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POLICING CAPITAL SITES: IMPROVING COORDINATION, TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT

HEARING

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED NINTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

JULY 21, 2006

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CONTENTS

	Page
Hearing held on July 21, 2006	1
Statement of:	
McKnight, Rear Admiral Terence, U.S. Navy, Commandant, Naval District Washington; Major General Guy C. Swan III, U.S. Army Commanding General, Military District of Washington; Joseph W. Trindal, Regional Director, National Capital Region, Federal Protective Service; and Michael D. Fogarty, assistant chief of police, U.S. Park Police	10
Fogarty, Michael D.	33
McKnight, Rear Admiral Terence	10
Swan, Major General Guy C., III	20
Trindal, Joseph W.	31
Letters, statements, etc., submitted for the record by:	
Cummings, Hon. Elijah E., a Representative in Congress from the State of Maryland, prepared statement of	9
Davis, Chairman Tom, a Representative in Congress from the State of Virginia:	
Prepared statement of	4
Prepared statement of Chief Ramsey	43
Fogarty, Michael D., assistant chief of police, U.S. Park Police, prepared statement of	36
McKnight, Rear Admiral Terence, U.S. Navy, Commandant, Naval District Washington, prepared statement of	13
Ruppersberger, Hon. C.A. Dutch, a Representative in Congress from the State of Maryland, prepared statement of	57
Swan, Major General Guy C., III, U.S. Army Commanding General, Military District of Washington, prepared statement of	23

POLICING CAPITAL SITES: IMPROVING COORDINATION, TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT

FRIDAY, JULY 21, 2006

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM,
Washington, DC.

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 10 a.m., in room 2154, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Tom Davis (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Tom Davis, Cummings, Watson, Ruppersberger, and Norton.

Staff present: Larry Halloran, deputy staff director; John Hunter, counsel; Andrea LeBlanc, deputy director of communications; Shalley Kim, professional staff member; Teresa Austin, chief clerk; Michael Galindo, deputy clerk; Kim Trinca, minority counsel; Earley Green, minority chief clerk; and Jean Gosa, minority assistant clerk.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. The committee will come to order.

The primary obligation of any government is the safety and security of its citizens, and we've been acting on many fronts to fulfill that obligation. Our region faces unique challenges when it comes to planning and implementing security measures. A multitude of local, State and Federal agencies need to work in unison. Today it's our hope to examine the extent to which that coordination is working and where it needs to be improved.

As the Federal seat of government, Washington, DC, is unique in that it houses the executive, legislative and judicial branches and many independent agencies. Washington is home to many national landmarks and key operational facilities like the Washington Monument, the Capitol and the Navy Yard. Not only do we have the Federal work force at these sites, many thousands of visitors come to visit these landmarks. In addition, Washington is a city that has people living in it. It has neighborhoods, and it needs law enforcement protection just like any other major city.

In 1997, Congress adopted the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act, which in part authorized the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department and 32 Federal law enforcement agencies to enter into cooperative agreements to assist in carrying out crime prevention and law enforcement activities in the District of Columbia. Those agreements could cover such activities as Federal law enforcement agency patrolling areas in D.C., sharing and donating equipment and supplies, operating on shared radio frequencies, and Federal agency processing and papering of suspects they arrest in the District of Columbia.

As a result, today we have a situation where many secure Federal sites are operated and protected by Federal police units.

The Government Accountability Office recently reported that agencies found it difficult to measure initiatives to improve security and that resources were scarce. GAO stated, "Given their competing priorities and limited security resources, U.S. Federal agencies could benefit from specific performance measurement guidance and standards for facility protection to help them address the challenges they face and to help ensure that their physical security efforts are achieving the desired results."

While sites such as the Capitol and the White House are well guarded, there are many other high-level and sensitive targets that, if attacked, could result in loss of life and serious damage to property and national prestige. September 11, 2001, confirmed the Nation's Capital as a terrorist target. Those who wish us harm have demonstrated their perverted preference for high-profile targets of both operational and symbolic value. As we harden some targets, they shop for others. We need to remain vigilant and continue to improve facility security here.

Despite clear progress, it appears more needs to be done. According to a January 6, 2006, Washington Post article, the Navy police lacked basic training, equipment and critical resources in protecting the public and secure sites. Officers were reported complaining about incidents of carrying unworkable police radios and armor-piercing ammunition used in service weapons but inappropriate, even dangerous, in a civilian security mission. We were told the Navy has been working to address these issues, and we look forward to hearing the testimony on the status of those efforts.

The committee is dedicated to fostering greater efficiency and coordination among the Federal police units and District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department. The Federal law enforcement agencies share responsibility with the Metro force for protecting the Federal facilities of the Nation's Capital. The critical nature of this joint mission and the shared responsibility of a myriad of agencies demand an unprecedented degree of cooperation and coordination between traditionally independent public safety agencies which may not be trained or resourced for that critical joint mission.

This coordination becomes all the more important now that the Metropolitan Police Chief has declared a "crime emergency" in the District as a result of a sudden increase of serious crimes after a steady reduction in crime rates. Protection from street crimes and terrorism demands a coordinated and comprehensive response.

This morning, we have representatives from four Federal law enforcement agencies that share in providing law enforcement services in the District: the Navy Police Division-Naval District Washington, the Army Military District of Washington, the Federal Protective Service and the U.S. Park Police. We expect to receive information that will enable us to assess the current readiness of each of these units and the level of coordination in their core law enforcement missions. We expect each witness to provide information concerning the agency's security force, including training and technologies used to secure and protect Federal facilities, coordination of security efforts within and among agencies to improve or en-

hance site security, and impediments that make it difficult to maintain increased security at Federal facilities.

[The prepared statement of Chairman Tom Davis follows:]

OPENING STATEMENT
OF
CHAIRMAN TOM DAVIS
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM
HEARING
"Policing Capital Sites: Improving Coordination, Training and Equipment"

July 21, 2006

The primary obligation of any government is the safety and security of its citizens, and we have been acting on many fronts to fulfill that obligation. Our region faces unique challenges when it comes to planning and implementing security measures. A multitude of local, state, and federal agencies need to work in unison. Today it's our hope to examine the extent to which that coordination is working and where it needs to improve.

As the federal seat of government, Washington, D.C. is unique in that it houses the executive, legislative and judicial branches and many independent agencies. Washington is home to many national landmarks and key operational facilities like the Washington Monument, the Capitol and the Navy Yard. Not only do we have the federal workforce at these sites, many thousands of visitors come here to visit these landmarks. In addition, Washington is a city that has people living in it. It has neighborhoods and it needs law enforcement protection just like any other major city.

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Despite clear progress, it appears more needs to be done. According to a January 6, 2006 *Washington Post* article, the Navy police lacked basic training, equipment, and critical resources in protecting the public and secure sites. Officers were reported complaining about incidents of carrying unworkable police radios and armor piercing ammunition used in service weapons but inappropriate, even dangerous, in a civilian security mission. We are told the Navy has been working to address these issues and we look forward to hearing testimony on the status of those efforts.

The Committee is dedicated to fostering greater efficiency and coordination among the federal police units and District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department. The federal law enforcement agencies share responsibility with the Metro force for protecting the federal facilities in the Nation's Capital. The critical nature of this joint mission and the shared responsibility among a myriad of agencies demand an unprecedented degree of cooperation and coordination between traditionally independent public safety agencies that many not yet be trained or resourced for that critical joint mission.

This coordination becomes all the more important now that the Metropolitan Police Chief has declared a "crime emergency" in the District as a result of the sudden increase of serious crimes after a steady reduction in crime rates. Protection from street crimes and terrorism demands a coordinated and comprehensive response.

This morning, we have representatives from four federal law enforcement agencies that share in providing law enforcement services in the District: the Navy Police Division-Naval District Washington, the Army Military District of Washington, the Federal Protective Service, and the United States Park Police. We expect witnesses to provide information that will enable us to assess the current readiness, including the adequacy of equipment and training, of each of those units and the level of coordination in their core law enforcement missions. We expect each witness to provide information concerning the agency's security force, including training and technologies used to secure and protect federal facilities, coordination of security efforts within and among agencies to improve or enhance site security, and impediments that make it difficult to maintain and increase security at federal facilities.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. I would now recognize Ms. Norton for an opening statement.

Ms. NORTON. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I very much appreciate your willingness to hold this hearing on Federal police forces that I requested and hope that before the end of this congressional session, other hearings I have requested, particularly hearings on the Office of the U.S. Attorney and another on the District's structural imbalance, can be held. I particularly appreciate your willingness to add the U.S. Park Police to the panel today in light of the emergence of crime on the Mall.

Among the least well known and least understood police in the United States are the civilian Federal police forces that police our most secure Federal facilities. The police that guard Defense Department facilities such as the Army or Navy bases, for example, are not military police but civilian police. The most secure facilities in the United States, some of them particularly vulnerable terrorist targets such as nuclear facilities, are guarded by civilian police.

The District of Columbia and the National Capital Region are laced with many secure facilities that depend on these civilian Federal police. Although they guard very high-value targets, they have been virtually forgotten in the rush to secure the more obvious targets, such as the Congress and the White House.

Precisely because these well-known targets are so well policed and secure, however, other targets have become more vulnerable. For example, the District alone has six military installations within its borders. Among them is the newly renovated Navy Yard, home of the Naval Sea Systems Command, one of the most technologically advanced secure agencies. This facility is policed by Naval District Washington, a civilian police force that is also responsible for other secure facilities, among them the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency and the Anacostia installation and the Naval Observatory, which includes the Vice President's residence, and the top secret research facility at the Patuxent Naval Air Station in southern Maryland.

I had a special interest in the Naval Sea Systems Command since I worked to help bring the agencies to the Navy Yard instead of a planned relocation to California.

My interest was piqued by a Washington Post article that the chairman has described, describing complaints from Naval District police officers about malfunctioning radios, substandard equipment and armor-piercing bullets borrowed from military supplies that are highly unsuitable for use guarding a civilian facility in an urban area.

After meeting with the Command and the officers, it became clear that the issues were not peculiar to the Naval District Police. The civilian police across the country are not treated as coherent assets that must be coordinated for maximum effect but appear to operate like little-noticed stepchildren, notwithstanding their training and police background.

The value of the police who guard the most secure facilities nationwide is underestimated. The country can ill afford to continue to regard these valuable police forces with just passing attention of the kind they received before September 11th. Without a great deal more resources but with more attention, information-sharing equip-

ment and especially coordination, these civilian police throughout the United States can become a true post-September 11th asset, linked to other forces with similar responsibilities. In today's public safety and security conscious environment, these police forces are too valuable to be left outside the circle of our national strategy to secure our country and to assure public safety.

I welcome today's witnesses and look forward to their testimony. Thank you again, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Thank you.

Are there any other Members who wish to make statements?

Ms. Watson.

Ms. WATSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, particularly for holding this most important hearing on the authority of the police units in our Nation's Capital and nationwide.

Adequate attention for essential security forces used to protect Federal facilities is a part of the many steps this Congress must take in helping improve our homeland security, and the fact that we have seen a threat to tourism in the last few days indicates that we are lagging in the kind of security we need to give to our Federal sites within the local environment.

Since September 11th, lessons we have learned here in Washington preparing for natural disasters means there are State and local first responders that possess valuable real-world experience, experience that can be a value to other States and communities across the Nation as they seek to develop terrorism response plans of their own.

This is not to imply that response plans developed for natural disasters can be used in a cookie-cutter approach to respond to terrorist attacks. Preparation for a response to a terrorist incident has its own unique needs, and our Federal police forces should have the skills and training to protect our homeland. The Federal Government still needs to conduct a comprehensive threat and risk assessment for all Federal police units.

The administration has proposed large increases in homeland security funding without objectively assessing the best way to spend those funds. I hope to work with my colleagues on this committee to persuade the administration to conduct a comprehensive national coordination and training assessment for all of our police forces, and I want to thank all of you for your willingness to come and testify in order for us to understand the dire need for law enforcement agencies to receive the proper training and funding in order to protect our Nation.

