PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Of The

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Public Safety 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 March 13, 2008.

Members Present:
Legislator Jack Eddington - Chairman
Legislator Kate Browning - Vice Chair
Legislator Wayne Horsley
Legislator Daniel Losquadro
Legislator Lynne Nowick

Also In Attendance:
Presiding Officer William Lindsay (Included in Votes)
George Nolan - Counsel to the Legislature
Renee Ortiz - Chief Deputy Clerk/Legislature
Robert Calarco - Aide to Legislator Eddington
Paul Perillie - Aide to Majority Leader
Linda Bay - Aide to Minority Leader
James Montalto - Aide to Legislator Losquadro
Greg Moran - Aide to Legislator Nowick
Kara Hahn - Director of Communications/P.O. Lindsay's Office
Jim Maggio - Budget Review Office
Ben Zwirn - Deputy County Executive
Brendan Chamberlain - County Executive's Office
Debra Alloncius - AME Legislative Director
Daniel delValle - Probation Officers Association/Vice President
Donald Grauer - Suffolk County Probation Officers Association
Matt Bogert - 1st Vice President/S.C. Correction Officers Association
Vito Dagnello - Suffolk County Correction Officers Association
Michael Sharkey - SCSO
John Capute - Detective Sergeant/Suffolk County Police Department
Dominick Varrone - Chief of Detectives/Suffolk County Police Department
Michael Rando - Suffolk County Deputy Sheriffs
Laura Ahearn - Parents of Megan's Law
Stacey Spota - Quality Consortium
Kathleen Ayers Lanzillotta - Quality Consortium
All Other Interested Parties

Minutes Taken By:
Lucia Braaten - Court Stenographer

[THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:45 A.M.]

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
I'd like to ask everyone to stand and start the Public Safety Committee meeting, and we'll do the Pledge of Allegiance.

(*Salutation*)

If you could remain standing for a moment of silence for all those that defend our country, both foreign and domestic.

(*Moment of Silence*)

Okay, thank you. Okay. I have a couple of public -- we'll start the public portion, and I have two cards, Kathleen {Lanziotta}.

LEG. NOWICK:
Lanzillotta.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Lanzillotta?

LEG. NOWICK:
Lanzillotta.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Thank you.

MS. LANZILLOTTA:
Hi.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Good morning.

MS. LANZILLOTTA:
Good morning. I'm Kathleen Ayers Lanzillotta. It's a lot of name. Thank you.

I'm here representing the Quality Consortium of Suffolk County, which is a membership organization of 24 alcoholism and substance abuse prevention and treatment providers in Suffolk. I am the Program Administrator for Catholic Charities Chemical Dependence Services. I operate the only crisis center in our County, Talbot House in Bohemia and a clinic in Commack and clinics on the East End, Hampton Bays and East Hampton. I also am the First Vice President of the Statewide Association of Substance Abuse Providers.

I'm here today to testify on behalf of the QC to support the Introductory Resolution to ban the possession and sale of Salvia Divinorum. I don't have a planned testimony. I do want to speak and say that I asked my clinic coordinators, I asked my Talbot House people, I said, "Are we seeing this? Is this something that's out there?" And the people that work with the youth in my Hampton Bays office had said, "Yes, they are seeing it." It's not something that I think is rampant in our field, but I think that the young people are getting a hold of it. And it's something that, if we stop it now, it will be preventing losses of many lives in the future.

I think that this drug is dangerous. It's a hallucinogenic drug. It causes major problems for the children. There's controversy over whether or not it is addictive. I would chance to guess that if a drug is hallucinogenic and it makes people feel like they want to keep using it, how could you say that's not an addictive disorder drug? I have some serious reservations.

I think this legislation is proactive and it's a step in the right direction. I know there's been statewide legislation sponsored by Senator Flanagan that I think would be great to pass at the State level, but I would love to see our County stay in the leadership role of passing this kind of legislation, because we all know that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

Also, another thing to call to your attention is that the bill -- this substance is only sold in head shops. Who shops in head shops? I mean, think about that. Who are the people that go to head shops? It's my population, guys, these are the people that come to me for treatment. So, if we can stop this from being sold, I think it's really a good thing for our community. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Thank you very much. Next, we have Don Grauer.

MR. GRAUER:
Good morning. My name is Donald Grauer, and I'm the President for the Suffolk County Probation Officers Association. We're the tenth Union in Suffolk County and we represent approximately the 290 Probation Officers that supervise offenders here in the community.

I'm here this morning, and the first thing I'd like to do is I'd like to publicly on the record thank Presiding Officer Lindsay, Legislator Losquadro, and Legislator Eddington for your support by proposing Home Rule Message Number 12, to support the Probation Officers Association's legislation that's pending in Albany to provide us with binding arbitration. So thank you very much for your support. And I'd like to ask this Committee to actually take that Home Rule Message Number 12 and to please forward it on to the full Legislature for a vote and to, please, support us on this issue. And I thank you for all your past support on all the other issues. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay. Thank you very much. Okay. Then next up, we have a presentation by Sheriff Vincent DeMarco and the Undersheriff. Oh, I wanted to say Legislator Caracappa, but Under-Sheriff Caracappa.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Good morning. Thank you for the opportunity to come here today and update you on the Criminal Alien Program in Suffolk County. You know, I'll give you an update on that, and then I can also answer any questions you might have on the SCAAP Program, which is the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program. I was made aware that some questions came up at the last Public Safety Meeting about how we get reimbursed for incarcerating illegal aliens from the Federal Government. But let me just give you a quick recap.

The Criminal Alien Program consists of agents from Immigration Customs Enforcement, which is now a division of the Department of Homeland Security. These agents screen people who have been arrested to identify anybody who is foreign-born. Illegal aliens can be deported along with legal residents or visa-holders who have committed serious crimes. There are people who get legal permanent status, but are not citizens, and they could be subject to deportation, depending on the crime they commit.

