

PUBLIC SAFETY & PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Of the

Suffolk County Legislature

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Public Safety & Public Information Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, on **June 21, 2005**.

Members Present:

Legislator Angie Carpenter • Chairperson

Legislator Pete O'Leary • Vice•Chair

Legislator Michael Caracciolo

Legislator Daniel Losquadro

Legislator David Bishop

Legislator William Lindsay

Legislator Lynne Nowick

Legislator Elie Mystal

Also In Attendance:

Mea Knapp • Counsel to the Legislature

Alexandra Sullivan • Chief Deputy Clerk/Suffolk County Legislature

Linda Bay • Aide to Presiding Officer Caracappa

Doug Sutherland • Aide to Legislator Carpenter

Maria Ammiratti • Aide to Legislator O'Leary

Paul Perillie • Aide to Minority Caucus

Kevin LaValle • Aide to Legislator Losquadro

Ed Hogan • Aide to Legislator Nowick

Barbara LoMoriello • Aide to Legislator Cooper

Jim Spero • Director/Budget Review Office

Jim Maggio • Budget Analyst/Budget Review Office

Paul Sabatino • Chief Deputy County Executive

Ben Zwirn • Assistant County Executive

Brian Beedenbender • County Executive Assistant
Jacqueline Caputi • County Attorney's Office
Alan Otto • Chief of Staff/Suffolk County Sheriff's Office
Donald Sullivan • Undersheriff/Suffolk County Sheriff's Office
Joseph Rubacka • Deputy Warden/Suffolk County Sheriff's Office
Robert Kearon • Bureau Chief/District Attorney's Office
Robert Moore • Chief of Department/Suffolk County Police
Aristedes Mojica • Inspector/Chief of Department's Office/SCPD
Thaddeus Nieves • Lieutenant/Chief of Department's Office/SCPD
Robert Scharf • Lieutenant•Commissioner's Office/SCPD
John Durkin • Sergeant•K•9 Section/SCPD
Thomas Brandon • Deputy Inspector•Special Patrol Bureau/SCPD
James Connell • Captial•Special Patrol Bureau/SCPD
Gene Sengstacken • Sergeant•Aviation Section/SCPD
Jim Tobey • IT Section/SCPD
Joe Williams • Commissioner/Fire, Rescue & Emergency Services
Brad Maier • Deputy Commissioner/Fire, Rescue & Emergency Services
Tom Muratore • Vice President/Police Benevolent Association
John Desmond • Director/Suffolk County Probation Department
Chair/Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Dr. James Golbin • Chief Planner/Suffolk County Probation Department
Phyllis Curylo • Suffolk County Probation Department
Colleen Ansanelli • Prgrm Crdntr/Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Bob Marmo • Chief Planner/Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Hope Collazo • Director/Community Service Program•American Red Cross
Debbie Eppel • Director/Public Safety & Public Information Office
Michael Sharkey • Vice•President/SC Deputy Sheriff's Benevolent Assoc.
Dan Sicilian • 2nd VP/Association of Municipal Employees
Maria Perez•Lent • STOP DWI Coordinator
Douglas Death • STOP DWI of Suffolk County
Mary McLaughlin • Suffolk County League of Women Voters
Marshal Schwartz • Nominee/Suffolk County Citizens Corp. Council
Marc Klein • Suffolk Bill of Rights Defense Campaign
Dottie Klein • Suffolk Bill of Rights Defense Campaign.

Harlotte P. Koons • Suffolk Bill of Rights Defense Campaign

Myrna Gordon • Suffolk Bill of Rights Defense Campaign

Alison Garber • Citizen of Suffolk County

Evalyn Sokol • Citizen of Suffolk County

Pam Burris • Citizen of Suffolk County

Lea Becker • Citizen of Suffolk County

Emi Endo • Newsday

All Other Interested Parties

Minutes Taken By:

Alison Mahoney • Court Stenographer

(*The meeting was called to order at 11:35 A.M.*)

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

We're getting ready to begin the Public Safety Committee meeting, and now we're ready. Great. I'd ask Legislator Caracciolo to please lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Salutation

Thank you. We have a little bit of a time constraint today because a Special Meeting of the Legislature has been called for 12:30. So I think what I'm going to do is •• and we also have an overview of the work that was done by the subcommittee of the SCFROC Committee on Alternatives to Incarceration, so they're going to be doing an overview. We have someone who is here for an appointment, so I think I'm going to bring that gentleman up first. Yes, the agendas have been distributed.

LEG. LINDSAY:

I didn't get one.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Legislator Lindsay needs an agenda, please.

Okay, Marshal Schwartz is here for an appointment to the Citizens Corps. Council.

LEG. LINDSAY:

So with you •• we should be brief.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

You got it, unless you want to have to come back after the Special Meeting.

LEG. LINDSAY:

No.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay, thank you. Good morning, Marshal. Thank you for coming down.

I know that your name has been put forward to serve on the Citizen Corp. Council, I know that Commissioner Williams is here. If you would, just give us a brief overview on your background, why you want to serve in 25 words or less.

MR. SCHWARTZ:

Well, I live and work in Suffolk County. I work at ••

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Can you speak a little closer to the microphone?

MR. SCHWARTZ:

I'm sorry.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

No problem.

MR. SCHWARTZ:

I work at Arrow Electronics in Melville and I live in Rocky Point. I'm one of the volunteer leaders of the Community Emergency Response Team, the CERT Program, and have been part of the group since its inception. I have worked to develop a first-class volunteer program that can make a difference to Suffolk County in the event of an emergency. I feel that my experience with the CERT Program can be put to good use on the Citizens Corp. Council and I

also believe that a CERT representative on the council can benefit both organizations.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay, thank you. Are there any questions for the nominee? All right. Well, thank you very much for coming down and thank you also for being willing to volunteer and serve in your community, we really appreciate it.

MR. SCHWARTZ:

Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thanks. Legislator Lindsay, did you ••

LEG. LINDSAY:

Just if it's on the agenda, you want to take it out of order?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Well, we're going to go to the agenda rather quickly, so.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Okay.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thank you.

MR. SCHWARTZ:

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Along those lines, I would ask Joe Williams, if you would, come up briefly. I know that you have the Deputy Commissioner, the new Deputy Commissioner with you and it would be nice if you could introduce him formally to the committee.

COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS:

Good morning. I would like to introduce Brad Maier. Brad is becoming the new Deputy

Commissioner effective this Monday. Brad has 37 years with the fire service on Long Island here, he's an ex•Chief of the Babylon Fire Department, he's an ex•President of the Babylon Chiefs Organization. Brad's well•known in the community of fire service, he brings a wealth of knowledge to us. I look forward to working with him. I'm sure you'll find him as cooperative as we have been. In the past, I've worked with Brad as the President of the Town of Babylon and I look forward to working with him.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MAIER:

Thank you, Joe. And thank you for appointing me, I really appreciate the offer to serve the community and it's really an honor to be selected. Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Well, I'm happy to hear you feel that way. This is an incredible County and an awesome responsibility that both you gentlemen are faced with and I wish you well in your new position.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MAIER:

Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thank you.

I have a request, since we are going to try to get to the agenda, a request from the County Attorney's Office to speak on two resolutions. Jackie, do you want to come forward?

MS. CAPUTI:

Good morning.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

On 1646 and 1644.

MS. CAPUTI:

Good morning, everyone. We usually speak at the time of the consideration, but I'd be happy to speak about it now.

The first one I wanted to speak on was 1644. Actually, I just want to ask you if you would be willing to table it for one cycle, Legislator Carpenter? We've done some preliminary research and we really haven't had time to adequately get an answer on certain issues that we felt were posed from the Police Department. Apparently someone that's familiar with the disposition of fines under the VTL hasn't gotten back to us yet, so I wanted to ask you if you would consider tabling that one.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

I'll think about it. The only thing is is that we're not going to be meeting again until August, so I really did want to move this.

MS. CAPUTI:

Yeah, I understand that.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

You know, this is something that has been in place, it's just a matter of rededicating the fines to the district specifically and not into the General Fund, so I don't see that there should be any issue. But what was the other one?

MS. CAPUTI:

The other one is 1646, Legislator Binder's bill, on establishing a policy concerning a full staffing at the sectors. The County Attorney's Office does have some concern that this is a violation of the Separation of Powers principal and that the Police Commissioner is an Executive appointment and he really is the one that's supposed to be managing the day•to•day operations of the Police Department. So we feel that there's a little bit of an improper blending here of management coming from this branch.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

It's very refreshing to hear that you guys subscribe to the theory of Separation of Powers and the two distinct branches of government, because there have been many times in the past where that doesn't seem to be the case, that there's been a bit of an overlap and a feeling that you are the Legislature. But I'm glad to hear that you are the Executive Branch, this is a good thing.

MS. CAPUTI:

Well, I'm not. We're just looking at it from an unbiased perspective.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

All right.

LEG. O'LEARY:

You're just the messenger.

MS. CAPUTI:

Yes, exactly right. I'm not the Executive Branch.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Well, thank you very much. I'm sure that everyone will take that into consideration when we deliberate.

MS. CAPUTI:

Okay. Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thank you.

We have a number of cards on a Sense Resolution that I believe is going to be tabled and I'm going to delay bringing those cards forward. We really do need to get to the agenda and we do want to have that Executive Summary Analysis. In fact, John Desmond, why don't you come forward and we'll do that now.

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

Good morning, all. John Desmond, Probation Director, Chairperson, Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. With me is Dr. James Golbin, Chief Planner for Probation and also basically the organizing force behind the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. We're here today to make a presentation on the SCFROC analysis and with that I'm going to turn it over to Dr. Golbin.

DR. GOLBIN:

Good morning, everybody. The Systems Planning Subcommittee of the CJCC served as the working body for SCFROC, for the jail construction process. We were given two charges, one of them •• one of the charges was to evaluate specific topics that were identified by SCFROC and the second charge was to conduct a systems analysis that would improve the system, the efficiency of the Suffolk County Criminal Justice System.

Now, the •• our methods were based on the National Institute of Corrections and the Department of Justice recommendations that you have the participation of all the key stakeholders in the Criminal Justice System and it •• the methods also include evidence-based, whatever was evidence-based we would include in our analysis, what wasn't we put in a different pile to be considered later when we were able to get other information. But evidence-based was the first major method that we had and then consensus, consensus was needed from all the key stakeholders from any recommendations. The representatives •• this was a systems analysis of CJ •• of the Criminal Justice System and it included the Sheriff's Office, Police Department, Suffolk County Legislature, the County Executive's Office, Probation, Legal Aid, Department of Public Works, County Attorney's Office and other key stakeholders, Health Department. And we worked •• we had 15 meetings since November 18th, 2004 to April 21st, 2005, 15 meetings of a full subcommittee plus other working committees and we coordinated with other subcommittees, and the effort was really to take a real solid needs assessment in the County of problem definitions as well as how effective is our Criminal Justice System working.

The first and foremost responsibility of the CJCC Subcommittee was public safety. At every meeting, every •• throughout the whole process, public safety could not be compromised in any of our analysis or recommendations. So our subcommittee, the major goal of doing improving public safety, we dealt with group consensus and everything had to be evidence based.

Now, quite briefly, the methods that we used were, again, based on the national standards for analyzing jail overcrowding and criminal justice systems and they included a stakeholder survey, a crime trend analysis, research of the jail population and there were really the JSAT population that the CJCC had done of a jail analysis, an October 25th, 2004 snapshot, the Pulitzer/Bogard Study of the 2002 population, two mentally ill and criminal justice studies that were funded through the CJCC and a gang study that was also funded through the CJCC, so to get a real look at who is in the jail, not just on a one day snapshot but since 1998 right through the present time.

The next part of the analysis included a criminogenic population analysis. Criminogenic population analysis means that you take a real look at the factors that constitute to crime and some of those may be gender, socioeconomic status, age for the high risk, so that was done also. Economic indicators were analyzed as well for Suffolk County, and then brainstorming for the key stakeholders, the experts in the field, warden of the jail and many others, in coming up with what really was going on in the system that contribute to the current operation.

Since time is, you know, of limited •• limited time, we looked at all those areas and before you is an Executive Summary that outlines what the finding were in each of those areas. And again, it all had to be evidence•based and the subcommittee then took a look at based on all that information and hundreds of documents that were of local, State and Federal research documents on crime trends and analysis and crime reduction, recidivism reduction initiatives, all of those have gone into the major report. The subcommittee then came up with 29 major recommendations. The way it was structured, each of the recommendations would have what the recommendation was, and believe me, the wording of some of the recommendations went through changes many times over to make sure that there was consensus from our group.