This committee, I am sure, will do everything in its power to help provide all of you with the proper funding to fight and protect America's homeland and particularly our memorial sites here in the Nation's Capital and protect the people who come to America to see the greatness of this country. So I want to encourage you to please continue your diligent efforts in protecting our America.

I thank you, and I yield back, Mr. Chair.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Thank you very much.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Chairman, I have a very brief statement.

Thank you again for—I just join my colleagues in thanking you, Mr. Chairman, for working with Ms. Norton to bring about this hearing.

In the wake of the September 11th terrorist attack on the Pentagon and the anthrax attack on the Hart Senate Office Building, I think we all can agree on the need to provide our residents, workers and visitors with the utmost protection. The reality is that the District of Columbia is a terrorist target, and we must protect it.

It appears that inefficiencies exist in the NCR police program. There are over 50 Federal police forces with jurisdiction over the District, ranging from the Library of Congress force, which patrols the area surrounding its building, to the National Park Service, which covers thousands of acres. To better coordinate Federal police forces, Congress in 1997 enacted the Police Coordination Act of 1997 as a part of the National Capital Revitalization Self-Government Improvement Act. Under the law, 31 agencies were encouraged to establish a memorandum of understanding with the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia to streamline efforts, but, to date, only eight of those agencies have done so.

This is not necessarily bad news. Some agencies were already working with the police department and therefore did not need to establish a formal MOU, but some agencies still are not communicating effectively and efficiently with the District forces. We must rectify this situation to ensure that we are providing the best protection to all who live and work in and visit the District.

Mr. Chairman, I look forward to the testimony; and, again, I thank you for holding this hearing.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Thank you very much, Mr. Cummings.

[The prepared statement of Hon. Elijah E. Cummings follows:]

U.S. House of Representatives
109th Congress

Opening Statement

Representative Elijah E. Cummings, D-Maryland

Full Committee Hearing: "Policing Capital Sites:
Improving Coordination, Training and Equipment"
Committee on Government Reform

July 21, 2006

Mr. Chairman,

Thank you for holding this important hearing to discuss the coordination of police forces in the National Capital Region (NCR).

In the wake of the September 11th terrorist attack on the Pentagon, and the Anthrax attack on the Hart Senate Office Building, I think we can all agree on the need to provide our residents, workers and visitors with the utmost protection.

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Under the law, 31 agencies were encouraged to establish Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia, to streamline efforts. But to date, only eight of those agencies have done so.

This is not necessarily bad news. Some agencies were already working with the Police Department, and therefore did not need to establish a formal MOU.

But some agencies still are not communicating effectively with the District forces.

We must rectify this situation to ensure that we are providing the best protection to all who live, work and visit the District.

I look forward to the testimonies of today's witnesses and yield back the balance of my time.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Members will have 7 days to submit opening statements for the record.

We will have to recognize our very distinguished panel. We have Rear Admiral Terence McKnight, the Commandant of the U.S. Navy, Naval District of Washington. Welcome. Major General Guy C. Swan, U.S. Army Commanding General, Military District of Washington. Welcome, General. Mr. Joseph W. Trindal, Regional Director, National Capital Region, Federal Protective Service. Thank you for being here. And Mr. Michael D. Fogarty, the assistant chief of police, U.S. Park Police. Thank you as well.

It is the policy of this committee that all witnesses be sworn before you testify. So if you'd please rise with me, please raise your right hands.

[Witnesses sworn.]

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Thank you very much.

Admiral McKnight, we will start with you.

We have a light in front of you. It goes green when you start. It turns orange or yellow after 4 minutes, red after 5. We would like to try to keep that frame. Your entire statement was submitted into the record, and any questions will be based on that. Thank you very much.

STATEMENTS OF REAR ADMIRAL TERENCE McKNIGHT, U.S. NAVY, COMMANDANT, NAVAL DISTRICT WASHINGTON; MAJOR GENERAL GUY C. SWAN III, U.S. ARMY COMMANDING GENERAL, MILITARY DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON; JOSEPH W. TRINDAL, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION, FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE; AND MICHAEL D. FOGARTY, ASSISTANT CHIEF OF POLICE, U.S. PARK POLICE

STATEMENT OF REAR ADMIRAL TERENCE McKNIGHT

Admiral MCKNIGHT. Chairman Davis and members of the committee, good morning. I'm Rear Admiral Terence McKnight, Commandant of the Naval District Washington.

The Naval District Washington is one of seven major regions in the continental United States, all of which fall under the command of the Commander, Navy Installations Command. The mission of each region is to sustain fleet combat readiness through effective and efficient shore installation management and support for those Navy and Marine Corps installations within the areas of responsibility. The Naval District Washington region is very large, covering parts of Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. To manage this, the Naval District Washington is organized into five naval support activities responsible for 19 different installations. Those 19 installations cover more than 26,000 acres. They house more than 400 commands and activities, including 70,000 military and civilian employees.

The security force for Naval District Washington is compromised of approximately 660 well-equipped, well-trained military, government civilian and contractor employees. The security force is ultimately under my authority, reporting through a chain of command that includes an Installation Commanding Officer and the Naval District Washington Public Safety Director.

The mission of Naval District Washington's security force is to secure good order and discipline within each installation, maintaining a safe environment for installation personnel to perform their assigned mission and to protect installation property within the installation boundaries or fence line.

Naval District Washington's installation supports the Vice President's residence and one of our national clocks at the National Research Lab and Navy Test Pilot School and the U.S. Naval Academy, to name just a few.

Clearly, the professionals in the Naval District Washington security force perform a job vital to our national security. I am pleased to tell you that our Naval District Washington security force is well trained in its important mission. All officers receive basic training that covers a variety of topics needed to their jobs, including traffic law enforcement, radio communication, patrol procedures, the rules of evidence, and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. They also attend sustainment training in accordance with Navy standards and are provided supplemental training for specialized areas as needed for a particular position.

In addition, Naval District Washington Headquarters Command is a member of a team led by the U.S. Army that has been tasked by the Office of the Secretary of Defense to develop uniform standards, including a new trainee curriculum for the Department of Defense security. We stand ready to implement the recommendations that come from this team so Naval District Washington security force has the right skills to meet our mission.

I am also pleased to report the Naval District Washington security force provides us with equipment that is needed to accomplish its mission. They are issued guns, batons, pepper spray, flashlights, handcuffs, radios and is quickly going to be supplied body armor.

I am aware of some concerns expressed in the past about body armor, radios and bullets supplied to officers. Let me address these items quickly, because I believe that we have made a great stride and are continuing to make tremendous improvements in these areas.

In the past, because of resource constraints and the demand of equipping our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq has placed our manufacturers of body armor—and our officers did not receive all the body armors needed. However, I can report that 90 percent of our officers serving in the Washington, DC, area are with body armor today. We expect all the rest of these to be fitted out shortly.

Also, in the past, not all of our radios have been operational. The equipment is old, and replacement parts were not being provided. Today, I can report that all our officers are supplied with operational radios that are maintained in the highest order.

In addition, enterprise land mobile radio, often referred to as ELMR, system, a new DOD watch system has already begun to be deployed. It is expected by the end of 2007 these new hand-held bay station mobile radio describer units will be placed in Naval District Washington. The ELMR system has the capability to allow us to communicate more efficiently with the law enforcement groups, both Federal and local.

I am also aware of concerns about the type of ammunition that is used for our security force. The bullets provided are known as

ball ammunition and have the capability of passing through an intended target. Another type of ammunition, jacket or hollow point ammunition, flattens out when it hits the targets, limiting its ability to pass through an object. However, I must report we are constrained by Navy requirements and the Navy supply system to use ball ammunition.

I understand that the focus of the committee's interest today concerns coordination among law enforcement in the District. The authority of the Naval District Washington security force and all Naval District facilities generally is limited to the installation boundaries, because of our mission and because the Naval District Washington security force is under the control of a military commander.

Despite the limits of authority, the Naval District Washington security force seeks to be good partners to local and Federal law enforcement agencies by coordinating and communicating with the Metropolitan Police Department and other Federal agencies on a day-to-day need.

While the Naval District Washington security force did not have a formal cooperative agreement with the Metropolitan Police Department, entering into an agreement has been discussed and the U.S. Attorney has been working with us on this issue. However, the lack of formal agreement has not hindered our cooperation and communication.

In addition, the Naval District Washington security force coordinates with the Naval Criminal Investigation Services, whose official business is liaison with the agencies in the area. Naval District Washington also participates in the National Capital Region Council of Governments. Additionally, I am the Deputy Commander of the Joint Forces Headquarters for the National Capital Region.

In closing, as demonstrated by our improvements we reported to you earlier, Naval District Washington continues to find ways to support its security force so they can accomplish their mission within our installation. On behalf of all the Navy sailors and civil servants and their families, I thank the Congress for continuing support for all of us. I am prepared to answer your questions.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Thank you very much.

[The prepared statement of Admiral McKnight follows:]

NOT FOR PUBLICATION UNTIL
RELEASED BY THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT REFORM

STATEMENT OF

REAR ADMIRAL TERENCE E. MCKNIGHT, U.S. NAVY

COMMANDANT NAVAL DISTRICT WASHINGTON

BEFORE THE

HOUSE COMMITEE

ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

ON

POLICING CAPITAL SITES: IMPROVING COORDINATION,
TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT

TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT

21 JULY 2006

NOT FOR PUBLICATION UNTIL
RELEASED BY THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT REFORM

Good morning. I am Rear Admiral Terence McKnight, Commandant of the Naval District Washington. I am also the Deputy Commander Joint Force Headquarters National Capital Region.

The Naval District Washington (NDW) is one of seven major Navy Regions in the continental United States, all of which fall under the command of the Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC). The mission of each Region is to sustain Fleet combat readiness through effective and efficient shore installation management and support for those Navy and Marine Corps installations within their area of responsibility. NDW is responsible for management and support of five Naval Support Activities (NSAs) within a region spanning parts of Virginia, all of Maryland and the District of Columbia (DC). In DC, NDW NSAs are: NSA North Potomac and NSA Washington, which includes the Washington Navy Yard, the headquarters for NDW. Each of these NSAs is occupied by tenant commands with varying missions and security needs, ranging from protection of the Vice President's residence to research projects critical to our national security.

Installation Commanding Officers rely on the NDW Security Force to meet the security needs, including law enforcement, at their installations. The mission of the Security Force is to protect life and property, enforce laws and regulations, and preserve good order and discipline in order to maintain a safe environment for command personnel, protect government property, and allow the command to perform its assigned mission. The NDW Security Force is comprised of military, government civilian employees, and contractors. The current size of the NDW Force region-wide is approximately 660

people. Of those, approximately 170 currently are employed in support of the security needs of the NDW installations located in the District of Columbia. Members of the NDW Security Force are ultimately under my authority, reporting through their chain-of-command, which includes NDW Public Safety Program Manager and the Installation Commanding Officers.

I will address four topics today regarding the NDW Security Force: Roles and Responsibilities, Resources, coordination Efforts, and Improving Security Efforts.

Roles and Responsibilities

The law enforcement functions performed by the NDW Security Force include: maintaining a protective presence to deter crime; responding to calls for assistance, alarms, and reports of criminal activity; enforcing laws, regulations and directives in areas of command jurisdiction; apprehending and processing suspects; enforcing traffic regulations; investigating traffic accidents; providing timely response to non-criminal service requests; providing escorts; and providing information and assistance to persons in need. These functions sound the same as other "police" organizations; and, as with other Department of Navy Security Forces, the NDW Security Forces are identified as "police" due to the universal recognition of that word. However, the jurisdiction and authority of NDW Security Forces is more limited than would typically be attributed to "police." For instance, serious criminal investigations that might ordinarily be done by police are the responsibility of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) rather than the NDW Security Force. In addition, the NDW Security Force generally does not have jurisdiction outside the legal boundaries of the Department of Navy installations to

which they are assigned unless otherwise directed or permitted by the Department of Defense (DoD).