The program started in federal and state prisons, and is not now in local county jails, and concentrates on illegal immigrants who commit local crimes. You know, in the past, before this program, if an illegal immigrant committed a crime and was not prosecuted, they would just go right back out on the streets. Even now, if someone is arrested for a crime and they're acquitted, if they're a legal alien and they had a detainer on them, they're still going to be sent for a deportation hearing. Legislator Caracappa has some statistics.

UNDERSHERIFF CARACAPPA:
You called me "Legislator".

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Oh, did I just call him "Legislator"? I did. I didn't even pick up on it, see?

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
There really is a 19th Legislator.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
I'm just as bad as you, Jack.

LEG. NOWICK:
It never goes away.

UNDERSHERIFF CARACAPPA:
You should take my picture down.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Just when you thought you were out.

LEG. HORSLEY:
Draw a mustache on it.

UNDERSHERIFF CARACAPPA:
Step by step. Thank you, Sheriff, or is it Legislator? No, Sheriff. Mr. Chairman, Madam Vice-Chairman of the Committee, it's nice to be here. I just passed out a sheet to you. What this will indicate is how aggressive Sheriff DeMarco's administration has been since taking office. As you could see, in 2005, the amount of people turned over to ICE was 161, then the following years, 458, and then 2007, 774. And, as you could see, in 2008, the current year, we already have turned over 150 aliens to ICE, and our projection for the year is 925. As of right now, we feel that 925 is a conservative number, just as what we projected last year, it came in 131 higher than our projected number for 2007.

So, as you can see, we've been very aggressive through the Sheriff's efforts in working with ICE and the Feds to move these people who have committed crimes from our custody to their custody. And it's very important that we do that for a whole host of reasons for which many of you know, overcrowding costs, and it's a true problem.

You know, I've been -- as you all know, I've been part of the policy in dealing with this from your side for a long time, and I've heard -- I've heard all the debates about illegals in our facilities and the low level crimes that they're committing, and I just wanted to give you a little sample of the charges of the current 163 that are residing with us in our facilities. We have three for murder, 14 for rape or sexual assault, we have criminal -- many for criminal possession of weapons. We also had a couple for kidnapping currently. And a whole other assorted charges include, obviously, assault, another very important issue, the aggravated unlicensed driving issue that you're dealing with, many incarcerated, currently there for that, in conjunction with a DWI or DUI arrest. Usually, they go hand in hand. We also have the standard burglary, robbery, endangering the welfare of a child, menacing, and then another one of the big ones is, of course, drug possession or drug sale. So, the charges are serious, they're not -- they're not as simple as some people would lead you to believe. And the bails on these individuals, of course, are set pretty high. And I just wanted to bring that to your attention, that we're dealing with some bad guys here. Sheriff?

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Okay. We'll take any questions on this or the reimbursement.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Just, as we start, I'd like a clarification, because, as Mr. Caracappa said, we've dealt with this issue

for a couple of years. And I want to get a definition, because I hear "illegal alien", I hear "illegal immigrant". I'd like you to define what you call it, so that we can all be on the same page. I don't care what anybody else calls it, but I'd like to know what you -- I'm hearing "illegal alien", and in my mind, I can see that. But then I hear, you know, in the statements "illegal immigrant", and I thought an immigrant is a person that comes here legally. So, just so we can have some clarification.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
A lot of my definitions, they come right out of the Federal legislation, like a criminal alien is anybody who's an alien or an immigrant that commits a crime. Then you have an -- then you have undocumented criminal aliens, which are people who come to the country illegally that commit crimes. There's a whole host, and it depends on, you know -- you know, what fits and what doesn't fit, you know, but --

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Well, so you're talking about criminal --

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
I mean, we deal --

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
-- aliens.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
We deal with criminal --

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Criminal illegal aliens.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
-- criminal aliens. Some people find it very offensive. Sometimes I throw in illegal immigrant. It just -- it's very hard, Jack.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
You know, I understand. I understand, but I don't want to get involved in semantics. I'd rather we say what you're saying, so we're talking together.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Right. We deal -- we call them criminal aliens, because that's the name of the Federal Program, it's the Criminal Alien Program.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay, I'm good with that. Thank you. Legislator Losquadro.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Thank you. And this sheet is actually very helpful to know the progress that you've been making. But when we heard testimony from Commissioner Desmond, he talked about 996 individuals currently on their rolls of Probation who were of, in his words, "questionable" immigration status. And he said, "Well we did a statistical sampling and our best guest is 225 of them are actually illegal." So I guess my question is how could almost 1,000 people get to Probation through the Criminal Justice System and still have the Probation Department listing them as questionable immigration status? Is this just the Probation Department not getting the right information?

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
It's a tough question, because some people that get probation never come to jail. And, you know, we're very fortunate, because before we actually had ICE Agents at the jail, we had Correction

Officers in our Gang Intelligence Unit who did all this work by themselves, and now we have ICE Agents doing it. I don't think Probation has -- they don't have ICE Agents stationed at Probation, and also a lot of people don't come to jail -- you know, some people come to our jail and then they get sentenced to Probation, but a lot of people never come to jail, they get --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
They bypass that step.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
No, they get -- no, they get --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Right.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
They get -- right.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
The courts --

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Right, so --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
-- give them probation as a condition of their --

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Right. And, you know, I'm not going to speak for John Desmond, because I have no idea how they -- how they deal with that, right.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Okay. That answers that question. The way that it was presented to us was that these individuals had somehow been fully vetted through the system. And it seemed a little odd to all of us on this Committee that there would be 1,000 people of questionable status, I mean, because I'm hearing your testimony. It seems like your office is doing a very good job finding out who these individuals are, and upon their release, if they are of alien status, criminal alien status, undocumented criminal alien status, whatever the program calls for, that you are -- hand these individuals over to ICE, and they're not going back out into -- well, I don't want to use "population", because that's an internal jail term, into society.