There were 29 major recommendations and 10 minor recommendations of initiatives that could improve the efficiency of the Criminal Justice System, reduce crime, contain costs as well as, if those things were done, reduce jail overcrowding. So of the 29 recommendations that the full report contains, which I've been advised that every Legislator has a copy of the full report, it includes not only the recommendation, the rationale for the recommendation and the potential impact if those recommendations were carried through.

And in the Summary of Subcommittee Recommendations, they were broken down into systems improvements and policy changes. So systems improvements, we did •• we were doing a systems analysis and just from a personal and professional point of view, I learned an awful lot going through all the very intense presentation of data from the courts, from the Sheriff's Office and other key stakeholders, systems improvements, the more we did the systems analysis which were very fruitful, we saw that there were other areas that needed additional systems analysis. One of them was with individuals with mental illness in the Criminal Justice System and we asked the National Institute of Corrections to come in and do that analysis, but there are others.

In planning and collaboration there were seven areas that really do need more in-depth analysis even though we've gathered a lot of really solid information. One of them that was staggering is number five was the motor vehicle crimes and the recommendation for a subcommittee for motor vehicle crimes. The increases in 511's or the driving with suspended license, that has •• there's been a tremendous increase since the year 2000 •• this is just as an example, between 2000 and 2003 and from 2003 till the current time, but it's like we had the major increase and the only major increase like this in the State. So it became a brainstorming type of analysis as to why, why is it so different right from Nassau County as an example. And the committee members believe that the tremendous jump in •• these are not the more serious crimes but they impact our system quite a lot, needed further analysis, although a lot of the answers were found, contained in the report. But the first part of the planning and collaboration, one of the •• there are seven recommendations there that include a safe housing, exploring supportive safe housing which came up at every turn, having a full-time Criminal Justice Coordinating Council with full-time staff which the Legislature supported last year. John?

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

One minute, finish up.

DR. GOLBIN:

Okay. Well, there are others including a Jail Population Management System at the Sheriff's Office so that the snapshot of the population that's in the jail could be gathered routinely. So there's broken down into the planning and collaboration, the need for a different analysis of the transportation process, also the ability to have teleconferences, which is a big one, of people that don't have to appear directly in court. There's also training recommendations and a variety of systems efficiency recommendations, including having parolees be taken back by the State since now they have a 6,000 vacancy, beds available by New York State and since Suffolk County is overcrowded, that was another one. And then a series of program changes, program modifications. There's eleven major program modifications, initiatives or changes that are included in the analysis.

I would just like to, in summing up, repeat that in each of the •• in the major studies, in the major report, it's not in the Executive Summary, there's a rationale for each of the

recommendations as well as the impact and how the impact, potential impact is calculated and that it is all evidence-based so the backup studies are also available for anyone who wants that. And we have about 250 other research studies and reports that have been generated from this analysis.

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

And I would just like to add that June 29th, the CJCC will be having a meeting to establish a number of subcommittees to address a number of the issues that are addressed in the recommendations. And June 30th, SCFROC will be meeting in response to the recommendations by the subcommittee. Thank you very much for your time.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thank you very much. And I know there are some questions by Legislators, but I just want to commend you and everyone involved. It was obvious, just in sheer numbers of times that you met, that an awful lot of commitment was made to this issue and a lot of hard work went in it. And the documents that you've submitted, including the Executive Summary, are really put together quite well, and thank you very much for that. Legislator Bishop, then Legislator Lindsay.

LEG. BISHOP:

As the, I suppose, Legislative champion of alternatives and efficiencies, thank you. This report is exactly what this County needed. It should have, unfortunately, been asked of you earlier in the process because this is the first step in a logical process, and unfortunately we don't have a logical process in this County. But at least we have this now and now we can make better, I believe, policy decisions than we have been making. Is there a price tag associated with all your recommendations? If we were to adopt all of them in the upcoming Operating Budget, what would that cost this County?

DR. GOLBIN:

SCFROC is addressing that, that's not available at this moment but that is something that's being worked on.

LEG. BISHOP:

You're •• well, I won't ask you, Mr. Golbin, I'll ask the Director of Probation. You are not under constraints to eliminate any of these recommendations for monetary reasons? In other words, it will be the administration that will eliminate them, not the SCFROC committee, right?

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

We were given total carte blanche to produce a report, there were no limitations placed on us. And as Dr. Golbin stated, there was consensus by the entire committee on every recommendation.

LEG. BISHOP:

Well, and all these recommendations with the consensus are •• they're penny-wise to engage in because we will be saving a lot of money down the line later on. And I hope that the budget folks, both on our side of the street and across the street, recognize that and we don't widdle them down because we can obviously make for better public safety and better budgeting if we adopt them.

The NIC, that's the National Institute of Corrections, it's part of the Department of Justice. I had alerted the Levy Administration to their availability, then you guys invited them in; what did they find about •• regarding our mentally ill population in the jail; is their work complete yet?

DR. GOLBIN:

The draft was done and the NIC is now, you know, incorporating any comments in. I think the final report should be due in the next couple of weeks, but I haven't seen any final report yet.

LEG. BISHOP:

Right. And you're not ready to offer a preview of what ••

DR. GOLBIN:

I think they were very supportive of the recommendations that we had. And our situation in Suffolk County is not unique throughout what the problem throughout the country is. But the consultant, the NIC consultant really applauded the County for taking the initiative because in many other areas they are not as far along as we are in addressing the severity of the problem. But there is not a week that goes by that there's not another study that's showing

that our jails and prisons are de facto mental hospitals in this country and not equipped to deal with psychotic offenders or people who can decompensate on a •• in a minute based on, you know, their disfunction. So they were very supportive.

LEG. BISHOP:

Let me ask you this question to put it on the record directly. Is there a trade off between public safety and alternatives and efficiencies in the Criminal Justice System? If we increase our alternatives and efficiencies, are we going to decrease public safety?