Resources

The NDW Security Forces are trained in accordance with Navy directives and mission requirements. The Navy does not currently have any standard training academy for their civil service police and guards. However, NDW Security Force standard training curriculum includes such topics as jurisdiction and authority, use of force/weapons training/defensive tactics, radio communications, patrol procedures, vehicle stops and crowd control. Additionally, CNIC is member of a team led by the U.S. Army tasked by the Office of the Secretary of Defense to develop uniform standards, including a new training curriculum, for civil service police and guards for all of the military services.

Members of the NDW Security Force are also provided the equipment they need to accomplish their mission. They are issued guns with ammunition prescribed by the Department of Defense (DoD), batons, pepper spray, flashlights, handcuffs, radios, and as quickly as it can be supplied, body armor. In addition, the Enterprise Land Mobile Radio (ELMR) system, a new Navy-wide system that adheres to standards mandated by Congress, has already begun deployment. It is expected that by FY07, new handheld, base station and mobile radio subscriber units will be in place at NDW.

Coordination Efforts

The NDW Security Force coordinates with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service and other federal agencies as required. Additionally, although neither the Navy nor NDW are

law enforcement agencies, the NDW Security Force maintains a relationship with the DC Metropolitan Police Department (MDP). The new radio system I referred to will enhance that coordination by providing the technology to allow our Security Force to communicate with the MPD on the MPD radio band should MPD so agree. Furthermore, NDW participates on the National Capital Region Council of Governments for crisis/emergency planning. As a result, consistent with DoD policy, the needs of national security and military preparedness, and the historic tradition of limiting direct military involvement in civilian law enforcement activities, the NDW Security Force can provide support to the local community in certain circumstances.

Larger coordination efforts among federal and local agencies in the event of an emergency in the National Capital Region (NCR) are the responsibility of the Joint Forces Headquarters, or JFHQ, of the National Capital Region, acting under the direction of the U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM). As I mentioned earlier, in addition to my responsibility as the Commandant NDW, I am the Deputy Commander JFHQ. JFHQ was created after 9-11 to be the Department of Defense's single point for integration and operational command and control unity of effort for homeland defense and civil support in the NCR. JFHQ is the single integrator for NCR-level interagency planning and response for emergencies in the NCR. Coordination with federal and local law enforcement agencies or emergencies is done through membership on the Joint Forces Task Force led by the JFHQ. Task force members include the Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Coast Guard, the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), and the National Guard for the NCR, local law enforcement and

emergency services and local installations. In accordance with JFHQ response protocol, it is expected that the majority of incidents that occur in the NCR can be handled by local responders. The next level of support would be provided by neighboring emergency providers, followed by state emergency coordination, or in DC, the DC Emergency Management Center. Once the state's resources are exhausted, then Federal capability would be brought in. Military support in such a situation is not authorized until approved by JFHQ. The JFHQ plans and coordinates, but only when directed by USNORTHCOM, will assume control of specified forces within the NCR.

Improving Security Efforts

I understand the Committee is concerned with issues that may make providing security at Capital sites more difficult. I cannot speak to security at all federal facilities; however, at NDW and the rest of the Regions throughout the world, the Navy continues to emphasize the right level of security at the right price to maximize efficiency in the delivery of its shore installation support services. Balancing the demands of providing the right level of security expected by our customers while maximizing support to the Fleet and the warfighter is always a challenge. Speaking for NDW, we are committed to providing the required security. Additionally, as our service model matures, we expect service delivery will improve.

In closing, security improvements are considered an on ongoing process at NDW. We continue to find ways to support our NDW Security Forces so they may accomplish their mission of protecting our NDW installations. And although we hope that it will never be necessary, we stand at the ready should we be called upon by the Joint Forces

Headquarters to support the National Capital Region in responding to an emergency. On behalf of all Navy sailors and civil servants, and their families, I thank the Congress for continuing and unwavering support and for the opportunity to testify.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. General Swan.

STATEMENT OF MAJOR GENERAL GUY C. SWAN III

General SWAN. Chairman Davis, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to discuss my command's role in supporting the important mission of safeguarding the Nation's Capital. As was pointed out, I am the Commander of the U.S. Army Military District of Washington, but I also am dual-hatted as the Commander of the Joint Force Headquarters, National Capital Region.

Joint Force Headquarters-NCR, activated in June 2003, is the Department of Defense and U.S. Northern Command standing joint military headquarters in the National Capital Region. We are charged with important missions in the areas of homeland defense and defense support to civil authorities. The Military District of Washington is the Army component of this headquarters, along with the counterpart commands from the Air Force, Admiral McKnight's naval district and the Marine Corps.

As part of the broad community of local, State and Federal nongovernmental emergency management professionals in the region, we would be a vital component of any response to a man-made incident or natural catastrophe here in the greater Washington area. Within this context, I'd like to highlight the training and emerging technologies used to secure your military installations, our current security coordination efforts and the security posture at our regional military bases.

The complex task of deterring enemies, defeating attacks, ensuring continuity of government and military operations as well as mitigating the effects of natural or man-made catastrophes cannot be done by the Army alone, by the military alone or even by the government alone. In my view, it's all about unity of effort at the local, Federal, State, civil and military levels.

In the past year, we've made great strides in aligning our service command partners, the Military District, Naval District, Air Force District of Washington, the Marine Corps National Capital Region Command and Coast Guard District 5. With their full participation and in consultation with our many interagency partners, the State National Guards, NORTHCOM, we have mapped out a direction that increases our value within the emergency management community of the region.

JFHQ-NCR's daily interaction with Federal, State and local agencies, nongovernmental organizations, numerous jurisdictions and even the private sector enables the command to execute missions seamlessly when needed.

We have established a strong working relationship with all law enforcement organizations, including active participation in the Metro Washington Council of Government Police Chiefs Committee. We communicate daily with a host of law enforcement agencies and first responders, and through our Joint Operation Center at Fort McNair we share valuable information needed to maintain regional situational awareness and conduct planning. We are ready and able to provide trained military police, military working dogs and other equipment when directed to do so in support of civil authorities and have done so on numerous occasions.

This day-to-day relationship building provides the command with timely and relevant information critical to our mission of being the eyes and ears of DOD and NORTHCOM in and around the Nation's Capital. As a result, the command maintains constant awareness of the likely needs of our civil agency partners in a potential crisis or emergency.

Anticipation of local and State requirements are one of the key lessons learned from last year's Hurricane Katrina response. These lessons have also been applied to our critical role in supporting the frequent national special security events [NSSEs], that occur in the NCR. For example, during January's Presidential State of the Union Address, we provided over 2,000 military personnel from all of the armed services and a host of military capabilities to the U.S. Secret Service in its role as the principal Federal agency.

Likewise, our participation in exercises, training events and conferences with the Metro Washington Council of Governments, the regional congressional delegation, the Joint Federal Committee and the DHS Office of National Capital Region Coordination has furthered the kind of understanding, trust and personal relationships that will pay off in a crisis.

In fact, one of our most successful strategic initiatives has been assisting the region with the integration of training and exercises. For example, we saw an opportunity to apply our inherent experience with multi-echelon military training exercises to help coordinate training across the region.

By teaming with DHS and the COG, we've developed an organization and process to synchronize regional training and exercises now known as the NCR Training and Exercise Consortium.

Last year, during Exercise Capital Shield, we partnered with local, Federal and State teammates to rehearse homeland defense functions and procedures in a scenario that included a number of Virginia, Maryland and D.C. jurisdictions and agencies. Using live and virtual training techniques, immediate response, Incident Command and Unified Command procedures were exercised. Agency capabilities were integrated and communications interoperablity were streamlined. We will do all this again in December.

We are intent on improving information sharing and have developed a customer-focused approach through our command and control architecture. We recently activated a virtual private network linked to USNORTHCOM and have built associated portal tools. We have improved our land mobile radio posture that Admiral McKnight discussed earlier and continue to improve our already solid communications interoperatability with local and State and Federal first responders. The successful fusion and exchange of mission-critical information enables us to know what's going on and what's needed to get the job done.

Our world-class Operations Center enables the command to stay fully abreast of day-to-day activities of city, State, county and Federal agencies across the region, using a variety of DOD, local and civil communications means.

As the Commanding General of the Military District of Washington, I also serve as the Senior Commander for Fort Hamilton, Fort Meade in Maryland, Fort Myer, Fort McNair here in the District, Fort Belvoir and Fort A.P. Hill. Providing day-to-day installation

management on these bases is a big part of the job but so is safeguarding them so they can be used in a response platform in the need of an emergency. Therefore, anti-terrorism force protection of all of our bases is imperative, and currently the Department of the Army and the Department of Defense provide adequate resources to ensure the safety and security of our installations.

In summary, the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, National Guardsmen and civilians of this command represent an energetic and forward-looking joint and interagency and local team player focused on safeguarding the National Capital Region. We'll be ready to respond in case of an emergency, and I want to thank the members of the committee and the Congress in general for the support you continue to give all of our warriors. Thank you.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. General, thank you.

[The prepared statement of General Swan follows:]

RECORD VERSION

STATEMENT BY

MAJOR GENERAL GUY C. SWAN III

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SECOND SESSION, 109TH CONGRESS

POLICING CAPITAL SITES: IMPROVING COORDINATION,

TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT

JULY 21, 2006

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COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

Chairman Davis, Congressman Waxman, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today to discuss the military's role in supporting the important mission of safeguarding the Nation's Capital.

Since its inception in June 2003, the Joint Force Headquarters – National Capital Region (JFQH-NCR) has been the Department of Defense and US Northern Command's standing joint task force in the National Capital Region (NCR) charged with important missions in the areas of Homeland Defense (HLD) and Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA). As part of the broad community of local, state, and federal first responders and emergency management professionals in the NCR, JFHQ-NCR is an important component of a response to manmade or natural catastrophes in the Washington, DC area.

The US Army Military District of Washington (MDW) serves as the Army service component of this joint headquarters, along with counterpart commands from the Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps.

Over the past year we have made great strides in becoming a well-integrated, unified command element designed to safeguard the NCR in times of crisis by deterring enemies, defeating attacks, assuring continuity of government and national military operations, and mitigating the effects of natural or man-made catastrophes.

Such complex tasks can not be done by the Army alone, by the military alone, or even by government alone. Legacy ways of thinking about safety and security must give way to common understanding at the local, state, and federal levels. Old ways of doing business must be adjusted and, if necessary, reformed to build the operational linkages that will unify regional security efforts among the dozens of agencies and jurisdictions that call the Washington, DC area home.

This is happening - now. Soldiers of JFHQ-NCR/MDW, are applying the Warrior Ethos and the Army Values as we contribute our traditional military skills to the emerging mission sets of HLD, DSCA, and emergency preparedness. As the backbone of the JFHQ-NCR and its Army force (ARFOR) component, MDW is forging joint and interagency alliances at all levels of civil government in the NCR. With the lessons of 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina to draw on, "operationalizing" this new joint command has been our primary focus.

Located at Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C., JFHQ-NCR plans, coordinates, maintains situational awareness, and as directed, employs forces as a Joint Task Force (JTF) for HLD and DSCA missions in the NCR Joint Operations Area (JOA). JFHQ-NCR serves as one of four standing

JTF's subordinate to U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM), headquartered in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The JFHQ-NCR JOA is the statutorily defined NCR which encompasses an area of approximately 2,500 square miles with over 4.3 million residents consisting of the District of Columbia, parts of northern Virginia and southern Maryland. The concentration of federal agencies, numerous local municipal jurisdictions, symbols and monuments of national prominence, and the presence of senior military and governmental leaders makes the NCR an obvious "center of gravity" that requires sophisticated levels of planning, coordination, and synchronization among literally dozens of regional partners and interagency players in order safeguard this important locale.

In the past year we have made great strides in aligning our service component command partners Naval District of Washington (NDW), Air Force District of Washington (AFDW), Marine Corps National Capital Region Command (MCNCRC), and Coast Guard District 5.

