today to be able to help them fight this crime. But we have been able to put together a good concept for a regional crime center here and I've noticed that other areas of the state are starting to do the same thing. And as those areas of the state that continue to create ties regional crime center concept, we'll be able to link together to be able to share information well across the state and hopefully the Southeast here in the future.

I do believe that these crime centers are something that's going to be a very valuable tool here in

the next decade to fight crime because instead of putting money into one major metropolitan area that is only using it for that area, this regional concept brings us out to be able to bring multiple counties, multiple jurisdictions into the fold. Like I said before, we have 28 agencies inside this facility. That ranges from local, county, state and federal agencies all partnering together to be able to work. And my recommendation to the commission is that we look at being able to find agencies across our country that would be able to host this type of crime center and through federal grant funding would be able to accomplish this mission to help these smaller agencies.

You know, money is tight and we know that regional grant funding is much easier to get than it is to just bring one lump sum into one larger metropolitan area. We have found this concept working well. And that we hope to continue this fight against crime. We serve approximately 300,000 citizens inside this crime center. And with the Commission's help, we can certainly make sure that the smaller agencies across the country are better manned and better equipped through these crime centers to help fight violent crime.

And that concludes my presentation.

Phil Keith: Thank you, Chief Partridge for your testimony today and we thank you for your service.

Your department will remain in our prayers as you're going to be confronted with new storms later this week. Let me know, for the record, Commissioner Evans and Commission Hawkins have joined the call.

Our next distinguished panelist is Chief Christopher Amon who is the Chief of Firearm Operations Division at ATF in this capacity. Chief Amon oversees the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network commonly referred to as NIBIN. And this is a topic this commission has taken testimony on previously. Chief Amon, thank you for joining us today and you're recognized.

Chief Christopher Amon: Thank you. And good afternoon, Mr. Chairman, members of the commission, it is my distinct honor and privilege to address the commission today. As introduced, my name is Christopher Amon. I serve as the Chief of ATF Firearms Operations Division. I oversee the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network or NIBIN. I'd like to just briefly start out by pointing out that of the estimated 390 million firearms in America, most will never fall into criminal hands. We talk about crime gun intelligence. Crime gun intelligence has revolutionized our ability to zero in on the small portion that will fall into criminal hands and the violent offenders that perpetrate these crimes.

Crime gun intelligence or CGI as we call it is the collection and analysis of all information related to the unlawful use, possession or transfer of these firearms. These are the details that lead investigators to individuals or groups committing acts of firearm violence or illegally diverting firearms or both. The foundation of any crime gun intelligence program is rooted in technology, specifically NIBIN technology. The NIBIN network is a collection of digital, ballistic images of cartridge cases recovered from crime scenes and recovered crime gun test fires.

I briefly want to discuss how it works. Much like fingerprints, each firearm produces unique markings on a cartridge case when fired. Technicians review images of the cartridge cases' markings then correlate them against the database of millions of other images in order to make associations and link shooting incidents.

NIBIN has existed since around 1997 and has gone through many changes. I will be the first to say that in the past, it was a rarely used database of 2D images. Then around 2012, things started to change when the technology improved to produce high definition 3D images. This is a significant evolution because 3D images allowed NIBIN technicians and firearm examiners to

create high confidence correlations. What we call NIBIN leads.

So suddenly what used to take months waiting on a firearms examiner to confirm a lead under a microscope, now only took days. And you can get information in the hands of the investigators.

Another major development between 2012 and 2014, more departments started conducting comprehensive collection which is the gathering of evidence from all shooting scenes regardless of the severity of the crime. This brought more evidence into the database for comparison and thus resulted in more leads with seemingly less important crimes holding the key piece of information to solve more serious crimes. These shifts in philosophy in the NIBIN program and utilization provided the foundation for a more effective NIBIN network.

Ever since, ATF has grown this program and advocated for what we call the critical steps. The comprehensive collection as I mentioned, timely entry, follow up and feedback. Since 2014, acquisitions are up almost 53% and we've gone from 800 leads year a year in 2014 to over 67,000 in FY19.

I'd like to briefly discuss timeliness. This is another critical pillar of the program. Academic studies of shooting events linked by NIBIN show a high likelihood of shooters engage in gun violence multiple times in a short period of time. Studies also show that shootings increase in severity. So a shooter who starts off with an unlawful discharge is likely to escalate to a homicide if not pulled off the street.

Therefore speed is the best strategy for intervention. To get the investigators good leads fast. On this note, ATF created the NIBIN National Correlation and Training Center in Huntsville which allows us to remotely review correlations and return leads to investigators within 48 hours. The

NCTC has generated over 67,000 leads since March of 2016.