So I guess my -- those questions, then, that gives me a good background. I can then take those questions and go back to Commissioner Desmond with those, because it's obvious on your end that you're vetting all the individuals that come through your facility; is that correct?

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
We have the benefit of having a very close working relationship with ICE, and they have access to our Jail Management System, so they can scour the population, speak with our investigators, and then do interviews with the inmates.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
That's excellent. That's very good news. Thank you for the presentation.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Legislator Nowick.

LEG. NOWICK:

Just for clarification, Legislator -- Non-Legislator Joe.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Under-Sheriff.

LEG. NOWICK:
When you talked about so many people being -- so many prisoners being released to ICE, yet you spoke about so many still being in the jail, at what point do you release them?

UNDERSHERIFF CARACAPPA:
I believe once -- Sheriff?

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Yeah. They're charges have to be -- there has to be a disposition on their charges. If they're sentenced, they have to do their sentence.

LEG. NOWICK:
So they have to go through the court system, and go through all of that --

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Right, they have to go through the court system and -- right.

LEG. NOWICK:
And once that happens, then they go to ICE.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Once -- right.

LEG. NOWICK:
So a very expensive ordeal.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Right, so it's still expensive. We've been trying for probably like the last year-and-a-half, or maybe a year, to work -- we're working with the District Attorney's Office. We've got a couple of positions in our budget to really track the people who have detainers from ICE, and try and get a list over to the Court Clerk at District Court and to the District Attorney's Office to try and expedite certain cases where we have people with ICE detainers that maybe we can get a quicker disposition on, because the sooner there's a disposition, the sooner we can hopefully get them out of the jail and --

LEG. NOWICK:
So the only time is after they've gone through the entire court process --

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Right.

LEG. NOWICK:
-- and we have, unfortunately, paid for all of that.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Right, but we're trying to expedite that. We're trying to expedite.

LEG. NOWICK:
Thank you. Good, that's wonderful. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Presiding Officer --

UNDERSHERIFF CARACAPPA:
If I could just add to that. I'm sorry. A lot of times, what had happened in the past that really angered me as a Legislator was a lot of these guys were being able to post bail immediately once being brought in. With the detainer, correct me if I'm wrong, Sheriff, that's not happening now, because we get the detainer and we hold onto them. So what was happening in the past --

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
For 48 hours.

UNDERSHERIFF CARACAPPA:
Forty-eight hours. What was happening, there would -- those who could make bail would make bail and you'd never see them again. They'd disappear in the population and you had a serious crime committed with many victims, in many cases, and, poof, gone. That's not happening -- it's happening less and less now due the Sheriff's efforts.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
So now, if they do actually do post bail, we can hold them for an additional 48 hours and ICE will take them.

LEG. NOWICK:
Oh, that's wonderful. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Presiding Officer Lindsay.

P.O. LINDSAY:
First, I want to thank the Sheriff. I think almost everybody at the horseshoe signed a letter at the last meeting asking the Federal Government to reimburse us for holding these prisoners, because of them not having the capacity to take these people off our hands. It's really a fiscal problem. It doesn't have anything to do with the whole immigration issue that's swirling around us. I would compare it to a few years back, and, certainly, Joe would remember when we sued the State for State-ready prisoners. It's exactly the same situation. The Federal Government has an obligation to take these people off our hands. They're saying they don't have the facilities to hold them, and we're winding up paying the cost. And with the help of John Desmond and our Sheriff, you know, we're estimating that number's 10 to 12 million dollars a year. It's serious money, especially when we have the fiscal problems that we have now.

But I just wanted to publicly thank the Sheriff in his cooperation in us putting together those numbers.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Anybody else?

LEG. HORSLEY:
Yes, I've got a quick question.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay, Legislator Horsley.

LEG. HORSLEY:
Good morning, every -- you guys. It's good to see you. I've just got a quick question to piggyback to Bill's question -- Bill's statement, and thank you as well.

Are there Federal statistics that from the time that an illegal immigrant is arrested through all these, and you mentioned not only through your -- does the Sheriff's Department have costs at the jail, and whatever, but we're talking about the District Attorney's Office, we're talking about the Police costs, we're talking about the Probation costs. Are there Federal statistics about what is the total cost of the incarceration issues involving illegal immigrants? I don't think I've seen that, I mean, where it involves not just -- not just your offices, but the entire picture. And then, are they national? Do the Feds keep those numbers, or, you know, do they exist?

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
To be honest with you, I don't know. I mean, I keep our numbers and then I can look at -- I look at the money that the Federal Government reimburses. I could look at each county, each State facility, each Federal facility. There's a breakdown that way at how much they give, but they don't reimburse for the true costs.

LEG. HORSLEY:
You know, for the -- right, the true costs, the cumulative cost of going through the different departments.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Because it's just -- it's a -- they only reimburse for a portion of Correction Officer salaries.

LEG. HORSLEY:
So we don't even know what that number is, so there's no way that we could seek reimbursement.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Well, we know what our -- we have a pretty -- I mean, I don't want the Police -- I don't know the -- I don't know the Police --

LEG. HORSLEY:
What is the reimbursement now, Sheriff?

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
1.75, I think, was the last amount we've gotten, but, like I said, that's not the true cost, that only deals with a certain segment of that illegal immigrant population.

LEG. HORSLEY:
Right, yeah, it's just your issues.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Right, but there is other legislation.

LEG. HORSLEY:
But what about the big picture?