We have mapped out a direction that increases our value within the broader emergency management community of the greater Washington, DC area where JFHQ-NCR, representing the Department of Defense and USNORTHCOM, is recognized as a center of excellence that is truly "relevant, ready and proactive as a joint, interagency and local team player, to serve as the single integrator for HLD and DSCA in the NCR."

This vision describes a command nested within USNORTHCOM, fully capable of executing the most challenging HLD and DSCA missions in support of a designated Principal Federal Agency (PFA) – a command expert at accomplishing those missions in accordance with the National Response Plan (NRP) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Our goal is to be an enabler and partner for first responders, law enforcement officials, and emergency management professionals in order to achieve unity of effort in meeting the challenges of any type of catastrophic incident or hazard in the NCR.

JFHQ-NCR's and MDW's daily interaction with federal, state and local agencies, NGOs, jurisdictions, and even the private sector, supports and facilitates the command's ability to execute missions seamlessly within the NCR JOA. This day-to-day relationship building provides the command with accurate, timely, and relevant information in support of NCR planning and operational requirements and contributes immensely to JFHQ-NCR's unique ability to maintain situational awareness on behalf of USNORTHCOM and DoD across a host of Emergency Support Functions (ESF) in and around the NCR. As a result, the command maintains

constant visibility and awareness of the likely needs of our civil agency partners in a potential crisis.

We have established a strong relationship with the law enforcement organizations including the active participation in the COG Police Chiefs. We communicate daily and share valuable information to maintain situational awareness throughout the use of our Joint Operation Center in coordination with the multiple law enforcement Emergency Operation Centers. We are ready and able to provide Military Police and Military Working Dogs, when directed in support of civil authorities.

These insights are not only invaluable in accomplishing the HLD and DSCA missions in times of unexpected disaster, but critical to our success in supporting the many National Special Security Events (NSSE) that occur in the NCR. For example, during the January 2006 President's State of the Union Address, JTF-NCR consisted of over 2,000 military personnel representing all military services, providing a host of capabilities to the PFA, the United States Secret Service. The coordination needed amongst the many local, state, federal, civil, and military authorities to execute this highly visible, highly sensitive event provides a unique opportunity to practice the planning, communications, synchronization, and liaison tasks that would be vital to success in the case of an unexpected crisis such as a terrorist attack or other manmade or natural disaster.

Another priority area for JFHQ-NCR is continuing to foster realistic command and control and mutual support relationships with the National Guard. Working with the Adjutants General of Virginia, Maryland, and DC, we continue to explore and exercise flexible task organizations focused on getting the job done right when tasked to support civil agencies and authorities. We are very proud of our collective commitment to establishing unity of effort and believe the cross-talk, personal relationships, and supporting/supported construct will serve us well when the chips are down.

As previously mentioned, the JFHQ-NCR team is proud of the continuing cooperation among the Washington, DC-based military service commands. Like the U.S. Army Military District of Washington, each of these legacy service-centric commands has adapted well to the post-9/11 and post-Hurricane Katrina world that faces our military and its role domestically. Here, too, unity of effort, streamlined command and control, cooperative planning, and synchronization of installation operations have all enhanced our collective joint mission. There have been several significant initiatives in the NCR that have brought focus to joint planning and as a consequence, greater speed and agility in our "as directed" JTF operations.

The US Air Force recently reactivated the Air Force District of Washington (AFDW) to be its single voice for planning and implementing Air Force and joint solutions within the NCR. AFDW organizes, trains, equips, and provides forces for AEF deployment, homeland operations, and ceremonial support within the NCR and worldwide. As the Air Force component (AFFOR) to the JTF-NCR, Air Force National Capital Region (AFNCR) enables us to rapidly integrate Air Force forces and capabilities assigned or attached to the JTF.

Just as the Air Force has brought focus to homeland defense, the Chief of Naval Operations recently designated the NDW as the naval component (NAVFOR) of the JTF-NCR. The Commandant of the NDW serves as the Deputy JTF Commander as well, increasing our ability to bring to bear a variety of maritime and shore-based functions to the command. Likewise, MCNCRC, based at Marine Base Quantico serves as the MARFOR component for joint planning and execution. Each of these service components is integral to mission success and it has been great to see each of the military services recognize, and more importantly, resource the missions assigned to JFHQ-NCR.

The command's network of interagency relationships range from action officer level contacts to the most senior officers of the command - each plays a vital role in coordination and cooperation between DoD and regional interagency partners. Participation in exercises, training events, and conferences with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), the National Capital Area Congressional Delegation, the DHS-led Joint Federal Committee, and Department of Homeland Security's Office of National Capital Region Coordination (DHS-ONCRC) has furthered understanding, trust, and relationship-building throughout the JOA.

One of our most successful strategic initiatives has been assisting the region with integration of training and exercises. There are numerous exercises that take place within the NCR at all jurisdictional levels. Historically, these were discrete tactical exercises executed at the city, county, state, or federal department or agency level, largely by first responders. JFHQ-NCR saw a niche where our inherent experience with multi-echelon military exercises could assist in helping better coordinate exercises across the region.

By teaming with the DHS-ONCRC and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' Exercise and Training Oversight Panel (ETOP), we developed an organization and process to synchronize regional training and exercises now known around the Washington, DC emergency preparedness community as the NCR Training and Exercise Consortium. Participation from a variety of regional interagency partners has been

outstanding. And given the unique jurisdictional dynamics of the National Capital Region, it is helpful to all to have a non-partisan, non-political entity like JFHQ-NCR assist in establishing this clearinghouse for exercises. The NCR Training and Exercise Consortium increases overall awareness of exercises in the NCR and provides a venue to reduce the number of marginally effective and costly exercise events by encouraging more cost-effective and efficient training through a multi-echelon, multi-jurisdictional approach.

In November 2005, during Exercise CAPITAL SHIELD 06, JFHQ-NCR and USAMDW partnered with local, state, and federal teammates to exercise a number of homeland defense functions and procedures in a scenario that included the District, Virginia, and Maryland jurisdictions. During CAPITAL SHIELD, the response to two potential incidents was exercised including one on a DoD installation and a second incident at a non-DoD site. Using live and virtual techniques, immediate response, Incident Command, and Unified Command procedures were exercised, as well as testing the interoperability of agency capabilities and communications from across the NCR.

This annual capstone exercise will again take place later this year to test the NIMS and Incident Command System in the Washington area. Likewise, this past summer's DHS-led Top Officials Exercise, TOPOFF 4, tested reaction to a potential WMD attack in several parts of the country. This national command post exercise (CPX) enabled JFHQ-NCR to work with key federal partners, like FEMA, on its embedded exercise FORWARD CHALLENGE and with the FBI on its annual exercise MARBLE CHALLENGE. The associated regional planning exercise and CPX with local, state, and federal partners was invaluable in cementing critical tactics, techniques, and procedures.

Other areas of intensively managed initiatives include planning for medical surge coordination. JFHQ-NCR has expanded planning and preparations in this area to better posture local military support capabilities as a necessary part of the broader national planning effort on pandemic avian influenza.

We are intent on improving information-sharing and management and have developed a customer-focused approach to our emerging C4ISR architecture. We recently stood up a Virtual Private Network under USNORTHCOM and have built associated portal tools. We have improved our Land Mobile Radio (LMR) posture and continue our very successful effort at communications interoperability with local, state, and federal civil and military first responders. The successful gathering, fusion, analysis, and exchange of multi-disciplinary strategic and tactical information and data amounts to knowing what's up and what needs doing.

Our JFHQ-NCR Joint Operations Center (JOC) is world-class and enables the command to stay fully abreast of day-to-day activities of city, county, state, and federal agencies throughout the region using a variety of DoD, local, and civil communications means. Another key information platform is JFHQ Mobile Command Post (MCP) Vehicle. The genesis of MCP came out of MDW's 9/11 operations at the Pentagon. With the forward deployed team onsite, the headquarters realized that JFHQ-NCR's (then MDW) ability to have situational awareness of operations at the incident site was severely lacking. We were unable to effectively transmit near real time data (video/audio, classified and unclassified automated data) as well as our interagency partners. With the MCP, we've since changed that. We now have immediate mobile response, robust communications with information management capability, near-real time situational awareness and decision making capability, a 24x7 link to local incident commander, and secure communications capability.

To achieve and maintain the capability to receive stage, coordinate movement, integrate, and sustain forces and rapidly transition to a JTF, we are constantly preparing plans for contingencies while simultaneously executing day-to-day service missions. We are formalizing our processes through development of a family of Joint Staff and USNORTHCOM-directed plans. Most significant is the ongoing development of USNORTHCOM concept plans focused on continuity of government and emergency preparedness in the NCR. This will increase efficiency, effectiveness, and command and control of assigned forces should they be deployed to the NCR in support of JFHQ-NCR. This ongoing effort has also served to identify redundancies and gaps in capabilities with respect to military assets within the NCR.

The recent reassignment of the US Army Priority Air Transport Command (USAPAT) to the Military District of Washington is an example of the win-win approach we favor for our regional military service assets. To adequately command and control the training and readiness of USAPAT's world-wide executive jet fleet and our existing UH-60 equipped 12th Aviation Battalion, USAMDW stood up the brigade-level Air Operations Group. While it serves as the Army's principal aviation command in the NCR, the Air Operations Group gives us the ability to coordinate contingency military aviation operations in and around Washington, DC in support of civil authorities in a way that was not previously possible.

In addition to being the higher headquarters for both the 12th Aviation Battalion (based at Davison Army Airfield at Fort Belvoir) and USAPAT at Andrews Air Force Base, the AOG also serves as the joint military aviation expert in the NCR. JFQH-NCR would utilize this command to help integrate military and civil aviation operations, especially rotary wing, during a time

of national emergency or natural disaster. A primary contingency mission of the AOG would be to aid in the emergency evacuation of senior leaders from the NCR during natural disasters or times of crisis or to transport personnel and equipment in support of a Principal Federal Agency.

As the commanding general of MDW I also serve as the Senior Mission Commander for Fort Hamilton, NY, Fort Meade, MD, Fort Myer, VA, Fort McNair, DC, Fort Belvoir, VA, and Fort A.P. Hill, VA. Providing executive oversight and world-class installation management to tenant commands, agencies, and partners throughout the JOA is instrumental to supporting the "business" end of the command. Therefore, anti-terrorism and force protection of these installations is imperative. The Department of Army and the Department of Defense provides the resources needed to ensure the safety and security of the installations at a posture commensurate with the complexity of the 21st century security environment.

Through this base support mission, JFHQ-NCR has been highly successful in creating cross-service coordination and cooperation among the many military installations around the NCR in order to prepare for contingency Joint Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration and Base Support Installation capabilities. This initiative has also provided a convenient forum for garrison commanders from all the services to share best business practices in the day-to-day operations of our many local military bases.

In summary, the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, National Guardsmen, and civilians of this command represent an energetic and forward-looking joint, interagency, and local team player focused on safeguarding the National Capital Region. We will provide approved defense support to our civilian partners and continue to foster a great interagency consortium.

I would like to personally thank you on behalf of the men and women of the Armed Forces for all of your past and continued support of our nations warriors.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Mr. Trindal, thank you for being with us.

STATEMENT OF JOSEPH W. TRINDAL

Mr. TRINDAL. Good morning, Mr. Chairman, distinguished members of the Committee on Government Reform. Thank you for inviting the Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement Federal Protective Service for the National Capital Region to appear before you today to describe the state of our coordination, training and equipment for protecting the Nation's Federal facilities.

I am Joseph Trindal, Regional Director for FPS in the NCR. Under the Homeland Security Act of 2002, FPS within NCR is responsible for law enforcement operations and protective security missions of about 750 Federal facilities providing workspace for approximately 309,000 Federal employees and contractors. All FPS jurisdiction Federal facilities, employees and visitors are protected and served through the judicious application of police patrol operations, physical security risk vulnerability analysis, intelligence management, implementation of proactive countermeasures, criminal investigations, interagency emergency preparedness as well as posting and performance monitoring of contract guard forces.