ATF also created for the first time, minimum standards on the program which mandate NIBIN sites enter cartridge cases within two business days, conduct a correlation review in two business days, and distribute a lead within 24 hours. Finally, teams dedicated to exclusively following up on NIBIN leads to ensure that all parts of the program are fully optimized. With this in mind, in 2016, ATF established 25 crime gun intelligence centers to serve as a clearinghouse for all intelligence related to NIBIN and other sources.

Now briefly a recent study found that partnerships that including dedicated investigative units following up on NIBIN leads outperformed those who did not have such units. So ATF and partners have established these units. To show how well this works, I'll turn briefly to Detroit, Michigan. Just one quick case example.

Acting on leads generated by NIBIN, investigators reviewed three victimless shots fired calls that were linked by the program. Investigators used crime gun intelligence and other methods to identify a potential suspect known to shoot at rival gang members. The dedicated investigative team executed a search warrant at the suspect's girlfriend's home and recovered the firearm that was used in the shootings. Prosecutors then presented these NIBIN links during the detention hearing and a judge held the suspect without bond.

I'd also like to discuss several items assisting with crime gun intelligence in addition to NIBIN.

First is the commission that served previous testimony, acoustic gunfire detection systems. These help cities increase evidence submission into NIBIN which in turn produces more leads.

Automatic evidence analysis software helps investigators manage mountains of probative evidence, social media, search warrant returns, cellphone records, and other digital evidence

often require analysts to spend hours generating connections. There are several promising private sector solutions to help automate this process.

And then finally new techniques to recover DNA from fired cartridge cases. Recently the ATF National Laboratory developed a process to preserve and recover DNA profiles from fired cartridge cases while also meeting the two-day requirement for NIBIN entry. Any laboratory can easily adapt this process into their current workflow and show results. For example, in San Francisco DNA recovered from 18 fired cartridge cases led to the identification and arrest of two murder suspects who are also connected by NIBIN to additional shootings.

So with all this mind, I would like to provide the following recommendation to the committee for helping to expand this innovative approach that has proven results. First and foremost, all US law enforcement agencies must participate in NIBIN. Success requires participation by all. When one jurisdiction participates but a neighboring jurisdiction does not, valuable leads disappear. Second, law enforcement agencies should mandate the collection of all fired cartridge cases and test fires from all recovered firearms. This again is the principle of comprehensive collection.

ATF and law enforcement agencies should work together to establish dedicated investigative assets targeting violence. Shooters know no jurisdictional bounds. Neither should law enforcement. When NIBIN sites join, lead agencies should establish a plan to implement minimum required operating standards prior to launching the technology.

We should utilize ATF's DNA tool to solve violent crime through grants to state and local laboratories to add more scientists, grow facilities' footprint and fund additional DNA instruments. Additionally, we should expand our federal laboratories to meet the needs of the federal caseload. And then finally, invest in software for investigators to help to aggregate and analyze

different crimes and intelligence sources.

With that, that ends my recommendations. And I'd like to thank everyone, the Commission for the opportunity to address the Commission. I'm happy to take any follow-up questions or provide any documentation as needed. For more information on these programs, you can visit ATF's home page for fact sheets as well the Bureau of Justice Assistance who has a copy of our crime gun intelligence best practices guide posted on their website.

Again, thank you for the opportunity.

Phil Keith: Thank you, Chief Amon for your valued testimony and certainly your service to our country.

Our last panelist is Deputy Chief David LeValley from the Detroit, Michigan Police Department. We know that the Detroit Police Department has been hit particularly hard with the COVID-19. We were saddened to learn that your department tragically lost a veteran captain, 911 operator to the virus just a few weeks ago. And we were also advised that Chief Craig has tested positive in joining more than 500 officers being quarantined, with 114 civilians and officers testing positive for the virus.

Chief LeValley please know this commission will keep you and the Detroit Police Department in our thoughts and prayers. Chief LeValley, thank you for joining us today. You're recognized.

Deputy Chief David LeValley: All right, thank you. And thank you to the commission for the opportunity to speak today. My name is David LeValley, I'm the Assistant Chief of the Detroit Police Department. The purpose of my testimony today is to provide an overview of the program that

was started by the Detroit Police Department four years ago called Project Green Light Detroit. It involves the use of technology to reduce crime.

I also want to talk about a few technology programs that we implemented to complement Project Green Light, describe how we use the technology and provide some recommendations based on our lessons learned.