DR. GOLBIN:

If you notice in the report, the alternatives •• there are alternatives and there are alternatives. If there •• we are and have been in this County for decades attempting to have recidivism reduction alternatives. So that for many populations, including the mentally ill and chemical abusers, if you don't have the services early on and adequate services, the individuals deteriorate and it compromises public safety in that they'll be worse when they get out. The alternatives that we're talking about are not for everybody, you have to have proper screening. But when done professionally, alternatives and recidivism reduction programs, which a lot of times are the same, will improve public safety. And there's a whole body of literature, and we've tried to identify some of it, but there's a lot more that shows no, they go hand in hand. Being smart on crime is •• can reduce crime with alternatives and other recidivism reduction programs.

LEG. BISHOP:

Let me ask about two categories of offenders that interest me. It says 20% of the pretrial inmates have bail of a thousand dollars or less, so obviously if these were middle class or even lower middle class people they wouldn't be in the jail at all. And I thought we had a program in Suffolk County to deal with that; is the program not being utilized?

DR. GOLBIN:

That was from the snapshot and the •• a lot of the programs, when the State has cut back, the funding of those programs were cut back as well. We have the expediter program and supervised release and steps were made in the last budget to put additional positions in so that that program can be expanded and that is what's happening.

LEG. BISHOP:

Is there •• oh, I'm sorry, John.

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

We only currently have one bail expeditor. We've just finished hiring a second bail expeditor so that we'll be able to go to a nine in the morning till nine at night schedule to work with the inmates as they come in to do their bail expedition.

LEG. BISHOP:

Now, for better or worse, Suffolk County's economy utilizes a large pool of undocumented aliens; aliens, or undocumented residents. The driving •• the large numbers of people that we're picking up for the unlicensed driving, are many of them illegals, quote/unquote, or undocumented as others prefer?

DR. GOLBIN:

Our research didn't have the capacity to find that out.

LEG. BISHOP:

Yeah. I'm going to make a wager that that's a lot of it, just from observation along the highway.

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

Yeah, that was discussed. And again, that's one of the reasons why we're setting up a separate subcommittee, to get the data on that and try to make some recommendations as to maybe alternative ways to address the problem.

LEG. BISHOP:

All right. Well, thank you for your •• again, thank you for your good work and we're counting on your continued good work. Thanks.

LEG. O'LEARY:

I just have a question.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Well, I think there's a list.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Oh, okay.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Legislator Lindsay, then Legislator Caracciolo and O'Leary, and keep watching the clock.

LEG. LINDSAY:

I'll be very brief. The recommendations, the 29 recommendations, some of them can be done administratively, some take legislation and funding. If all of the 29 were adopted administratively or by law, how long do you think it would take to dramatically reduce the size of our jail population?

DR. GOLBIN:

The impact can be looked at from on the first year, second year, and some of it with recidivism reduction you'll get benefits in the third year of what happened in the first year. Others, like the parole violators that we have to house now, that would require legislation in Albany and that, again, could take one year, two years. Most, if not all of these, would be in place, some of them right away or •• already some of them are being implemented. The vast majority of them would be in two years, but there are others like the Legislative ones that may take longer or never, I mean, like with the parole violators, that may not happen. But ••

LEG. LINDSAY:

But if everything •• well, to the best of our ability •• was enacted, we would start to see a positive result within two years.

DR. GOLBIN:

You would start seeing it first year. Some of those things, like the expediter, you'll start seeing it, you know, right away. And some of the others it would take longer, but if we aggressively pursue it, you'll start seeing results in 2005.

LEG. LINDSAY:

And looking at the participant of the council, I note that both the Judicial System is represented

as well as the District Attorney's office, so I assume that they're on board with these recommendations.

DR. GOLBIN:

The minutes were scrutinized unbelievably. Each of the recommendations were to make sure that there wasn't misinterpretation of what everything meant and we did •• it was a terrific experience. I think the feedback that I had of every one of the stakeholders that were involved were pretty psyched feeling that, yes, on a lot of problem areas, systems problems, we have an opportunity to make some changes on it. So everyone was involved and there was consensus on •• or else the recommendations didn't go in, there are other recommendations and other things that didn't make it because there was ••

LEG. LINDSAY:

And that's great to hear because we could fund a lot of these programs and create a lot of these programs, but if the District Attorney and the judges don't use the programs, you know, we've really••

DR. GOLBIN:

The Administrative Judges have been remarkably responsive ••

LEG. LINDSAY:

Very good.

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

•• and I've just been astounded by their cooperation, their support and their understanding of the situation the County is in.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Very good.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thank you. Legislator Caracciolo.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Thank you, Madam chair. Just looking briefly at the handout you provided us today, the

Executive Summary, what's glaring is that there are some trends that I don't know if they're temporary or you believe are long-term, specifically those that relate to crime reduction which are certainly driven in major parts by demographics. We have an aging population on one hand, we have a teen population that has significantly dropped. We hear and read all the time that in the County we have an exodus of 18 to 34 years old who can't afford to live here, but yet we have this huge jail population. And only one-third of the total population that's in the County jail are there as a result of County offenses. We have pretrial, 52% being held for pretrial. And then we have this issue of 511 offenders which, as your report notes, we had 20,000 more than Nassau County, a rather unique phenomena given the demographics are so similar.

I would just caution, however, to make any •• draw any conclusions with illegal residents because for the most part they don't have driver's licenses so they can't have drivers licenses suspended; is that correct.

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

Motor Vehicle will list someone as having a suspended driver's license even though they don't have a driver's license ever. Under their name will be a category just suspended license and that will be there because of their failure to cooperate with State Motor Vehicle regulations.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

At the end of the day, how do you anticipate this problem will be solved? I mean, you've clearly identified and done an excellent job of quantifying all of these C changes, but you believe the changes can be effective within a two or three year timeframe. Who drives the bus, the courts; the courts drive the bus on this?

DR. GOLBIN:

It's everybody, it's all the stake ••

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Well, everybody but ••

DR. GOLBIN:

It's all the stakeholders together. And the vehicle that we have in place is the Criminal Justice

Coordinating Council to now put with the County Executive's Office and the Legislature to put an action plan in place where we can get money from the State and the Federal government. There's an action plan where all the stakeholders, we even have to pull in some of the State people that impact what we do that weren't involved in our County planning process, so there are things that we have to do. But this has been replicated in other areas and the NIC has been excellent and there are other technical assistant projects that we would put in. And it is hard work, but the professionals in the C Criminal Justice System are really pushing to take care of some of these things now that we finally have it going.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

What additional resources, you mentioned bail expeditors before, is required in terms of staffing and overall cost? I mean, it's cost efficient obviously, we would not necessarily have to build as some have referred to it, a super jail if we were successful in implementing your recommendations. But is that just short-term or •• you know, how far out has the committee looked in terms of the future and the continual change of demographics in this County?