Our current FPS/NCR staffing of full-time equivalent on-board positions is 229 sworn and support employees. The FPS law enforcement operations and protective security missions are principally accomplished with 125 Federal police officers and inspectors. Also staffed from among these positions are certain specialty disciplines which include K–9 explosive detection teams, HAZMAT technicians, confined space tunnel operators and tactical emergency medical technicians. Criminal investigations and intelligence management is handled by special agents. The mission support work force is comprised of 36 positions and includes such functions as budget, logistics, communications, small purchases, human resources, training and background/suitability clearances for contractors and the guard force. From among the 18 sworn command staff officers, FPS maintains collateral liaison assignments with the Metropolitan Council of Governments [COG], the DHS Office of NCR Coordination, the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force and the Plans and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.

The FPS also manages a contract guard pool of about 5,700 guards. FPS contract guard service requirements are developed through FPS risk vulnerability assessments, coupled with tenant agency requests and awarded by the FPS Consolidated Contracting Group. Sworn FPS senior inspectors perform as certified contracting officer technical representatives in managing the guard force contract compliance.

All entry-level police officers and sworn inspectors are required to attend the 12-week uniformed training program, formerly called the mixed police basic, administered by the DHS Federal Law Enforcement Training Center with FPS oversight by our National Training Academy. FPS administers a 1-week pre-basic and 2-week post-basic training for a total of 15 weeks of entry-level training. This uniformed training program uses an in-depth curriculum, covering a broad range of police and general investigative skills and provides the opportunity for trainees to develop valuable partner-

ships with police officers from other Federal agencies, including the U.S. Secret Service Uniformed Division, U.S. Capitol Police, Mint Police, the Park Police and the Bureau of Land Management, to name a few.

All entry-level special agents attend the 10-week mixed agency criminal investigators training program also at FLETC.

FPS training does not end at FLETC. Annually, all officers, sworn inspectors and special agents are required to successfully complete 40 hours of in-service training which includes firearms and other weapon re-qualification, legal updates, defensive tactics, suicide/homicide bomber interdiction and incident command system, to name a few.

All firearms qualification is conducted quarterly. FPS officers assigned to work in the District of Columbia are required to successfully complete the D.C. Code enforcement training administered by the U.S. Attorney's Office. Our officers, sworn inspectors and special agents are also required to receive national in-service training in FLETC every 5 years.

The NCR is the most jurisdictionally compressed FPS region in the country. Furthermore, the NCR faces a significant risk from terrorists and domestic criminal actors as well as an array of potential natural disasters. Nowhere else in our homeland is there such compression of potential targets for terrorism coupled with tremendous potential for broad destructive effect on local, State and Federal Governmental services as well as the local population. The situational conditions in the National Capital Region make interagency collaboration and emergency preparedness especially critical.

In strengthening the FPS's posture as a contributor to the unified capabilities of NCR's emergency services community, FPS/NCR has sponsored three major computer simulation exercises involving participation by the DCEMA, Metropolitan Police Department, D.C. Fire and EMS, Secret Service, Park Police, the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority Police, Prince George's County Police, the Prince George's County Fire Department and General Services Administration, among others.

FPS/NCR participates in a wide arrange of interagency exercises through our liaison with the DHS Office of National Capital Region Coordination and the Council of Governments. Thus far this calendar year alone, we have participated in eight joint interagency exercises, with another seven planned between July and September.

FPS utilizes a wide range of technology to carry out our mission. Our explosive detection operation is a robust operation of K–9 and technological assets. FPS/NCR screens trucks making deliveries to certain high-risk Federal facilities and utilizing backscatter X-ray technology in which we have conducted 19,000 screenings thus far this year. Our Mobile Vehicle X-Ray operation is conducted jointly with the D.C. National Guard. At many Federal facilities, FPS/NCR contract guard forces conduct x-ray package of magnetometer screening, which has resulted in 5,517 prohibited items interdicted so far this year. At some high-risk locations, samples are being obtained from vehicles or carried items that are screened by explosive trace detectors.

FPS regularly participates in mobile command vehicle interoperatability exercises along with MPD, DCEMA, D.C. Fire and EMS and a wide array of other Federal, State and local partners.

In order for our officers and inspectors and special agents to safely and effectively accomplish their mission, we place a priority in obtaining the best quality equipment and training required to use such equipment. Matters pertaining to firearms, ammunition, protective ballistic vests and less lethal weapons are governed by ICE policy promulgated by the National Firearms Tactical Training Unit. Our duty sidearm is a SIG model P–229 semi-automatic pistol chambered in the .357 caliber SIG. In addition to the issuance of all uniform and duty accessory items, each officer, inspector and special agent is issued a ballistic protective vest that meets or exceeds NFTTU standards for Level IIIA protective capability.

A number of challenges lay ahead for FPS and NCR. One of the greatest challenges facing all emergency services agencies in our region is communications interoperatability. FPS and a number of our partners have the capability to overcome variations in radio band and frequencies for pre-planned and critical incidents. These systems work well and the quarterly exercise of our region's emergency services community mobile command vehicles is a huge step forward.

In the future, we look forward to continuing our liaison with Federal, State and local law enforcement security and emergency planning entities to strengthen our collective efforts in this area.

In closing, I would like to thank the members of the committee for your support in our efforts. This concludes my prepared statement. I will be pleased to answer any questions you may have. Thank you.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Thank you very much.

Mr. Fogarty, thank you for being with us.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL D. FOGARTY

Mr. FOGARTY. Good morning, Mr. Chairman, distinguished members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you at this oversight hearing regarding the policing of capital sites. My written copy of this testimony has been submitted for the record.

The U.S. Park Police has provided law enforcement services on the public lands of our Nation's Capital for over 200 years. Currently, there are 605 sworn members in the U.S. Park Police who serve in our Nation's Capital, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the Presidio in San Francisco, the Statue of Liberty and Gateway National Recreation Area in New York City. In the Washington metropolitan area, the force patrols over 24,000 acres of urban parklands, including the Washington Monument, Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials, Lafayette Park, the Ellipse and the National Mall from the Capitol Reflecting Pool to the Potomac River.

In addition, we patrol over 70 miles of Federal parkways leading into and through our Nation's Capital, including Baltimore/Washington, Clara Barton, George Washington, Rock Creek and Suitland Parkways.

As a full-service police department, the force is responsible for anti-terrorism patrols, prevention and detection crimes ranging from homicide to drunk driving, quality-of-life crimes and the performance of other law enforcement and visitor services. Our criminal investigators and detectives have done an outstanding job in successfully closing down crimes which occur on Federal parklands and occasionally in other areas. For example, 3 weeks ago we provided valuable assistance in the recovery of the Veterans' Administration laptop computer that contained the personal data of millions of U.S. military veterans.

The U.S. Park Police is well known for its work at high-profile special events. These events include major protests and demonstrations, large events like the Fourth of July celebration and one-time events such as the dedication of the World War II Memorial. Most of these events are very orderly and easily policed. Others, due to their sheer size, present significant logistical challenges; and others result in a significant number of arrests. The force coordinates with and requests assistance from other agencies for management of these large events. Without the assistance from these other agencies, we could not maintain as safe an environment for the public as we currently provide.

Our officers attend the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, have done so since its founding in 1974. Our new officers attend basic police school for 23 weeks, receive 5 additional weeks of training in Washington, DC, followed by 12 weeks of field training instruction, for a total of approximately 10 months of training prior to performing independent patrols.

Within the Metropolitan Washington area, all force operational commanders meet at least three times a week to discuss emerging crime patterns, potential terrorist threats and special events. The force weekly coordinates with park superintendents and makes recommendations for additional security measures. In the downtown area, additional security enhancements reflect the need to provide increased protection for the historical features of our monuments and memorials as well as the safety of the visitors, while still maintaining an open and inviting atmosphere to the public.

We have sworn members deployed to serve with the Joint Terrorism Task Force, the Department of Homeland Security's National Operations Center, and during large special events or emergencies, we participate in joint operation centers. Our officials routinely meet with representatives of the U.S. Attorney's Office and other law enforcement agencies to coordinate operations and disseminate information of mutual concern.

Our closed circuit television system consists of cameras at key locations around the monuments and memorials, allowing us to rapidly and accurately dispatch officers to emergencies and to review reports of suspicious activity from a distance. We enhance visitor safety both the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument through the use of technology and the construction of new vehicle barriers.

It is always a challenge to provide open access to our icons in public spaces while maintaining a secure environment. For years, the force has deployed significant resources in the fight against terrorism. After September 11, 2001, the force underwent a significant

redeployment of sworn officers to augment icon protection and other anti-terrorism security needs. In order to use the public funds as efficiently as possible, the force has incorporated the use of security guards at the icons in Washington, DC, and at the Statue of Liberty to augment our police personnel performing non-law enforcement security functions.

We recognize that a visible presence by the force is required to ensure an appropriate level of safety and security on the National Mall and other park areas. The President's budget for fiscal year 2007 requests additional funds to bolster the presence of the force on the National Mall to reflect this increased need for patrols. These additional officers, if approved, will increase the likelihood of intercepting potential terrorists and other threats and crimes aimed at the icons and the visitors to them. In spite of the redeployment, reprioritization and other actions resulting from the events of September 11th, we continue to perform our responsibilities and duties to accomplish our primary missions as safely and effectively as possible.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to comment. This concludes my prepared remarks.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Thank you very much.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Fogarty follows:]

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL D. FOGARTY, ASSISTANT CHIEF, UNITED STATES PARK POLICE, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM REGARDING POLICING CAPITAL SITES: IMPROVING COORDINATION, TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT

July 21, 2006

Mr. Chairman, and distinguished members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you at this oversight hearing regarding the Policing of Capital Sites. You have asked us to cover three areas during our testimony today. They include (1) training and technologies used to secure and protect Federal facilities, (2) coordination of security efforts within and among agencies to improve or enhance site security, and (3) impediments that make it difficult to maintain and increase security at Federal facilities.

The United States Park Police (Force) has provided law enforcement services on the public lands of our Nation's Capital for over two hundred years. In 1882, the Force was granted the same police authority as the Metropolitan Police of the District of Columbia (MPDC). We have a long record of working with the MPDC to provide a safe environment for the citizens of the District and for visitors from around the world who come to the national park lands in and around our Nation's Capital.

Currently, there are 605 sworn members in the U.S. Park Police who serve in our Nation's Capital, at the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and the Presidio in San Francisco, and at the Statue of Liberty and the Gateway National Recreation Area in New York City. In Fiscal Year 2007, the Administration requested $2.8 million to bring the Force up to 639 members. After September 11, 2001, the Force reconfigured its deployments to meet the increased threat of

international terrorism here in the United States. In the Metropolitan Washington area, the Force patrols over 24,000 acres of urban parklands, including high profile areas such as the Washington Monument, the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials, Lafayette Park, and the Ellipse. The National Mall is patrolled from the Capitol Reflecting Pool to the Potomac River.

Our motorcycle and Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) officers are an integral part of the escort services provided to both the President and Vice President. In addition, we patrol over seventy miles of Federal parkways leading into and through our Nation's Capital. These include the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, the Clara Barton Parkway, the George Washington Memorial Parkway, the Rock Creek Parkway, and the Suitland Parkway. These parkways border significant facilities such as Fort Meade, the National Security Agency (NSA), the National Aeronautical and Space Administration (NASA), and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). In all, there are over seven hundred Federal reservations patrolled by the Force in the District of Columbia ranging from large areas such as Rock Creek Park to small neighborhood parks.

As a full-service police department, the Force is responsible for anti-terrorism patrols, prevention and detection of crimes ranging from homicide to drunk driving to quality of life crimes, and the performance of other law enforcement and visitor services. Our criminal investigators and detectives have done an outstanding job in successfully closing felony crimes which occur on Federal park land and occasionally in other areas. For example, two weeks ago they provided invaluable assistance in the recovery of the Veteran's Administration laptop computer that contained the personal data of millions of U.S. Military Veterans.