First I'll give an overview of Project Green Light Detroit. During regular crime briefings in 2015, we repeatedly saw carjackings and robberies that were occurring at gas stations and liquor stores. We started asking ourselves, how we could create safe places throughout the city. Out of this question came the idea for Project Green Light. How the program works is we partner with businesses who agree to make certain improvements to their sites at their own expense. These include the installation of at least four high definition cameras at their locations that are positioned at entry and exit points and parking lots. They also improve lighting, install signage, that they are a participating business, and install a flashing green light alerting anyone passing by that they are a Project Green Light location.

The business owners also agree, and provide at their own expense, increased internet capabilities, and 30 days' worth of cloud storage for the video footage which is capable of being viewed remotely by the police department. The police department agrees to virtually patrol the location from our real-time crime center, provide priority response both virtually and in-person to calls of the locations, make special attention visits to the sites and advertise the program, which increases awareness.

The program started with eight gas stations and now consists of 600 participating businesses and is still growing every day. This gives us access to over 2800 live high definition camera feeds. We

have found this program quite successful as a deterrent to committing crime. At the eight original locations, they have seen a reduction in violent crime of 44.9% comparing 2015 to 2019. All gas stations in the program have seen a reduction of 25.3% during that time, while the entire city has seen a 16% reduction during that time. And the original problem we were trying to solve for was robberies and carjackings. And during 2015, we had 3,648 robberies and 523 carjackings. In 2019, we reduced that to 2,377 robberies and 244 carjackings. Still too many, but 35% fewer robberies and 545 fewer carjackings than before.

Another benefit of the program is the availability of high definition camera footage when a crime does occur. Detectives have immediate access to 30 days' worth of footage which they're able to use to ensure case closures. We've had much success using this footage with other technology or by simply pushing it out to local media asking for the public tips.

Another program we've adopted are license plate readers. License plate readers consist of deploying high-speed cameras throughout the city that capture every license plate that passes them. Recording certain data such as the date, time and exact location as well as taking a photograph of the vehicle. We have this mounted stationary throughout the city, mounted to police vehicles, and on mobile trailers that we can move around when needed.

These LPRs are valuable and they're able - that we are able to automatically compare the license plates and pass them to lists of wanted vehicles. So that officers can immediate stops and arrests. They also provide tremendous value to detectives allowing them to use this evidence that a particular vehicle was at or near the location of a crime.

Another piece of technology that we added was facial recognition software. When we first implemented this technology we faced a tremendous amount of criticism and pushback from

some members of the community. There were a lot of misconceptions about how we were using the technology. Most notably is the idea that we were running facial recognition on live stream camera feeds which is absolutely not true.

With our Facial Recognition Program, we have strict policies that dictate the instances and manner in which it can be used. The bottom line is that we can only use facial recognition on a probe image of a suspect we have reason to believe has committed a violent offense such as murder, robbery, rape or aggravated assault.

Important to note that facial recognition matches are just investigative leads and detectives still have to conduct their investigation to establish probable cause before an arrest can be made. No arrests are made or warrants issued based solely on facial recognition.

I'd like to provide an example of how these pieces of technology all come together. Recently we had a robbery and a shooting at a gas station. The image of the suspect was captured on Green Light footage cameras as well as a vehicle that fled the scene. Our analysts used facial recognition to develop a lead on the suspect. They then checked that suspect's social media pages and discovered a vehicle matching the description of the getaway vehicle. They then used the license plate readers to confirm that the vehicle was in the area of the crime. The victim later picked the suspect out. He was arrested and convicted.

So in this instance, all three pieces of technology were critical to solving the case. Examples like that go on and on.

I'd like to make some recommendations based on some of the lessons learned in acquiring and using this and several other pieces of technology we have in place. First is to invest in technology

infrastructure. Having a robust technology infrastructure is critical. We need to have grant opportunities geared towards getting fiber or wireless access at immense speeds which can be very costly and prevent municipalities from taking on new technology programs.

Second is to encourage transparency. As we saw with our Facial Recognition Program transparency was key to success. We opened our Intelligence Center up for tours to the community and elected officials and we provide regular reports on the use of technology to the Board of Police Commissioners at public meetings. We found it's easier to be open and transparent about how we use this technology rather than have someone else tell the story for us.

Third would be to mandate training and certifications. So behind all technology, there are people that operate and use it. The fact that we had a diverse group of well-trained analysts using our facial recognition system helped us considerably in gaining approval. Mandating universal certifications and training will protect both law enforcement agencies and the public from misuse.

Third is to increase technical assistance. We spent a considerable amount of time and money researching what worked best. We traveled the country to learn best practices. Facilitating technical assistance and peer exchanges with other law enforcement agencies would be useful.