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Last year, President Bush didn't include any funding for the SCAAP Program, so that 1 -- we wouldn't even have gotten 1.75. But I know I met with Legislator D'Amaro and Congressman Israel and we discussed it, and he made it a priority and that funding got put back in, you know, not just by himself, he worked with a lot of other people. But other people have floated legislation in Congress about how they should reimburse, and one of them -- one of the bills that's out there is to not just reimburse for Correction Officer salaries, but to reimburse for the cost of prosecution, the cost for the Police Department, the cost for Legal Aid, if they need Legal Aid, so there are other -- there is other legislation out there.

LEG. HORSLEY:
The District Attorney, the whole gamut, yeah.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Right, and then there's -- and then there's -- Senator Schumer is supporting legislation that would reimburse -- right now, it's only for illegal aliens or criminal aliens who commit two felonies -- one felony or two misdemeanors. He wants to see if that -- if you're even charged for two misdemeanors or a felony, that the County can be reimbursed. So that would help, but, again, that's not the true cost.

LEG. HORSLEY:
So, to your knowledge, there are no Federal --

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
I have not seen one.

LEG. HORSLEY:
-- statistics on --

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
I have not seen one number of what --

LEG. HORSLEY:
-- on true costs, because this has got to be a national issue. I mean, I'm sure Nassau has accumulated costs of different -- their different departments as well, and that is never taken into -- take into consideration.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
No.

UNDERSHERIFF CARACAPPA:
Just a little history, Legislator Horsley. Back in 1999, when I was here, I did try to sue the INS on behalf of the County, it was then INS. Unfortunately -- and for the same reasons you're talking about now. It may have been a little before its time, before the whole issue hit the -- hit the scene.

LEG. HORSLEY:
You were a pioneer, Joe.

UNDERSHERIFF CARACAPPA:
If you want to call it that, or crazy at the time. It was met with a lot of -- you know, opponents came in droves, as you've seen in some of your hearings related to this issue.

LEG. HORSLEY:
Right.

UNDERSHERIFF CARACAPPA:
And my point is they couldn't provide numbers then. Nassau County -- I asked Nassau County to join in our fight against INS in the lawsuit. But what Legislator Lindsay said at the last meeting, what he eluded to earlier, I personally believe this Legislature should most definitely move forward with -- we were successful with the State-readies a few years ago to the tune of, I believe, 11 million dollars. Well, I'm still wearing a little policy-making hat here.

LEG. HORSLEY:
Go ahead.

UNDERSHERIFF CARACAPPA:
I firmly believe you're heading in the right direction, Legislator Lindsay.

LEG. HORSLEY:
But, yet, it's only just a piece of the pie.

UNDERSHERIFF CARACAPPA:
It's very, very small. You know, if you look at the cost to your health centers --

LEG. HORSLEY:
Yeah.

UNDERSHERIFF CARACAPPA:
-- right down the line --

LEG. HORSLEY:
Well, I'm not even talking about --

UNDERSHERIFF CARACAPPA:
-- what it's costing the Suffolk County taxpayer, but --

LEG. HORSLEY:
I'm not even talking about just the immigrant, but I'm talking about the illegal immigration issue involving incarceration and criminal illegal activity. That is --

UNDERSHERIFF CARACAPPA:
The cost is staggering.

LEG. HORSLEY:
Staggering. I mean, that's -- and no one's considering it as a total picture, we're just taking little pieces of it.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Before I go to the next person, I wanted just to welcome your Chief of Staff, Mike Starkey. I didn't want to forget you. Legislator Losquadro.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Thank you. I know you can only speak for your Department. You said right now the SCAAP reimbursement last year was running about 1.75 million; correct?

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Right.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
What would you estimate the differential to be between the actual cost you incurred in your Department versus what the Federal Government reimbursed us?

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Well, we pin the actual cost somewhere between 10 and 12 million, but then SCAAP is only -- deals with a small portion of that, too, so that's -- you can only -- when you apply for that grant, you have to just take people who are --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Oh, no, I understand that there are --

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Right, right. But the true cost is somewhere between --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
You know a specific criteria that will only cover certain costs associated with it.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Right.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
So, in essence we're probably in the hole somewhere in the neighborhood of 10 million dollars; that's a fair estimation?

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Yeah, probably.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Okay.

LEG. HORSLEY:
And that's just one piece.

P.O. LINDSAY:
It's 10 to 12.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Right, but that's just for --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Right, but we're getting back 1.75, so, for a rough number, we'll say we're in the hole around 10 million dollars, just for this one piece in this one Department.

LEG. HORSLEY:
One piece.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Yeah. Okay. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Legislator Browning.

LEG. BROWNING:
Good morning.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Good morning.

LEG. BROWNING:
The last meeting, John Desmond talked about the ones on Probation that wind up going to ICE, and they go to ICE, and a lot of times they're getting released, and Probation is not notified that they've been released by ICE. Out of curiosity, have you seen ones that you've handed over to ICE and now they're back in again, and how many?

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Yes. It's not a lot, but there are some cases where we've actually seen people who were deported and have come back, maybe like a year later. But, you know, ICE doesn't know exactly what -- you know, they take people from us and they take them to a Federal holding center, and these people see a Federal Magistrate, because they get a hearing. So ICE might not even know that, you know,

a Judge can say, "Well, I'm going to give you temporary protective status, because the conditions in your country are so horrible that we're not going to deport you right now, but come back in six months," or, "Get your affairs in order, come back in six months." Do these people ever come back? Probably not.

LEG. BROWNING:
Okay. Because it has to be frustrating --

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Right, I know, right.

LEG. BROWNING:
For you guys, that you see them coming back.

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
But, I mean, we've actually seen people who were deported and a year later wound up back in the jail.