Our Horse Mounted Patrols are recognized as some of the best in the world. They are exceptionally valuable in providing crowd control during the thousands of special events held annually in our Nation's Capital. Most of these events are very orderly and easily policed; others, due to their sheer size, present significant logistical challenges. And there are others that result in a significant number of arrests. Our Special Forces Branch is well known for its work at high-profile special events. These events include major protests and demonstrations, large events like the Fourth of July Celebration on the National Mall, and one-time events such as the dedication of the WWII Memorial. The Force coordinates with and requests assistance from other local agencies for management of these large events. It has become very adept at forging partnerships with state and local officers. Without the assistance from these other local agencies, we could not maintain as safe an environment for the public as we currently provide.

Training: Our officers attend the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and have done so since its founding in 1974. Our new officers attend basic police school for twenty-three weeks. They also receive five additional weeks training here in Washington, D.C. prior to beginning twelve weeks of Field Training Instruction (FTI) with a senior officer, almost ten months of training prior to performing independent patrol. We have recently trained approximately 300 civilian members of the National Park Service (NPS), park contractors, and concession employees in the "Cat Eyes Program." This program encourages employees to be the "eyes and ears" of law enforcement, constantly on the lookout for suspicious activity. In the last year, over sixty of our supervisory employees have engaged in table-top exercises presented by the Force, which simulate terrorist attacks and other violent crimes. Other supervisors have been involved in table-top and other exercises involving many of our Federal and local partners.

Coordination: Within the Metropolitan Washington area all Force operational commanders meet at least three times a week to discuss issues of concern such as emerging crime patterns, potential terrorist threats, and special events. The Force routinely coordinates with park superintendents and makes recommendations for additional security measures, as necessary. In the downtown area, additional security enhancements reflect the need to provide increased protection for the historical features of our monuments and memorials as well as the safety of the visitors while still maintaining an open and inviting atmosphere to the public.

We have sworn members deployed to serve with the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) to keep us apprised of any developments regarding potential terrorist activity. Likewise, when an officer handles an incident with a potential terrorism link, this information is immediately forwarded to the JTTF through our representatives. We also have a member detailed to the Department of Homeland Security's National Operations Center (NOC), and during large special events or emergencies, we participate in Joint Operations. Our officials routinely meet with representatives of the United States Attorney's Office and other law enforcement agencies to coordinate operations and disseminate information of mutual concern. We are part of the regularly scheduled conference calls among all area police chiefs, where intelligence from municipal, county, state and Federal government agencies is shared. In addition, the Force currently has 65 memorandums of understanding with other agencies to provide for mutual aid and share resources and technology.

Technology: Our Closed Circuit Television System (CCTV) consists of video and digital cameras at key locations around the monuments and memorials. These are monitored from a

central console, staffed at all times. This capability has allowed us to rapidly and accurately dispatch officers to emergencies and to view reports of suspicious activity from a distance. It also has allowed us to catch criminals in the act. At the Washington Monument and the White House Visitor Center, visitors are screened with a magnetometer, and their belongings go through an x-ray machine. We have enhanced visitor safety at both the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument through the use of technology and the construction of the new vehicle barrier walls and retractable bollards around the Washington Monument. Deployment of explosive detection canine teams also has been increased in the downtown area. Portable devices have been deployed in and around the Monumental Core in order to detect levels of radiation that might be associated with a dirty bomb or a nuclear device. Air sample stations are set up at several key locations on NPS lands to test for biological and chemical agents.

Our Information and Technology Unit has provided officers with a limited number of mobile video cameras, mobile data terminals and hand-held Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) with access to criminal justice data bases. We are in the process of replacing our 1970's era radio system both here and in New York, partnering with other Federal entities for a jointly managed radio system. In addition, we are participating with all other Department of Interior law enforcement agencies in development of an Incident Management and Analysis Recording System (IMARS) to provide an automated reporting system for Federal law enforcement officers serving on Federal lands across the nation.

It is always a challenge to provide open access to our icons and public spaces while maintaining a secure environment. For years the Force has deployed significant resources in the fight against

terrorism. After September 11, 2001, the Force underwent a significant redeployment of sworn officers to augment icon protection and other anti-terrorism security needs. In order to use the public funds as efficiently as possible, the Force has incorporated the use of security guards at the icons in Washington, D.C. and at the Statue of Liberty to augment our police personnel in performing non-law enforcement security functions.

We recognize that a visible presence by the Force is required to ensure an appropriate level of safety and security on the National Mall and other park areas. The President's budget for Fiscal Year 2007 requests additional funds to bolster the presence of the Force on the National Mall to reflect this need for increased patrol. These additional officers, if approved, will increase the likelihood of intercepting potential terrorists and other threats and crimes aimed at the icons and their visitors. In spite of the redeployment, reprioritization, and other actions resulting from the events of 9/11, we continue to perform our responsibilities and duties to accomplish our primary missions as safely and effectively as possible.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to comment. This concludes my prepared remarks and I will be happy to answer any questions you or other committee members might have.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. I would ask unanimous consent that a letter from Chief Ramsey, the chief of the Metropolitan Police Department, be placed in the record.

[The prepared statement of Chief Ramsey follows:]

Government of the District of Columbia

Metropolitan Police Department

Testimony of
Charles H. Ramsey
Chief of Police

Policing Capital Sites: Improving Coordination, Training and Equipment

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Government Reform
Honorable Tom Davis, Chairman

July 21, 2006

Rayburn House Office Building
Room 2154
Washington, DC

Mister Chairman, Congresswoman Norton, other members of the Committee … thank you for the opportunity to present this statement for the record concerning law enforcement coordination in the District of Columbia. Policing our Nation's Capital has always been a complex and challenging task. With more than three dozen law enforcement agencies – local, regional and federal – having jurisdiction in Washington, DC, the need for communication and coordination has always been paramount. But that need has taken on added importance and added urgency in the post-September 11th environment.

The good news is that law enforcement is our city and in our region has traditionally enjoyed a strong and cooperative working relationship. Even as our individual agencies' responsibilities have grown since September 11, 2001, I believe that our spirit of cooperation has strengthened as well. Each of our agencies certainly understands its own jurisdiction and areas of responsibility, and each of us understands and respects the jurisdictions of the other agencies. However, in matters large and small, our agencies are almost always ready and willing – often on a moment's notice – to devote resources and to work together on pressing needs. From my personal experience, I can tell you that this type of cooperation and coordination is occurring at the executive level; I am in frequent and meaningful contact with the leadership of the major federal and other law enforcement agencies that have jurisdiction in DC. Even more importantly, this is also occurring at the supervisory and operational levels as well.

My recent declaration of a "crime emergency" in the District of Columbia demonstrates the level of cooperation that exists among law enforcement in our city. Just days after declaring the crime emergency, I convened a meeting of law enforcement and other government agencies that play a role in combating crime in our city. All of the major federal agencies attended the meeting– in almost every case, it was the chief executive of that agency who was in attendance. Beyond just discussing crime issues in the District, these agencies made specific commitments to support our crime-fighting efforts. And I am already receiving reports from our commanders in the field that these federal agencies are following through on those commitments.

Similarly, the 1997 Police Coordination Act authorizes the Metropolitan Police Department to enter into cooperative agreements with our federal agency partners, allowing those agencies to assist with crime prevention and law enforcement activities in an expanded jurisdiction around their traditional area of responsibility. To date, the Department has entered into cooperative agreements with eight federal agencies. In addition, other major federal agencies – including the United States Park Police, the United States Capitol Police and the Uniformed Division of the United States Secret Service – have expanded (in some cases, citywide) jurisdictions either by law or by separate agreements. These various agreements are certainly valuable, and the MPD would welcome entering into agreements with additional federal agencies.

Just as our federal partners have demonstrated strong support for the Metropolitan Police Department, our agency adopts the same cooperative stance when our federal partners request the MPD's assistance on matters affecting their jurisdictions. As the Committee knows, the security and protection of federal facilities – which is the focus of this hearing – are the primary responsibility of

various federal law enforcement agencies. However, the MPD stands ready to assist these partners when our assistance can be beneficial.

This assistance takes places on an ongoing basis, in a variety of operations. Some of the most obvious examples are the large-scale public events that take place on the National Mall, such as the recent Independence Day celebration. While the US Park Police was the lead law enforcement agency for this event, the MPD contributed both manpower and specialized resources to support this event. But our level of assistance goes well beyond large public events. Hardly a day goes by that one of our federal agencies does not request the MPD's assistance in responding to a suspicious vehicle or package, a bomb threat or the like. The MPD's Emergency Response Team, our Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit and other elements of our Special Operations Division are among the best, most highly trained in the nation. We are pleased and very proud to offer these and other resources to our federal agency partners, when needed to support their efforts.

Finally, there is the issue of cooperation among DC law enforcement agencies in the critical areas of homeland security and terrorism prevention. Our city and our region are very fortunate in this regard. The spirit of cooperation and the strong working relationships we have established over the years in responding to local crime problems and in managing major events have translated into a strong and effective partnership for dealing with the threat of terrorism as well. At the chief executive level, we are communicating with one another and we are sending the message to our respective troops that they need to cooperate as well. At the operational level, we have placed personnel in each other's command centers, we are sharing information and intelligence, and we are conducting joint training and preparedness exercises. I firmly believe that our city and our region are better equipped to deal with the ongoing threat of terrorism, because of the level of cooperation that exists among our operational law enforcement agencies.

Over the past few years, and even in recent weeks, there have been reports about local police chiefs – myself included – expressing frustration over the timeliness and comprehensiveness of the intelligence information we are receiving from the federal government. I want the Committee to understand that our frustrations have not been with our operational federal law enforcement agency partners. Rather, our concerns have involved the flow of information from the Department of Homeland Security to local law enforcement. I believe that Secretary Chertoff appreciates our concerns and is willing to try and address the issues that have been raised by the nation's police chiefs.

Here in Washington, DC, the Metropolitan Police Department and our federal agency partners recognize that, while there are many different agencies with many different jurisdictions here, there is still only one city – one Nation's Capital. What happens in "federal" DC impacts what happens in DC's neighborhoods, and what happens in our neighborhoods impacts the federal core as well. To effectively police our city – to secure it from both street crime and terrorism – our agencies must certainly recognize and respect our jurisdictional boundaries. But, at the same time, we must be willing to support one another 365 days a year, in matters large and small. That is the cooperative spirit that exists here in our Nation's Capital, and I am very proud to be a part of a law enforcement community that is so dedicated to the safety and security of all. Thank you.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Coordination has become all the more important now that the Metropolitan Police Chief has declared this crime emergency in the city as a result of the sudden increase of serious crimes after we'd seen a steady reduction of crime rates over the past few years. Have all of you had a chance to talk and coordinate with the Chief since he's declared this crime emergency, just each of you for the record? Admiral McKnight.

Admiral MCKNIGHT. No, sir. I have not personally, but we're always working with the Metropolitan Police Department.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. OK.

General SWAN. Sir, the same here. I haven't talked to Chief Ramsey personally on this, but we're in day-to-day contact with MPD.

Mr. TRINDAL. We're working very closely with Commander Groom of the first district in dealing with this particular issue and focusing our patrol areas along the Constitution Avenue and the Federal triangle and Foggy Bottom areas in concert with MPD.

Mr. FOGARTY. Chief Bedford has met with and spoken with Chief Ramsey, and we do continue our daily cooperation with the Metropolitan Police Department.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Mr. Fogarty, you don't have a specific agreement, do you, under the National Capital Revitalization Self-Government Improvement Act?