DR. GOLBIN:

okay. Demographics go 20 years, but the innovations like GPS and whole •• a lot of other things that are just coming in to be used in the field, that we did look at and are testing how good the technology is right now. So there are •• and the courts say that they would use this additional technology for pretrial as well as sentenced as long as it will tell you at the moment where someone is. But both the population as well as the new technology, we've looked at that, not that there's a crystal ball, but that really hasn't developed as much as we believe that it will in the next five, the next ten years that will offset a lot of that.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Ultimately, who's responsible for the current situation?

DR. GOLBIN:

Well, I have been doing this for 36 years so I'm partly responsible.

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

And me.

DR. GOLBIN:

Everyone else that has been, we've been under a lot of limitations of financial through the years and have had to address the immediate crisis that we had. We're trying to move to a systems planning approach that can be proactive in securing non-traditional funding that are somewhat immune to those changes, yearly changes and take a look at planning and more of a two, three and four year type of basis rather than on a year to year basis. It's part of the overall system that we have, but part of it has been recessions and all and now we •• the recommendations call for having really crisp, solid, continuous funding for the CJCC, having it fully staffed so that when you have questions they can be answered immediately and we can anticipate trends when they're starting to happen rather than see them months down the •• or years down the road. So it's a shift that it takes an investment, but once we get this in place it will pay dividends year after year, not just with jail overcrowding but in crime reduction.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

In terms of the other locales and models that you've looked at, which ones would you highlight for us and what has been •• if there has been •• a long term experience?

DR. GOLBIN:

In other models? You mean •• there are places in California, there are a lot of other different models, management models, where they use all of the key stakeholders in a •• and come up with an annual comprehensive systems plan built in to a two or three or four year overall plan. And it's like everyone has their objectives and everyone sometimes have to defer their request for more higher requests, but it's a good budget process. San Diego is one place that does have that where the courts and everyone is involved, but there's many places. We do that and have done that in the past with particular areas, but this is for the whole Criminal Justice System, not just with Stop Violence Against Women or, this is for doing for the entire Criminal Justice System. Once we do that, there are models that NIC lays out for us as well as other good government.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Right. And final question, you know, when you look at this dilemma it seems to me, as someone who is retired from law enforcement, that law enforcement is doing its job. The Sheriff, who is the Chief law enforcement officer in this County, is doing his job, he has a statutory responsibility to look over and after and safeguard those that are committed to him. He doesn't put them in jail, the courts do, it's the Judicial Branch that we really need to coordinate and have much more cooperation than heretofore. And I wish you all will in that

endeavor. Perhaps we can start by getting judges to •• well, I won't go there. We'll just leave it there for now and I'd be happy to talk to you privately about some suggestions I have. Okay, thank you.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thank you. Legislator O'Leary.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Yeah, I'd like to revisit the 511's. Now, you say that that's broken down, that that includes for purposes of incarceration unlicensed as well as suspended license?

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

No. What I said was you can have situations where someone has never had a license, yet Department of Motor Vehicles will suspend their ability to have a license and then when they're picked up they'll be picked up as a 511, so it would be as a criminal offense.

LEG. O'LEARY:

All right. And there's no indication in the summary of the differential between Nassau and Suffolk on 511's. How many of these are actually incarcerated in the Suffolk County jail, the 511 violations?

DR. GOLBIN:

In the full report, those •• all those statistics are laid out and the District Court Clerk provided that information. I mean, the courts were really very invaluable in providing that and pointing out that problem of the explosion of the District Court and Motor Vehicle offences, that is in the major •• that is in the major report. But our research is not exhausted in this area and in no stretch do we •• was a conclusion made that this is because of immigrant population.

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

Right.

DR. GOLBIN:

That is not •• it's saying that the area is exploding so much and that in Suffolk County we have the adjudication, State Adjudication Board, a lot of systems, as a matter of fact, by being so

efficient and having our programs computerized, immediately when someone has a license taken away it goes on the system so that if they're picked up for something they're nailed, we're in Nassau County it's manual so they're not. So just by being too efficient, it increases the number of cases that come in to the system. So that's where the courts asked the representative, let's have a separate, you know, subcommittee and have the adjudication bureau people and have others come and let's really take a look at this in greater detail.

LEG. O'LEARY:

But there's no indication in your report that the 511 offenders are currently being incarcerated in the Suffolk County Jail.

DR. GOLBIN:

No, that is in the report.

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

It's in the large.

LEG. O'LEARY:

They are there?

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

It's in the large and there are percentages.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Are they a part of the 75% of nonviolent offenders incarcerated?

DR. GOLBIN:

Yes, yes.

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

Yes.

DR. GOLBIN:

But that is •• all the research questions that were brought up by the subcommittee members were put in to the statistical base of who's in the jail.

LEG. O'LEARY:

And that's just based on the one snapshot of October 25th?

DR. GOLBIN:

Well, that and the Pulitzer/Bogard Study did have some tables on all those that were in for the year 2002. And there were some differences between 2002 and the snapshot on October 25th, 2004, but both of those were rich in providing us, you know, a view of what's going on in the jail.

And just as a little advertisement, one of the reasons why we and the Sheriff's Office wants that MIS management system at the jail is so that these questions can be gathered quickly and having someone that can interpret it so that when there are these type of questions we can have the same data definitions all throughout the system so we can follow ones throughout the system. But we'll know in a few days the answer to these research questions, we can't do it quickly now, we have to ••

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thank you. And I appreciate those comments, particularly as we have resolutions before us on a regular basis for technological improvements and sometimes we are not as good about passing those in a timely manner and I think you make a ver good case in point for why that is important.

I thank you very much for coming down for this brief overview. I did not want to wait until the August meeting, but we will be bringing you back as time goes on because I'm sure as everyone goes over the full report there will be more questions and after SCFROC meets we'll want to discuss it again. So thank you again.

DIRECTOR DESMOND:

Thank you.

DR. GOLBIN:

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Let us go to the agenda. And for those who have filled out cards, we will try to get to you after the agenda if you still wish to speak. Otherwise there is going to be a full meeting of the Legislature, you could fill out cards again and address the full body, if you choose. All right, we'll begin with tabled resolutions.