LEG. BROWNING:
Okay. Thanks.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Well, they do come back, they come back to you, so. Are there any other questions? No? Then, thank you, Sheriff, and your staff --

SHERIFF DEMARCO:
Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
-- for that presentation. Okay. I'm going to go to the tabled resolutions.

TABLED RESOLUTIONS

[Presiding Officer Lindsay Included in Votes]

I.R. 1038 - A Local Law to prohibit the sale of Salvia Divinorum (Nowick).

LEG. NOWICK:
I'll make a motion.

P.O. LINDSAY:
I'll second.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Motion to approve by Legislator --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Do we have anyone from the Clerk's Office?

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
-- Nowick, second by --

P.O. LINDSAY:
Wait a minute, the Clerk.

LEG. HORSLEY:
We lost the Clerk.

P.O. LINDSAY:
Where is the Clerk?

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
The Clerk was just there.

LEG. HORSLEY:
It's a sad moment.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Wow, I put my head down, she disappeared.

LEG. HORSLEY:
Did she run out?

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Who seconded, was it you, Wayne?

LEG. BROWNING:
Bill seconded it.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Bill will second it? Okay.

LEG. HORSLEY:
Yeah.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
You have to get used to me, I move rapidly.

MS. HOWARD:
Sorry.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay. We have a motion to approve by Legislator Nowick, second by the Presiding Officer Lindsay. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Okay. Approved. ***(Vote: Approved 6-0-0-0)***

I.R. 1046 - A Local Law to prohibit text messaging while driving (Schneiderman).

MR. NOLAN:
It has to be tabled.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Tabled for public hearing? Table. Make a motion to table for public hearing.

LEG. HORSLEY:
Second.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Second by Legislator Horsley. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? ***(Vote: Tabled for Public Hearing 6-0-0-0)***

I.R. 1047 - A Local Law prohibiting sex offenders from residing in close proximity to senior housing (Schneiderman). I make a motion to table subject to call.

P.O. LINDSAY:
I'll second that.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Second by Legislator Lindsay. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? ***(Vote: Tabled Subject to Call 6-0-0-0)***

I.R. 1129 - A Local Law establishing crime prevention requirements for scrap metal processors (Eddington). Before we have the motion, I'd like to ask Chief Varrone to just come up for a second and address this.

CHIEF VARRONE:
Good morning.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Yes.

CHIEF VARRONE:
Would you rather I stand here or there?

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Wherever you're comfortable.

CHIEF VARRONE:
This is fine.

P.O. LINDSAY:
Just, Chief, your mike is -- the button's on top.

CHIEF VARRONE:
It's on? Is it on?

P.O. LINDSAY:
Okay, you're good.

CHIEF VARRONE:
Dominick Varrone, Chief of Detectives, Suffolk County P.D. I'm just here to state, basically, that the scrap metal crimes and the problem that was previously stated and actually is part of the Legislative intent has gotten worse. It's continuing. It's a continuing problem in our County, actually in the country. The economy being what it is, the price being paid for scrap metal, particularly copper, has gone up. And, just in comparison, and I'm only covering a two-month period for the last three years, but it gives you a flow of what's going on. And part of this is in the Legislative intent already, but I just wanted to update it.

In January to February of 2006, we had 16 crimes involving scrap metal thefts. Same period last year, January and February 2007, we had 52. This year, this past January to February, we've had 109. So they've more than doubled each year. It's a considerable problem. And what we're having is, because of the economy, a lot of homes that are being foreclosed, or up for sale and vacant for an extended period, and these homes are being targeted.

We've prepared a PowerPoint presentation, which will not only graphically display the statistics and the trends, the prices of the copper and other precious -- other scrap metals, as well as some of the crime scene photos that we've taken over the last couple of months, which I think will clearly

articulate the issue and the problem, and we're prepared to present that at the public hearing on Tuesday.

It's a very unique crime in that unlike other larcenies, other burglaries, other crimes where property is stolen, we usually don't know where this property ends up. People keep it, they use it, it's sold on eBay, it's brought to various fences. And these crimes, we're pretty confident that most of the scrap metal, which is being torn out of residences and businesses and stolen, are ending up in a lot of the scrap metal yards. So I think this legislation is very important, and I'm prepared to -- we're prepared to do the presentation on Tuesday, but if there's any other questions, is there anybody -- anything else any one would like to ask me at this point, I would be happy to address.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Legislator Losquadro.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Thank you, Chief. And it's just funny, timing-wise, because I'm actually doing renovation on my house, and I did the demolition myself and took out a bunch of piping and went down to one of the local scrap processors, and I just wanted -- I actually wanted to see how the process worked. So I went in there, just went through the process. My government issued I.D. was taken, scanned, and when I went to the counter to pick up my payment, I was actually very impressed with the system, that it was scanned over at one station and it came up electronically on the page that they printed out for me, which I had to then sign my signature to, and then I was given a receipt outlining all the different -- because I had copper, aluminum, and some stainless steel. Have you seen the processors that are complying with those types of criteria? Have they been cooperative with the Police Department in helping you track some of these crimes?

CHIEF VARRONE:
Yes, they have. And it's interesting you say that, because I also had a personal experience. My son-in --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
This was just this weekend.

CHIEF VARRONE:
And, you know, that's the best way. It's very eye-opening, and you could empathize with these dealers, and you could also identify with the problems that they face. But my son-in-law, renovating an old home and tearing out all of the old plumbing and renovating it, I actually went with him and firsthand saw the procedure, and separating the various metals and putting them into -- and them requesting his identification, which I was, you know, very happy at the way they did it. But we're just asking for and what we're looking for is help and documentation. Some of the -- some of the establishments aren't as conscientious.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Well, that's what I was going to ask. You know, I imagine that some of the -- I went to one of the larger facilities that was close to my house, but, you know, I see advertising on television now for places out of the county, you know City Scrap and these other places, and then I know there were a number of smaller processors.