Mr. FOGARTY. No, sir, we do not. And the reason for that is that, since 1882, we have had the same police authority in the District of Columbia as the Metropolitan Police Department.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. So you overlap anyway so you don't need separate——

Mr. FOGARTY. That's right.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. In the Chief's testimony, he praises the level of cooperation we've seen on that. I guess what I would ask, you really have two different law enforcement functions, you have street crime and combating terrorism. They are different functions. So we're talking about coordinating in two different areas and protecting Federal facilities and non-Federal areas. Does your agency consider it has primary responsibility for either type of law enforcement outside the territories where we have primary jurisdiction?

Mr. FOGARTY. No, sir. Our primary responsibility is within the National Park Service lands. If we're talking in the District of Columbia, we certainly support with and work with the other agencies, and clearly our officers make arrests on city streets when it is appropriate. We do not routinely exceed our areas of patrol other than by request.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. You do have specific areas?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, sir. But our beats are very large. We have approximately 700 reservations in the city. We have our police officers who are patrolling constantly. They are out on city streets. There are many opportunities for them to take action, and they do so when warranted.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. I think you note in your testimony there are 605 sworn officers.

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, sir.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. The former Chief Chambers estimates that the Park Police force for the entire area is smaller than the

400 officers that she had in 2003. Has the number of officers decreased?

Mr. FOGARTY. No, sir. There may be confusion; 400 may have been the number in the D.C. area.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. OK.

Mr. FOGARTY. And that's relatively stable.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. All right. So you have 605 sworn. That's throughout the country?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, sir. That includes New York and San Francisco.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. So there's been no marked decrease that you are aware of?

Mr. FOGARTY. There is a slight reduction.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Is that budgetary or is that just caused by other——

Mr. FOGARTY. Right now, sir, we're at 605. Last year at this time we were at 621, but if you had gone 2 weeks earlier, we were at 604. It's a matter of which date you pick the numbers from.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. OK. Obviously, you have attrition and you are filling and everything else. So, OK, what is your buildup level that you are allowed to get—do you have a number that you are allowed to get to if everybody's full?

Mr. FOGARTY. The number in the President's budget we're trying to get to is 639.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. OK, let me ask all of you this, I know that in Fairfax County we go through—we recruit officers—most of our officers have college degrees. We go through training and sometimes they'll go work for the Federal Government afterwards. Do you get a lot of cross-recruiting from local governments where somebody else can pay the training costs and you can get them and vice versa? Is it a competitive environment to get good officers?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, sir. Very competitive.

Admiral MCKNIGHT. Yes, sir. It is very competitive. It's very hard to maintain and retain the officers. We are continually hiring, but it's a very competitive——

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Where would you lose your people to? You train them. You get them up. If they leave your service, where would they be likely to go?

Admiral MCKNIGHT. They would like to go upward to the Metropolitan Police, to the Parks Service and things like that. They just like to take a step farther up.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. And once you've locked them in for a few years, you get them into the system, but it's the young officers who generally leave, isn't it?

Admiral MCKNIGHT. Yes, sir. That's correct.

General SWAN. Same for us, sir.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. How about Mr. Trindal?

Mr. TRINDAL. Yes, sir. It is very competitive. We strive to maintain a solid work force through our training, through the challenges that we provide for our officers. But in this area in particular there's an awful lot of opportunities for those officers to look elsewhere.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. And how's the interoperatability and the communications between the Metropolitan Police Department and

all of your agencies? You are on different frequencies. You can get—how's that work if there's an incident in the area? For example, you're close by. You have manpower there. How quick is it to call—you know, start——

Admiral MCKNIGHT. Sir, as I addressed earlier, we are just a little step behind. We're going to the new radio system. We have some sites that are manned up. So, right now, it would have to be through the standard process. An officer would notify that there's an incident, and we would have to either phone—but our radio system's just a little bit behind. We don't have a frequency that we can talk.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Let me just add, the area down by where the Navy Yard is, for example——

Admiral MCKNIGHT. Yes, sir.

Chairman TOM DAVIS [continuing]. Is rapidly changing.

Admiral MCKNIGHT. Yes, sir.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Getting more intensity. They have a stadium down there. Your role in working with the Police Department then is changing as a result of that?

Admiral MCKNIGHT. Sir, my jurisdiction is just with inside the fence lines of the Naval District Washington, especially down on Maine Street and M Street right there. But when we bring on the new radio system, we'll be able to coordinate better with the Metropolitan Police Department.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. OK.

General SWAN. Yes, sir. And the system that Admiral McKnight is talking about is a Department of Defense system, so that's already been fielded in the Army component here. The Air Force and the Navy are coming on later this year. It gives us—this is a post-September 11th radio system that allows us to talk to civil agencies at all levels, fire protection agencies as well as law enforcement, but at the Command Center level—there is a great deal of interoperatability at the Command Center level that we pride ourselves on.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Yeah. Key is to make sure, if you have officers in the area, you have assets in the area, that they can be redeployed in an emergency.

General SWAN. Yes, sir.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. OK. Mr. Trindal.

Mr. TRINDAL. Our central dispatch is at the Suitland megacenter, and presently we would communicate with MPD via telephone at this point in time. However, under critical incidents or preplanned incidents, we do have capability of cross-talking with them, using their equipment as well as other Federal, State and local agencies in the National Capital Region and our equipment cross-channeling with them.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Thank you. Mr. Fogarty.

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, sir. With the Metropolitan, our best is still the old standby civil defense line. We do use that routinely.

As far as our patrol supervisors also do have Metropolitan Police portable radios with them, and if there is an emergency they can switch over. Normally, we would prefer going through our dispatch to their dispatch because that way everyone is aware and not just one or two people.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. Thank you.

Ms. Norton.

Ms. NORTON. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Could I ask first Assistant Chief Fogarty, are Park Police who have been pulled from other areas still working, some of them, on 12-hour days?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, ma'am. Our central district is on a 12-hour shift. That's their normal routine patrol. It is not an overtime function.

Ms. NORTON. Oh, they are always—the people on patrol are always there for 12 hours?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, ma'am. That's their regularly scheduled patrol function. It's been that way for some time. Twelve-hour shifts are your most efficient man power usage. They're not necessarily the most effective but they're the most efficient.

Ms. NORTON. Let me understand this. When you say a 12-hour shift, do you mean that an officer is standing or patrolling for 12 hours? Or do you mean that he is doing Park Service, Park Police work in some fashion for 12 hours?

Mr. FOGARTY. They are assigned to the patrol function for the 12 hours, which includes work all the time. But most of the time they will be out on the street or, if they make an arrest, they will be back processing.

Ms. NORTON. How does that compare with police in the other forces? Are you on 12-hour days?

General SWAN. We're on 8-hour inside our Army installations.

Ms. NORTON. How about you, Mr. Trindal?

Mr. TRINDAL. We're also on 8-hour shifts.

Ms. NORTON. So you are telling me on a 90-degree day that your officers, for example, who are assigned to the Lincoln Memorial are there for 12 hours?

Ms. NORTON. Yes, ma'am.

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, ma'am.

Ms. NORTON. Why is that—since you tell me that is normal, the normal case, why is that the most efficient way?

Mr. FOGARTY. As far as when you look at the actual scheduling of personnel, when you do it on the 12-hour shifts you actually can deploy more personnel than you can through any of the other shifts.

Ms. NORTON. So it has to do with the numbers that need to be deployed. That's how you are getting the numbers.

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, ma'am. And others—some of our other districts are on 8-hour shifts. It depends on the district.

Ms. NORTON. In the region and in the city, they're on 12-hour days or is it only in the city?

Mr. FOGARTY. It's only in our central district. For instance, our Rock Creek District, which is also in the District, is on an 8-hour shift.

Ms. NORTON. So it is only in this area, the Mall area, that we have 12-hour shifts?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, ma'am.

Ms. NORTON. And that is in the coldest of winter and in the hottest of summer, people are on 12-hour shifts?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, ma'am.

Ms. NORTON. And you think that has largely to do with the numbers, need for—you can maximize your numbers that way?

Mr. FOGARTY. It's effective; and the officers, from what I have been told, like the 12-hour shifts.

Ms. NORTON. Twelve-hour shifts without overtime pay?

Mr. FOGARTY. That's correct.

Ms. NORTON. And they like that?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, ma'am.

Ms. NORTON. And why do they like that?

Mr. FOGARTY. I can't say for sure, but I think it has to do with the fact they have more days off at the end of the week.

Ms. NORTON. All right. You should say that. Because, otherwise, it's very hard to understand. It's pretty hard to understand.

Mr. FOGARTY. It gives them more actual time at home than they would have on the 8-hour shifts because the commuting time is cut down.

Ms. NORTON. All right. Thank you.

You patrol the entire region. Your officers—I'm sorry—Mr. Fogarty, patrol the entire region, isn't that so?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, ma'am. That's correct.

Ms. NORTON. Would you name some of the parks, larger parks in Maryland and Virginia, for example—we know the ones in D.C.—that you're responsible for, some of the larger ones?

Mr. FOGARTY. Greenbelt Park; Fort Washington Park; Fort Hunt; Great Falls, VA; Great Falls, MD; Wolftrap; plus all the park—all the areas along the parkways.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. They can give tickets along the parkway, isn't that right?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, sir.

Chairman TOM DAVIS. I don't know that from personal experience, but some of my staff know it.

Ms. NORTON. How have you—do you still have a uniform presence in the Mall now until midnight when the area closes?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, ma'am. The Mall area is patrolled 12 hours a day.

Ms. NORTON. I didn't ask you that. I asked you was there uniform presence down there all evening?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, ma'am.

Ms. NORTON. All right. Many of those officers are borrowed from other parks, is that not the case?

Mr. FOGARTY. Some of the officers have been redeployed. A lot of those are from the motorcycle unit, or our special forces branch, if they're not otherwise assigned, they would be reassigned to the Mall. Some of it has been done through the use of overtime.

Ms. NORTON. When I visited the Mall and talked with some of your officers, I asked them where they came from and they named some of the parks. Among them was Anacostia Park, for example. I appreciated that he was there, but it did seem to me that was a classic case of borrowing from Peter to pay Paul except that Peter has more crime than Paul does.

I'm not blaming that on you, sir, but let me ask you, when is the last time you have had an increase in the actual number of officers?

Mr. FOGARTY. We have been relatively stable for the last, I would say at least the last 5 years.

Ms. NORTON. How many miles are you responsible for in the National Capital Region?

Mr. FOGARTY. I'm sorry, how many?

Ms. NORTON. Acres; I'm sorry.

Mr. FOGARTY. I believe it was 24,000.

Ms. NORTON. I have understood that a class for new park police officers was recently canceled. Is that the case?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, ma'am.

Ms. NORTON. Why was that the case?

Mr. FOGARTY. There was just a funding issue. At the end of the year we had hoped to have enough funding to staff it, and we did not.

Ms. NORTON. You had some increase in funding, isn't it true?

Mr. FOGARTY. This year it was a $100,000 increase over the year before.

Ms. NORTON. When is the last time you had a significant increase in funding, Mr. Fogarty?

Mr. FOGARTY. 2002.

Ms. NORTON. When?

Mr. FOGARTY. 2002.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Fogarty, I don't see how you can continue to operate by borrowing personnel if your last increase was 2002. How much an increase in officers was that?

Mr. FOGARTY. The actual number of increase in officers was not significant. It allowed us to catch up where we had been a shortfall in our equipment and supplies and where we had been basically borrowing from Peter to pay Paul at that point.

With the cost of living increases, things like that, even if the budget goes up, it does not necessarily translate into an increase in personnel.

Ms. NORTON. So in terms of personnel, you have been stable even when you have had an increase in funding.

Mr. FOGARTY. We had a slight increase at that point, which we've been trying to maintain since then. The 2007 budget is a request for an actual real increase in personnel.

Ms. NORTON. But that's not through yet?

Mr. FOGARTY. It's been through the House and in the Senate committee, but it has not been passed yet.

Ms. NORTON. What kind of increase in the House did you get?

Mr. FOGARTY. The amount was exactly the same. It was a total of a $4.5 million increase, which came out to approximately $2.8 million that actually would have been used for personnel. The rest would have been basically cost of living adjustments.