TABLED RESOLUTIONS

IR 1281•05 • To establish a pilot program called the "Safe Communities Initiative" authorizing the expanded use of security camera systems to deter crime and assist law enforcement efforts (Cooper).

LEG. O'LEARY:

Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Motion to table by Legislator O'Leary.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Second by Legislator Caracciolo. All those in favor? Opposed?

The resolution is tabled (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).

IR 1285•05 • Adopting Local Law No. 2005, a Local Law to amend Article II of the Chapter 270 of the Suffolk County Code to provide further protections under the Crack House Law (cooper). The hearing has been closed.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Motion.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Motion by Legislator Caracciolo, second by Legislator Lindsay. All those in favor?

LEG. BISHOP:

Wait. On the motion?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

On the motion.

LEG. BISHOP:

Can we get an explanation of the expansion? At one time it was going to be you could seize somebody's house for failure to file a proper document, which is a little troubling

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Counsel, would you please speak to that? We're talking about IR 1285, the expansion of the Crack House Law. And maybe what we'll do, while Counsel brings that up ••

MS. KNAPP:

I know that one, actually.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Oh, okay.

LEG BISHOP:

Yeah, go on to the next one. Oh, you're ready?

MS. KNAPP:

Is the question of the ••

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

What categories were expanded.

LEG. BISHOP:

What are the predicate offenses.

MS. KNAPP:

They are •• and again, from memory, and I'll bring it up as I'm speaking. They are primarily

what you might refer to as white collar crime, but they are crimes that can sometimes be associated with landlords who are operating illegally, insurance fraud, falsifying business records, tampering with public records.

LEG. BISHOP:

I'm going to make a motion to table. I think that before ••

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

All right, we have a motion before to table.

LEG. BISHOP:

I just want to •• I don't know if I have a second to table.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Is there ••

LEG. MYSTAL:

You do.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Second by Legislator Mystal.

LEG. BISHOP:

Before we expand the power of our government so greatly, I think we need more of a hearing process to discuss, you know, what the implications of that are.

The Crack House Law, as the name implies, was originally put forward to rid neighborhoods of crack houses, which now it's going in a very different direction and I think it's a step that we should take very carefully and not rush into.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Your points are very well taken. We have a motion and a second to table. All those in favor? Opposed?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Opposed.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Opposed.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

List •• we have two opposed. ***The resolution is tabled (VOTE: 6•0•0•0 Opposed: Legislators Losquadro & Caracciolo).***

IR 1304•05 • Accepting and appropriating 100% Federal grant funds awarded by the U.S. Department of Justice under the FFY 2004 Local Law Enforcement Block grant to the Suffolk County Departments of Police, Probation, Economic Development and Workforce Housing and Youth bureau (County Executive). I had asked about ••

LEG. O'LEARY:

Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

We have a motion to table, second by myself. All those in favor? Opposed? ***The resolution is tabled (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).***

1324 ••

LEG. MYSTAL:

On the motion.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

On the motion.

LEG. MYSTAL:

Why?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

It's tabled because there was some discussion about who was being identified as the recipient or the person who was going to facilitate the grant because it was not the person that applied for the grant.

But I think there's another resolution that addresses that.

LEG. O'LEARY:

1710 addresses it.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay, great.

1324•05 • Establishing a County policy for use of foot patrols and bicycle patrols in Huntington Village (Binder).

LEG. LINDSAY:

Table it.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

We have a motion to table by Legislator Lindsay. Is there a second?

LEG. BISHOP:

Second.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Has the ••

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

On the motion, Legislator O'Leary.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Has the resolution been amended to include Suffolk County rather than Huntington Village?

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Yes.

MS. KNAPP:

The resolution does •• I believe it covers the whole County; let me just check.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

So it's not specific to any particular area but rather as a County policy.

MS. KNAPP:

Downtown areas throughout the County of Suffolk.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay, so the title really should have just been changed on the agenda.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Motion to approve.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

We have a motion and a second. We did have a tabling motion.

LEG. BISHOP:

On the motion. What's the policy and how is it different from current policy?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Counsel?

MS. KNAPP:

This establishes a policy that foot and bicycle patrols be utilized on Fridays and Saturdays after sunset in downtown areas throughout Suffolk County. I'm not sure that that is a year•round policy, I suppose the Police Department would be able to speak to that better than I.

LEG. BISHOP:

Is it a mandate that no matter ••

MS. KNAPP:

It is a policy resolution, official policy.

LEG. BISHOP:

What does that mean?

MS. KNAPP:

It does not contain a specific directive, it simply sets the public policy.

LEG. BISHOP:

Okay. You know, this could have been handled by a press release rather than by a resolution. This is obviously somebody's, you know, campaign fodder and I've got better things to do with my time. So I would urge that we table it rather than ••

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay. So we have a motion and a ••

LEG. BISHOP:

•• send a message that we're going to allow these things to pass, then everybody is going to file a bunch of them.

LEG. ALDEN:

It's the County Executive's.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay. We have a motion and a second to table. All those in favor of the tabling? No one is in favor of the tabling, even ••

LEG. BISHOP:

Yes, enthusiastically.

LEG. LINDSAY:

In favor, yeah.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Oh, okay, we have three. Opposed?

LEG. O'LEARY:

Opposed.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Opposed.

LEG. NOWICK:

Opposed.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Opposed.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay, *the resolution to table fails (VOTE: 3•5•0•0 In Favor: Legislators Bishop, Lindsay & Mystal).*

We have a motion to approve by Legislator O'Leary.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Second by Legislator Caracciolo. All those in favor? Opposed?

LEG. BISHOP:

I'll abstain.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Opposed.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

We have one abstention, one opposed, four in favor; ***the resolution is approved (VOTE: 6 • 1 • 1 • 0 Opposed: Legislator Lindsay • Abstention: Legislator Bishop).***

IR 1327•05 • Adopting Local Law No. 2005, a Local Law establishing responsible standards and controls for alarm systems that require Police Department response (Cooper). The sponsor has requested that we table this resolution.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Motion to table, second by Legislator Nowick. All those in favor? Opposed? ***It is tabled (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).***

1492•05 • Approving the appointment of Marshal Schwartz to the suffolk County Citizens Corp. Council (County Executive).