Where is the Police Department in terms of checking on processors right now throughout the County, whether or not they're in compliance with the new State Law, which does require taking that government-issued identification? Where is the Police Department in terms of checking on that compliance?

CHIEF VARRONE:
We did a spot check, a sting, if you will, and we have some videotape to show, unfortunately, the lack of compliance in some cases. What we're really looking for is not only the fact that they check,

but, obviously, that they make a good faith effort to identify who is bringing this metal, and, more importantly, that they report it to us, or at least log it, and that's what I think the legislation that's proposed will allow us to do. We'll be able -- when we have a -- when we have -- for example, if a hundred pounds of copper was stolen from a particular location and a particular description two days ago, Detectives are looking for leads. Very often, a neighbor will describe a green pickup truck. Maybe they'll get two or three numbers of the digits of the license. What we would love to be able to do is to go to a computer now, see who has -- may have dropped off that described property, look at the individual involved, if they have a vehicle, and we're suggesting that they do provide a vehicle description of the vehicle and plate number utilized. It will be a big assistance to Detectives getting a lead. That property may be already lost and already through their plant, and the holding issue is another thing that, you know, we're prepared to discuss. But, more importantly, all we want is the information. And if all of these dealers made efforts to really identify the people that are bringing these items to them and documenting them, we think it will do two things. It will deter criminals from doing this, and, also as importantly, provide us with leads, which will allow us to solve some of these crimes.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
You know, it was -- I agree with you completely, but at the one facility where I brought this scrap to, just I really couldn't believe the irony, because we've been having this discussion over the course of the past year, that I had an individual who was at the window in front of me who was complaining to them about the information they were taking and saying, "Well, the guy out in Bay Shore doesn't take that. I don't want to give that to you." So that's why I was really asking about the compliance across the industry, because it seems as though there's always going to be those individuals who will gain I guess what is in essence an unfair business advantage by not taking this information, and, you know, getting those individuals who don't want their information known to the authorities. So that's why I was really asking.

I mean, you talked about spot checking, but I think that if this is something we're going to move forward with, the Police Department is going to have to make a very concerted effort not just with the larger processors, I think and even more concerted effort with the smaller processors, who at that point, I think, would be more willing to try to pick up that business that maybe the bigger guys want to stay away from, because, you know, they don't want to get jammed up with the authorities, you know, not collecting the required information.

CHIEF VARRONE:
Absolutely agree with you.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
To do that, would you require additional staffing to be able to accomplish that? I mean, right now, you're talking about spot checking. I think to provide a true deterrent here, we need to keep a very tight handle on this. Would that require additional staffing on your part to be able to do that?

CHIEF VARRONE:
No. I think we can do those efforts with our present staffing and the present officers assigned to our Property Recovery Unit. Again, if they're required to report this stuff to us, rather than as it is now, when we get a lead, we have to go to various places and check to see if, well, did so and so, who brought this type of property.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Well, the only reason I ask that also is I recall from the discussions last year Sharon Cates Williams from our I.T. Department stated during some of these meetings that significant additional staff would be needed on the I.T. side to be able to deal with the significant influx of electronic information. So perhaps if you could maybe have her come to the public hearing to discuss maybe the additional staffing on the I.T. side and what the fiscal impact of that would be to the county, because, I don't remember the exact numbers now, but she was talking about a significant amount

of additional staff to be able to cope with this from an I.T. side.

CHIEF VARRONE:
That may be. As you know, we were already doing this with precious metals. And we have an article-tracking system with precious metals, and we're also -- Nassau County also is doing that, and we're coordinating our efforts in that regard. That's what we're really concerned about, obviously, jewelry and gold. But I understand --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
No, we always have been. But, in the discussions that we had, we talked about the sheer volume.

CHIEF VARRONE:
The number, yeah the volume.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
The sheer volume of transactions that take place on a daily basis. And I remember Sharon Cates Williams discussing last year that that would be onerous, that it would be a significant amount of staff that would be required on the County level to be able to deal with that.

CHIEF VARRONE:
That I'm not aware of. We'll look into that.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
So, like I said, if we could just -- if we could just get some answers on that, I think that would be very helpful.

CHIEF VARRONE:
I think our people have been working with our I.T. Section and have worked out some of the issues, and I guess it all depends on how much we're going to insist that these various dealers -- how much of a data entry they do on their own. What we have in place we think is pretty -- could be pretty easily accomplished and might not take a significant staff, but it may or may not. I'll have to look into that.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Okay.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Right. I remember you saying that you've been in contact with many of the dealers that are already keeping the data, and that we're not going to require them to put in your system, they'll be able to use their existing system and get the information over to you.

CHIEF VARRONE:
That is something our I.T., you know, are looking at.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
We'll have them come and explain that, all right?

CHIEF VARRONE:
Certainly, we would try and minimize the impact --

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Good, good.

CHIEF VARRONE:
-- on the individual dealers.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Now, my understanding, also in conversation with you, is that you've basically committed, and I think it resolves one of Legislator Losquadro's concerns, that we already know dealers that are in compliance and that will now just be sending the information, and you'll be able to target those other groups, smaller groups, maybe, that are not in compliance, so that you'll have a smaller field to put your officers in, rather than a larger field now.

CHIEF VARRONE:
That is correct.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay.

CHIEF VARRONE:
And, again, it's a partnership with the law enforcement and the business community, realizing that this is an issue, it is a problem, and that if they do a little bit more to help us, I think, in the long run, it will benefit the citizens, because these crimes are increasing and are expected to increase more. And when you see the slides of how they destroyed the -- rip this plumbing out of these homes and destroy all other kinds of electrical wires and other cables in the process, it's a tremendous amount of labor that is involved with these particular losses.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay. Legislator Lindsay.