Ms. NORTON. The Senate has not acted yet on that amount, but the House has allowed that amount?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, ma'am. The House has and the Senate committee has also approved that level.

Ms. NORTON. Now if in fact that passes and you said $2 million or so can be used for personnel, how many new officers, approximately?

Mr. FOGARTY. The goal is to get up to 639 sworn officers by the end of fiscal year 2008, and again that's the problem with attrition. The training sites——

Ms. NORTON. From 6—to 639 by the end of 2008?

Mr. FOGARTY. Yes, ma'am. Actually, functional police officers. Part of that is the training cycle, and we hire them, they are on paper but they're really of no value to us at this point.

Ms. NORTON. Would they all be used here in this region, the National Capital?

Mr. FOGARTY. The vast majority would be assigned here to the Washington Metropolitan Area.

Ms. NORTON. When the first set of assaults occurred on the Mall there was an immediate response. I was very grateful for it, actually. Mr. Fogarty, I'm very familiar with the Park Police. You have worked on some of our really high crime areas because so many parks abut those areas and you are known as crackerjack cops who understand real criminals and have partnered with the D.C. Police to crack important cases, cases that the press writes about, drug busts and very violent criminals and the like. So I'm aware of your work.

I am very concerned though about what I saw on the Mall. You indeed had reinforcements right after the first muggings. When the second set of muggings occurred, there had been about five police in that entire area. It was hard for me to be critical of it.

It seemed to me that you have no sustained capacity to continue to borrow police from Maryland, Virginia and the District without putting areas that have greater crime rates than the Mall at risk. Is that not the case?

Mr. FOGARTY. Part of police work is always trying to get ahead of the criminals and deploy your personnel appropriately. This year our crime rate actually, our violent crime rate actually is down from last year. We've had high profiles crimes on the Mall and we have redeployed to try to end that problem.

Ms. NORTON. My question, and I will pass on to my good friend in a moment, but my question really goes to what happens after there are assaults like this. You see how embolden these people have become. The reason we are so concerned is not only have they assaulted visitors who have always regarded the Mall as what it has always been, crime free. We regard this as an assault on our economy because those are people that come to visit, and in visiting they are a major support for our economy.

When—the reason I asked for, and I was very grateful for the uniform presence after the muggings in May, was because it is very hard to do what you just said, act ahead of time. Indeed, the Chief told me about undercover people that he was going to have. I said that's fine, it's very important, but if we want to prevent crime we not only need undercover people, we need uniform people who essentially send their own message, don't even try. It is the message they send.

Clearly you were so hard-pressed that the uniform presence that might have deterred these July assaults was not possible to sustain. Is that not the case?

Mr. FOGARTY. We increased our coverage after the May assaults and then obviously after the July assaults we increased it again.

Ms. NORTON. And of course it retrenched after the May assaults.

Mr. FOGARTY. It had not reduced it from what we had actually assigned, but what we had done is the officers who were asked to go through on routine patrols, some of them were obviously redeployed to other areas or other assignments on a day-to-day basis. We did have an increase in the sustained increase in the number of officers assigned to the Mall area.

Ms. NORTON. Five officers is what the chief told me in that area. I'm very concerned about that, and I'm going to pass on now to Ms. Watson.

Ms. WATSON. Thank you so much. As I listen to all of you, we've got to focus in on Mr. Fogarty because I think that the problems that have been identified are occurring within the Park Service's jurisdiction. And listening very intently, it seems that you have a shortage of resources, is that true? I know you said you are increasing from 605 to 639 but it has not happened.

Mr. FOGARTY. It's been requested.

Ms. WATSON. And then I'm reading in our analysis that equipment is old, that it doesn't work in certain urban areas, and probably that you're short of the effective tools to do the job. Is that correct?

Mr. FOGARTY. There's some highlights in that. For instance, our radio system which is from the 1970's, it is in the process both here and New York of replacing the entire system. That is actually a joint operation with other Federal agencies, which will improve our interoperability and also our area of coverage.

Ms. WATSON. Now is there a dedicated line—this is to all the witnesses—that would go across—there are 51 services that provide protection, supposedly. Is there a dedicated line, a band that all of you could use to communicate? Does it work?

General SWAN. There is an established 800-megahertz standard that the Department of Homeland Security has established that all first responders are capable or should be capable of operating on. We're pretty good on that in the NCR, at least from the military perspective.

Ms. WATSON. Apparently it is not working as effectively as it should because when we talk about homeland security, if we cannot secure the Nation's Capital, the streets of the capital, we can't secure this country.

I was appalled by the kinds of rash of crimes on the streets that were taking place, these foraging street gangs, these foraging thugs that are moving freely it appears through our streets, attacking people on the streets, killing some. I don't know how that happens.

And I hear from you, Mr. Fogarty, that your staff works 12 hours a day and then they have a day when they probably are in court, and that doesn't give them the kind of time to do the job effectively.

I think what we need is an appearance of law enforcement. You know, I'm from Los Angeles and our colors are black and white, but when you park a black and white on a main street, that's a signal and that's a message there's somebody around here that is going to provide and enforce the law, so maybe I better not knock this store off or mug this person.

And so I mentioned in my opening statement that we really need an assessment, because I hear three things; I hear that you really

are under equipped, I hear that you don't have the personnel to stretch across all of these venues, and I hear there are plans for the future and it's all based on the budget.

So we here in the Congress have a job to do, and while we're pumping billions of dollars in countries 10,000 miles and more away, if we really are serious about securing our land, Mr. Chairman, we're going to have to look internally.

If we cannot protect our citizens, our visitors when they come to the Nation's Capital, then how can we protect our country. It's just verbiage.

So I am so pleased that you're here. Don't be restrained. We are friendly. Eleanor Holmes Norton is the best mouthpiece that you have. Our Chair is the best mouthpiece you have. The other member from Maryland will speak up for you, but you have to come and let us know.

So we're gleaning from your remarks what the story has to be, Eleanor. During our budget discussions we must put the resources in so you can do what you're expected to do to protect our homeland and the people on it, be they Americans or visitors.

And so I want to thank you, and know, I want you to know that we're going to be supporting what you do because it's an embarrassment. Not only is it an embarrassment, it's tragic to know that people come here to see our historic sites and they're in jeopardy. That doesn't make sense.

So we should have learned from September 11th, and we need to look internally and fix these problems.

So with that I'm going to say thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I hope that we as a committee can make some strong recommendations in this regard.

Chairman Tom DAVIS. Thank you very much.

Ms. Norton, I think you have just one or two more questions.

Ms. NORTON. That's all I had, Mr. Chairman.

I had not asked the other police forces, and actually it's you who stimulated me to want this hearing. You are among the Army and Navy police. First, let me ascertain, hired by—you notice that the Federal Protective Service is a centralized service and you come onto the Federal Protective Services and I take it get assigned to agencies, is that right, sir? Mr. Trindal.

Mr. TRINDAL. Yes, ma'am. That's correct.

Ms. NORTON. Do your police get hired by the Department of Defense?

General SWAN. Yes, ma'am. Our police are hired by our services; our police are Department of the Army.

Ms. NORTON. So the Navy would hire and Army would hire?

General SWAN. But there are Department of Defense standards that we all adhere to.

Ms. NORTON. Yes, but are your police trained alongside his police the way the FPS police all train together?

General SWAN. They train to the same standards but in different facilities.

Ms. NORTON. You in Army facilities and they in Navy facilities?

General SWAN. We use Fort Leonard Wood, MO, which is our military police school, and Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland is for our Department of the Army civilian police.

Ms. NORTON. Much that you described that you do under your command, your description of what you do did not involve—did not seem to involve the police. I understand what you do but I did not hear from either of you how your civilian police either fit in or do not fit into what you do under your command.

Admiral MCKNIGHT. Yes, ma'am. I, like General Swan, we're both military commanders and the police force fall under us to protect our installations and what is between our fence lines, and that's our base of where we train our people to protect, within our fence lines.

General SWAN. If I could expand on that, the military police forces of the Department of Defense are there, as Admiral McKnight described, for security and law enforcement within our DOD installations, enforcing DOD law on those military reservations.

Ms. NORTON. What is DOD law? If I steal something on a reservation.

General SWAN. The Uniform Code of Military Justice applies inside——

Ms. NORTON. Many of these are civilian agencies. Like the Naval Sea Systems Command has mostly civilians. So if somebody commits a felony in there, what happens?

General SWAN. There are other Federal laws that applies inside DOD that are also enforced.

Ms. NORTON. Go ahead.

Admiral MCKNIGHT. Yes, ma'am. If there's a crime inside the Navy Sea Systems Command we would turn that over to the Navy Criminal Investigative Service. The police force that we have is to provide the perimeter security for our bases, not for crimes such as anything that they would commit——

Ms. NORTON. So if there was an altercation or a criminal act, now I'm dealing only within the facility, how would your police force respond?

Admiral MCKNIGHT. They would respond as trained. They would go to the scene and respond just like any officer who was trained for those type——

Ms. NORTON. Could they make an arrest?

Admiral MCKNIGHT. Yes, ma'am, on our installations. They can make arrests on our installations.

Ms. NORTON. Since it was an ordinary felony or misdemeanor violation of the local jurisdiction, let's say, how would that be processed and handled?

Admiral MCKNIGHT. If it was a military altercation, it would be handled within the Uniform Code of Military Justice. If it's a civilian infraction then it would be handled within the civilian corps.

Ms. NORTON. I understand that you are talking perhaps—you, Admiral McKnight, are talking to the U.S. Attorney here.

Admiral MCKNIGHT. That's correct, ma'am.

Ms. NORTON. Because you are among the agencies who have not signed onto the Police Coordinating Act, which allows some patrol around the perimeter. The whole purpose of passing this act by Congress was to try to keep the crime from getting to a particular facility. And I understand the difference between you and other Federal police, but you are in conversations?

Admiral MCKNIGHT. Yes, ma'am. Last spring some of my lawyers had a conversation with the U.S. Attorney's Office and we're awaiting for their interpretation.

Ms. NORTON. Thank you very much.

Chairman Tom DAVIS. I want to thank the Members for their questions. I want to thank you for your testimony. It has been very helpful to us. The hearing is adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 11:18 a.m., the committee was adjourned.]

[The prepared statement of Hon. C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger follows:]

Congressman C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger
Policing Capital Sites
Opening Statement

Statement:

Thank you Mr. Chairman for holding this hearing entitled," Policing Capital sites: Improving Coordination, Training, and Equipment."

In recent weeks very violent crimes have been committed here in Washington, DC. The safety of the men and women that work in our nation's capital and the tourists that visit over the summer season is being threatened. Not only are victims coping with the direct result of these violent episodes, but many are scared.

According to the Washington Post article on July 12th six tourists were mugged at gunpoint near the Washington Monument on the National Mall. The National Park Police

said that only six police officers were on patrol that night. They were responsible for policing the entire mall. Lack of officers and funding seems to be the root cause of many of these recurring problems.

Due to these recurring incidents, which increase over the summer season each year, we are now in a state of 'Crime Emergency.' For the past three of four years, we have been forced to declare a crime emergency. We need to adopt a comprehensive plan that will serve all security forces and provide a long term solution.

In the past, the fight for funding for the police department has been difficult. Instead of temporarily increasing budget in times of emergency, we must decide on a way to create a constant, more uniform budget that will allow the police department to operate normally and effectively at all times.

In 2001 the Police Cooperation Amendment Act was signed. This act allows any federal policing agency to offer aid to the Metro Police Department. It has been signed, and now needs to be put into practice. The agencies must work together to ensure that enough officers are available to meet increasing demands, and we must make sure that they have the funds to do so. They will have a better chance with the proper equipment, manpower, and cooperation from the legislative bodies.

Today we have brought many relevant agencies to the table. We must all work together to make sure that these types of crimes will not put the future of capital's safety in jeopardy. We have to start now to create a proactive plan instead of relying on a reactive one.

I look forward to hearing the testimony presented today and I look forward to asking questions of the witnesses.

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