LEG. O'LEARY:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Motion by Legislator O'Leary ••

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Motion.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

•• second by Legislator Losquadro. All those in favor? Opposed?
The resolution is approved (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).

IR 1583•05 • Adopting Local Law No. 2005, a Local Law strengthening the procedures and remedies of the Suffolk County Human Rights Commission (Mystal).

This hearing has been ••

LEG. O'LEARY:

Motion to table subject to call.

LEG. MYSTAL:

Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

We have a motion to table subject to call.

LEG. MYSTAL:

No, just table.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Which takes precedence, Counsel? Table subject to call takes precedence. Legislator O'Leary.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Yes.

LEG. BISHOP:

Which one are we doing?

LEG. NOWICK:

1583.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

1583.

LEG. LINDSAY:

It's strengthening Human Rights.

LEG. BISHOP:

And you want to table it subject to call?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

He wants to table subject to call.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Yes.

LEG. BISHOP:

All right. Can we get an explanation, Counsel, what the bill does and perhaps a discussion of why we would send it in to oblivion.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

All right. Is there a second on that motion to table subject to call?

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Second by Legislator Caracciolo. Counsel, please, an explanation.

MS. KNAPP:

I guess the brief explanation is that it changes our Administrative Code to be more reflective of what the State Human Rights Law is. Therefore, it expands our code, enlarges on it, institutes more detailed procedures, all of which would end up making us eligible for some additional funding.

LEG. BISHOP:

Well, that sounds like a good idea, I don't know why we would want to table that subject to call. But if the procedures are similar to the State, and correct me if I'm wrong, we have some sort of reciprocity agreement with the State where our investigations are allowed to be used in State Administrative adjudications; is that correct?

MS. KNAPP:

At the present moment, yes, that's true, we have an agreement with the State. This would

really bring the process here in the County and it would keep it in the County.

LEG. BISHOP:

Right. And it would also •• the point I was driving at is that the State, or at least the last time I checked a year or two ago, had a tremendous backlog. And if the County were strengthened and administratively •• and receiving more money and its procedures were similar to the State, we'd be in a much better position to take some of that caseload over and allow people who have had their rights violated receive justice. Now, I think that's a good thing and I would hope my colleagues would agree and I don't think that tabling subject to call, therefore, is the right move.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Legislator Caracciolo.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

I understand the sponsor wanted to table the resolution, maybe he could advise us why ••

LEG. MYSTAL:

I just want to table it until we make some correction to it, but if you table it subject to call then the bill more or less is dead. The correction •• we're working on the correction right now with the Director of the Human Rights Commission and we are still working with it. To echo what Legislator Bishop said, the State has a backlog that's four, five years; you file a complaint with the State, it will be six or seven years before you even hear anything from the State. And we wanted to keep it in Suffolk County, give it some funding, some more staffing and some more teeth. And I think what •• the objection that Legislator O'Leary is pointing out to you, Mr. Caracciolo, is the fact that we wanted to have ••

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Okay, Elie, you answered my question. I'll withdraw my second.

LEG. O'LEARY:

And I'll withdraw my table subject to call and make a motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay. We have a motion to table, I'll second that. All in favor? Opposed? ***The resolution is tabled (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).***

IR 1587•05 • Appropriating funds in connection with the acquisition of the Fiber Optic Cable Backbone Project (CP 1794)(County Executive).

On this resolution ••

LEG. O'LEARY:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

•• the offset was changed to pay•as•you•go. So we have a motion to approve, I will second that. All those in favor? Opposed?

Approved (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).

1588•05 • Appropriating funds in connection with the acquisition of a Tax History System (CP 1792)(County Executive). Same story, the offset has been changed to pay•as•you•go. I'll make that motion.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Second by Legislator Caracciolo. All those in favor? Opposed?

It is approved (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).

Same with ***1594•05 • Appropriating funds in connection with the acquisition of the Probation Officer Remote Access System (CP 3048)(County Executive).***

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Same motion, same second.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Same motion, same second, same vote. ***Approved (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).***

1595•05 • Appropriating funds in connection with the purchase of additional data storage for the Police Department (CP 3236)(County Executive). Same motion, same second, same vote.

Approved (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).

INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS

IR 1638•05 • To assure "Chief", a soon•to•be retired Police dog, a human and loving home upon his retirement (Cooper).

LEG. LINDSAY:

Chief.

LEG. BISHOP:

Chief.

LEG. MYSTAL:

Chief.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

I think in the interest of time •• we have two competing resolutions on this topic. It is 12:30, the Special Meeting is supposed to be starting, I'd like to get through the rest of the agenda. I'm going to make a motion to table both 1638 and 1641.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

We have a motion and a second to table both 38 and 41. All those in favor? Opposed? The resolution is tabled.

LEG. BISHOP:

I'm opposed, because God forbid he gets auctioned off.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay, list Legislator Bishop as opposed. ***Tabled (VOTE: 7•1•0•0 Opposed: Legislator Bishop).***

1641•05 • Saving "Chief" from the auction block (Alden).

Tabled (VOTE: 7•1•0•0 Opposed: Legislator Bishop).

1644•05 • Amending Resolution No. 389•2003, to allow certain fees and fines to be deposited in the Police District Fund (Carpenter).

LEG. O'LEARY:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Motion to approve by Legislator O'Leary, I will second that.

All those in favor? Opposed? ***The resolution is approved (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).***

1646•05 • Establishing a policy to ensure adequate police protection for Suffolk County residents (Binder).

LEG. NOWICK:

Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Motion to table by Legislator Nowick, second by Legislator Caracciolo. All those in favor? Opposed? ***The resolution is tabled (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).***

1697•05 • Amending the 2005 Operating Budget to create one new position in the Day Reporting Center Program within the Department of Probation (County Executive).

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Motion.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Motion.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Motion by Legislator Caracciolo, second by Legislator Lindsay.

All those in favor? Opposed? **Approved (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).**

1700•05 • Donating 275 decommissioned body armor vests to the United States Department of Defense to protect our citizen soldiers (County Executive).

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Motion.

LEG. O'LEARY:

I have a question on the motion.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Legislator O'Leary has a question.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Is there somebody here from the County Executive's Office that can answer very quickly with respect to this resolution? Is there anybody here from the County Exec's Office?

MR. PERILLIE:

I spoke to the County Executive.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Does anyone have any information on this?