P.O. LINDSAY:
I was just reviewing the bill, because I haven't had a chance to update it from the bill that we looked at last year. At that time, when we left this last year, a lot of the scrap metal dealers agreed to voluntary compliance with a lot we were seeking. And I gather by the testimony that that has -- went forward; and is that correct?

CHIEF VARRONE:
A receipt?

P.O. LINDSAY:
The process that Legislator Losquadro just required and you've described.

CHIEF VARRONE:
Yes, they are demanding --

P.O. LINDSAY:
But that isn't by statute yet, that's voluntary?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
It's State Law now.

CHIEF VARRONE:
No, I believe that is by State statute.

P.O. LINDSAY:
Is it State Law?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
State Law.

P.O. LINDSAY:
Okay. And that's a relatively new legislation?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Yes. I believe last year the State --

P.O. LINDSAY:
Okay.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
-- passed a law regulating scrap metal processors.

P.O. LINDSAY:
Okay. So our law goes beyond the State Law?

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Yeah. What it does now is many scrap metal dealers take all the information, and then, when there's a crime, the police now have to run around trying to find out, "Did you get it? Did you get it? Did you get it?" What this will do is the information will be coming to the Police. They can look and say, "Ah, so and so in Bay Shore got -- it's a green truck," somebody reported it and it will speed up the --

P.O. LINDSAY:
So they have to transmit the information --

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Right.

P.O. LINDSAY:
-- by the State statute to a central file that the Police are going to keep? No?

MR. NOLAN:
No. The Local Law would require them to transmit it over the internet, the information that they gather.

P.O. LINDSAY:
To the County.

MR. NOLAN:
To the Police Department, yes.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay. Thank you very much, Chief. I'll see you Tuesday.

CHIEF VARRONE:
Okay. Look forward to it.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay. On I.R. 1122, I would --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Twenty-nine?

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
-- put a table for public hearing?

MR. NOLAN:
Twenty-nine.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
1129, tabled for public hearing. Is there a second?

LEG. BROWNING:
Second.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Second by Legislator Browning. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? ***(Vote: Tabled for Public Hearing 6-0-0-0)***

Okay. Introductory Resolution 51, ***1151 - Appoint member of Suffolk County Citizens Corps Council, Edmund Moore (Schneiderman).*** I'm going to ask to table it. Mr. Moore is not available to come before the Committee, and this is a new appointment.

LEG. BROWNING:
Second.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Motion to table by myself, second by Legislator Browning. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? ***(Vote: Tabled 6-0-0-0)***

1155 - To reestablish the DARE Program in Suffolk County (Alden). And I'm going to ask Mr. Zwirn to come forward with some update on the Police Smart and Health Smart Program.

MR. ZWIRN:
Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We saw this legislation that was introduced, and the Police Smart, the Health Smart Program has just gone underway. The training has been completed. A couple of school districts will be going on line this month. Comsewogue is one of them, Miller Place is another.

The reception, because the Police have reached out to the administrators in the school districts across Suffolk County, has been extremely positive. I know that during the public hearings that we had with respect to the DARE Program, there were a number of people here from the Half Hollow School District that were very vocal in their opposition to losing the DARE Program or having it replaced with another particular program. The administrators in three of the elementary schools in that District have been extremely pleased with the presentations that the Police have made, and everybody is very hopeful that this is going to be a terrific improvement of the DARE Program.

We have also got inquiries from police departments in different parts of the United States, including Miami Dade County Police Department, looking -- want more information on the Police Smart Program, because they are thinking of considering moving to that program possibly from their DARE Program, which they currently have.

We would ask you to give the Police Smart Program an opportunity to go forward. The graduations will be scheduled shortly. I mean, it's got great potential. We just say, you know, let's give it a good honest, fair chance. We can always revisit this at some future date. This is about trying to improve the Program, and we think we've come up with something that has -- that will really be effective.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay. Legislator Losquadro.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Thank you. Mr. Zwirn you talked about a positive response from the school districts. They sort of had no choice. That would sort of be like the Grand Inquisitor Torquemada in the Spanish Inquisition giving people a choice of, you know, cake or death. "Well, all right, I'll have cake, you

know, if that's my only option."

MR. ZWIRN:
But you can be unhappy with the cake. They haven't said they're unhappy with the cake that they're getting. They're saying that this looks --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
My point is, sir, it's their only choice.

MR. ZWIRN:
They could say, "Well, you know, we have no choice, but, you know, okay, we'll take what you get," but that's not --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
You and I have had this discussion and I vehemently disagreed with stopping this Program in the middle of a school year. I know it coincided with our calendar year, but it was a disaster stopping this in the middle of a school year. Schools have had to scramble. And my point is, if they are given only this option to be able to complete some sort of program for their children for this Spring semester, especially when in the Fall semester perhaps half of the grade went through the alternative Dave Program -- this has been very, very difficult for the schools to deal with, with changing their curriculum in the middle of the school year. And I think everyone, no matter which side of the issue they were on, at least had to agree with that, that the timing of this was very poor. Whether or not we need to change it, whether or not the system was effective, the timing of it was terrible. So to say that there was a positive response, I contend that it's more of a lack of choices than anything else.

I'm interested to see where this Program is going to go and what sort of involvement we get on the part of the schools, but being that it is unproven, I'm still going to make a motion to see the Program reestablished. So motion to approve, Mr. Chairman.