And lastly would be to keep CJIS up-to-date with current technology. The Criminal Justice Information System, CJIS, has many requirements for how law enforcement data is stored and shared which is fine. But the problem we routinely encounter is that new technology has advanced beyond CJIS. An example is that almost all new technology is moving toward cloud-based data storage which is currently a violation of CJIS.

So I want to thank you again for the time allocated to me today. If there are any questions or

further information is needed, myself and the entire team from the Detroit Police Department are available. Thank you.

Phil Keith: Thank you Chief LeValley for your valued testimony and certainly your distinguished service. Commissioners, we're now open for questions for the witnesses. Commissioners with questions please state your name prior to your question and direct the question to a specific panelist if you have a question or if the response is from the entire panel please state so.

Just as a reminder to the Commissioners your mikes are hot at all times. Thank you.

And now we'll entertain questions from Commissioners. Questions from Commissioners.

Commissioner Washington: Hey Phil this is Don Washington. I have a question for Chief Partridge.

Phil Keith: Yes Commissioner, you're recognized.

Commissioner Washington: Chief, great presentation, a great idea. I'm just wondering, how did you initially fund the processes that you had to go through and get in the buildings and all that stuff pulled together for your Regional Crime Center?

Chief Bill Partridge: Yes sir. We started this project approximately five years ago, a little over five years ago. And of course, we were looking for funding during that time. And we had no luck with federal grants.

So we were very fortunate that our mayor and City Council stepped up to the plate and paid for the center itself. The center like I said houses 28 agencies. We do not ask any agency who are

participants in this facility to pay anything. The only thing that we ask is that they partner with us and that they supply someone either full-time or part-time or whatever time that they can possibly have someone come into the center and work. We have several full-time individuals but we have a lot of part-time agencies who come in part-time.

Commissioner Washington: Thank you.

Phil Keith: Other Commissioners with questions.

Commissioner Lombardo: Yes. This is Regina Lombardo at ATF. Mainly a follow-up with that question that Commissioner Washington asked. Just on that, I commend you for the - focusing on some of the smaller Police Departments in the rural areas because that is probably our biggest challenge is trying to also provide that service to departments that might not necessarily have the resources or the volume to purchase the equipment and have the technical resources and training and all that goes into it.

And we often get that phone call from many Police Departments on can I bring the evidence or the shell casings or this firearm to be tested and correlated.

So I love the recommendation. I like the fact that it's used for several different law enforcement organizations. Because not everyone has a, you know, major police department like, you know, Chicago Police or even midsize Police Department.

So that is the direction that I'm trying to focus on so I appreciate you highlighting that and thank you for your testimony today.

And Chris, thank you for representing ATF.

Phil Keith: Other Commissioners with questions. Other Commissioners with questions.

Commissioner Samaniego: This is John Samaniego. My question is for Chief Partridge. Bill, continue to do an outstanding job there in East Alabama. You pulling 28 small agencies together was some feat and I applaud you for it.

Other than the Metro Crime Center in Birmingham and yours in East Alabama, do you know of any others that are on the forefront in Alabama or adjoining states?

Chief Bill Partridge: Yes Sheriff. Thank you. Chief McMurray in Huntsville is in the process of building-out the North Alabama Metro Area Crime Center. And I believe Tuscaloosa is in the process of obtaining funding to start their Crime Center over in Tuscaloosa.

Commissioner Samaniego: Outstanding, keep up the good work. Thanks.

Chief Bill Partridge: Thank you, Sheriff.

Phil Keith: Other questions from Commissioners. One more time, questions from Commissioners. Hearing no further questions let me close by thanking our panelists once again for your time and your most valued testimony and the responses to the questions from our Commissioners. On behalf of the Attorney General and his leadership staff, Rachel Bissex and Jeff Favitta and all the Commissioners your contributions provided today are most sincerely appreciated and will assist the Commission in the deliberations and work that they conduct.

Before we close just a reminder that we'll be sending out our weekly summary to all the Commissioners along with next week's schedule of panels. We'll be wrapping up the Crime Reduction Panel. We'll have a panel on Victim Services. And then we'll start with the first panel on reentry. Commissioners will receive separate calendar invites with testimony as soon as we receive the testimony.

And also a reminder to the Commissioners to check the President's Commission page for updates of documents and information on the main Justice web site. And we'll update it regularly with information as it becomes available.

Any comments or questions from Commissioners.

If there's no further business before us today, the President's Commission is adjourned. Thank you again, Commissioners, for your dedication and commitment and have a great weekend. And please be safe.

Female: Thank you.

Male: Thank you.

Male: Thanks Phil.

Male: Thanks.

Operator: This concludes today's call. Thank you for your participation. You may now disconnect.

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