MR. PERILLIE:

Legislator, I spoke to Ben Zwirn's office yesterday. Here he comes.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Oh, here he is. Ben, this is on 1700, the 275 decommissioned body vests.

MR. ZWIRN:

Right.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Legislator O'Leary has a question.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Are these the vests, Ben, that were donated last year?

MR. ZWIRN:

They're like the vests that were donated, I don't think ••

LEG. O'LEARY:

Like the vests?

MR. ZWIRN:

The same vests?

LEG. O'LEARY:

No, no, not the same vests.

MR. ZWIRN:

Yes, the ••

LEG. O'LEARY:

There were vests donated last year, there was no •• and I'm just curious as to whether or not this is the resolution approving that donation for last year's ••

MR. ZWIRN:

No, I believe these are from this year, from surplus.

LEG. O'LEARY:

All right.

MR. ZWIRN:

And they're to be used in the Humvees, not to be worn by the troops.

LEG. O'LEARY:

I understand that. But if this is for a separate surplus of vests resolution, why did we not have a resolution last year when a similar type of donation was made of the surplus vests?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

They didn't know, he's sorry.

MR. ZWIRN:

I don't know.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Are you sorry?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Say yes, Ben.

MR. ZWIRN:

Yes.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay. We have a motion and a second to approve 1700. All those in favor? Opposed? ***The resolution is approved (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).***

1710•05 • Accepting and appropriating 100% Federal grant funds awarded by the U.S. Department of Justice under the FFY 2004 Local Law Enforcement Block Grant to the Suffolk County Departments of Police, Probation, Sheriff's Office and Youth Bureau (O'Leary).

LEG. O'LEARY:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Motion to approve by Legislator O'Leary, second by Legislator Losquadro.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Just by way of explanation before the vote, this is a competing resolution to 1304 where the Office of the Economic Development and Workforce Housing and the Sheriff's Office was substituted for it. Okay.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay, thank you. All those in favor? Opposed? ***The resolution is approved (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).***

TABLED SENSE RESOLUTIONS

Sense 31•2005 • Sense of the Legislature Resolution urging Federal, State and local officials to uphold civil rights and liberties (Viloria • Fisher).

LEG. BISHOP:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

We have a motion to approve.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

Motion to table.

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

We have a motion to table, that takes precedence, and a second. All those in favor? Opposed?
The resolution is tabled.

LEG. BISHOP:

Opposed.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Opposed.

LEG. MONTANO:

Opposed.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

We have three opposed, ***it is tabled (VOTE: 5•3•0•0 Opposed: Legislators Lindsay, Bishop & Mystal).***

INTRODUCTORY SENSE RESOLUTIONS

IR •• we'll continue with the Senses. ***Sense 47•2005 • Memorializing Sense Resolution in support of Assembly Bill A.07934 and Senate Bill S.05336 establishing the crime of home invasion robbery (Binder).*** Is there a motion?

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Motion.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Motion.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Motion by Legislator Caracciolo, second by Legislator O'Leary.

All those in favor? Opposed? ***It is approved (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).***

Sense 48•2005 • Memorializing Sense Resolution in support of Assembly Bill A.07588 and Senate Bill S.05246 strengthening penalties for human trafficking (Viloria •Fisher).

LEG. BISHOP:

Motion.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

We have a motion.

LEG. NOWICK:

Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

The motion to table takes precedence. Second by Legislator Losquadro.

All those in favor? Opposed?

LEG. BISHOP:

On the motion.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

On the motion.

LEG. BISHOP:

Why are we tabling that one?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

We had a motion and a second to table.

LEG. BISHOP:

It's strengthening penalties for human trafficking, that is a •• unfortunately ••

LEG. NOWICK:

I think we'll hold it for next meeting because we really are in a rush to go to another meeting and I'd like to hear more about it, so I'll make a motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

And I would also assume that there's not going to be any action in the Assembly and Senate, so tabling isn't really going to make a difference.

LEG. BISHOP:

But we passed Binder's about home invasion.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Well, then you should have brought that issue up. Okay. So we have a motion and a second to table. All those in favor? Opposed?

LEG. LINDSAY:

Opposed.

LEG. BISHOP:

Opposed.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

The resolution is tabled, mark those in opposition (VOTE: 6•2•0•0 Opposed: Legislators Lindsay & Bishop).

Sense 49•2005 • Memorializing Sense Resolution in support of New York State Senate Bill S.3506A, strengthening remedies in relation to the registration of sex offenders (O'Leary).

LEG. O'LEARY:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Motion to approve and there's a second. All those in favor? Opposed?

LEG. BISHOP:

You know, I appreciate •• on the motion?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

The resolution is approved (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).

Let's just go back, we have one more ••

LEG. BISHOP:

On the motion. I appreciate the need for time and so on, but it seems that the way that ••

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

If I could, just to respond to that.

LEG. BISHOP:

•• efficiency is applied is that if it's a democratic bill it should be tabled and if it's a Republican bill we don't need to discuss it and we'll just move it through.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay. Well, that's your perception, I don't think that was the case.

LEG. BISHOP:

Well, then what do you have to offer that suggests it's not the case? It's completely the case, they're two and two.

TABLED HOME RULE MESSAGES

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

I'm going to suggest that we go to tabled ***Home Rule Message No. 5•2005 • Home Rule Message requesting New York State Legislature to enact the "Suffolk County Jail Construction Flexibility act" to facilitate expedition of the new replacement correctional facility at Yaphank project and to amend the Public Authorities Law (Assembly Bill A and Senate Bill S)(County Executive)***. And this is the subject of the special meeting so I'm going to just make a motion to table, I don't know ••

LEG. CARACCIOLO:

Second.

LEG. O'LEARY:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Yeah, there's a different one. So we have a motion, second by Legislator Nowick to table Home Rule 5. All those in favor? Opposed? ***The resolution is tabled (VOTE: 8•0•0•0).***

I apologize to those who filled out cards. Unfortunately, it was beyond the control of this committee, we had no •• you know, the meeting, the Special Meeting was called for 12:30 and we're almost there. Thank you very much.

(*The meeting was adjourned at 12:36 P.M. *)

***Legislator Angie Carpenter, Chairperson
Public Safety & Public Information Committee***

_ _ • ***Denotes Spelled Phonetically***