MR. ZWIRN:
If I might just respond. With all due respect, Legislator Losquadro, I disagree with just about everything that you stated. And it's your opinion and you're entitled to that, certainly, but the timing and the effect of the Program, and the fact that the Administrators in these School Districts, the Police Officers who are maybe carrying out the Program, from what I understand, are very enthusiastic about it. And you can -- you know, you can still be unhappy if you don't like the Program that's coming forward if you have no choice, but that's not the expressions that we have received from the Administrators, especially in one of the School Districts that was -- had the most vocal opposition to the changing of the Program.

Anything that's new, when it hasn't been tested yet, people are going to say, "Well, you know, this is -- we don't like this," because it's new. The DARE Program was once new, and I would wonder if there was opposition to that Program in the beginning. There are a number of School Districts in Suffolk County that don't even -- aren't involved with Police Smart, Health Smart, or the DARE Program and they have their own programs.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Mr. Zwirn, why don't I ask you to keep us updated. You've gotten information, positive feedback from a school that was -- a School District that was obviously a critic. Pass that feedback to the Committee, either to me and I'll pass it out or to the Committee Members, so that we will be kept updated, because I want, when someone's questioned in the community, for them to have this information available, and I think that will help.

MR. ZWIRN:
I will try to get you information, Mr. Chairman. In addition, when the programs are actually being taught in the class, in the schools, I will try to get some information.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
And that would be wonderful, so we could attend.

MR. ZWIRN:
Legislator Losquadro, if there's going to be a -- if there's going to be a presentation in a school in your district, we will certainly make you aware, so that you may be able to participate and do that.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Thank you, considering you mentioned two in my District that I was not made aware of. But I will just say that, actually, the number is fully one-half of the School Districts throughout Suffolk County were not participating in the Health Smart, it wasn't some. And it was not my opinion that this was poor timing, that was actually the opinion of every School Board member and every Administrator that I spoke to throughout my District, was very disappointed that they were not given notice other than a letter from the Police Department that this will be happening at some point in the future, then to be told that it would be happening after the first of the year at some point in January. So it was not my opinion. I'm here to represent my constituency, and my constituency also include the School Board members and the Administrators from the District that I represent and they were very unhappy with the timing of this. Myself and many other Legislators spoke out against that and wanted to see it continued, at least through this school year, and then have the transition occur over the summer, when schools normally change their curriculum. So I'm not stating an opinion, I'm stating the position of the individuals that I represent.

MR. ZWIRN:
Okay. Well, you said everybody thought the timing was bad and I don't think we share that opinion. Maybe the school administrators that you spoke with do, but that wasn't the opinion that we got from everybody.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
There were also many other members of this body who shared that same opinion.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay. Thank you, Mr. Zwirn.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Motion to approve.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
I have a motion to approve.

LEG. NOWICK:
Second.

P.O. LINDSAY:
Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Yes, Legislator Lindsay.

P.O. LINDSAY:
Whether it was a right decision or a wrong decision, we went down this path of Health Smart, and I do not think that we can reinstitute DARE at this point in time. I will join my colleagues. If, after Health Smart's been given a chance, if it's shown that it isn't working, to reinstitute DARE, but I don't want to go there at this point in time. I'm going to make a motion to table subject to call.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:

I'll second that. Okay. We have a motion to table subject to call and a second. All those in favor? Opposed?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Opposed.

LEG. NOWICK:
Opposed.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Opposed, two. No, two opposed. Okay. Motion is tabled. ***(Vote: Table Subject to Call 4-2-0-0)***

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
I.R. 1175 - Declaring the month of April as "Underage Drinking Awareness Month" in Suffolk County (Stern).

LEG. BROWNING:
Motion.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Motion to approve by Legislator Browning.

LEG. BROWNING:
Second?

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Second.

LEG. HORSLEY:
Second.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Thank you, Legislator Losquadro. Second by Legislator Losquadro. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? ***(Vote: Approved 6-0-0-0)***

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Cosponsor, please.

LEG. HORSLEY:
As well.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Me, too.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
1177 - A Local Law to maintain the integrity of drug and alcohol screening tests (Stern). I have to table this for public hearing. Did you want to --

LEG. BROWNING:
Yes.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Legislator Browning would like a response on what this is.

MR. NOLAN:

This law is intended to deal with a problem with drug masking products, which basically are used when people have to undergo a drug or alcohol test as part of their employment. They're able to purchase products which help them --

LEG. NOWICK:
I didn't know that.

MR. NOLAN:
-- pass the test, conceal the fact that they may have drug or alcohol in their bloodstream. So this is what that law is intended to address.

P.O. LINDSAY:
So what would it do? What it would do, it would ban the sale --

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
The screening products.

P.O. LINDSAY:
-- of these products in Suffolk County?

MR. NOLAN:
Right, exactly, yeah.

LEG. BROWNING:
You can buy them in GNC and places like that.

LEG. HORSLEY:
Really, drug overrides, huh?

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
CVS and stuff, yeah. Okay. I'll make a motion to table for public hearing.

LEG. NOWICK:
Second.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Is there a second out there somewhere?

LEG. NOWICK:
Second.

LEG. BROWNING:
I'll second.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Second by Legislator Browning. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstention? ***(Vote: Tabled for Public Hearing 6-0-0-0)***

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
I.R. 1190 - Authorizing --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
I'm sorry.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:

Yes.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
On the last one, that was 100% grant support, if we could put that on the Consent Calendar, if it was not? We did?

P.O. LINDSAY:
We didn't get to it yet.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
It was tabled for public hearing.

LEG. HORSLEY:
You're one ahead of us.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Oh, I'm sorry.

MS. BAY:
We didn't get to it, yet.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
My apologies.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
I'll make a note of that.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Oh, I'm sorry. We hadn't voted on the -- on the drug screening one yet. I thought I missed that one.

LEG. HORSLEY:
We did.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
No, we did vote on that. We did.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
No, that's what we just did.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Oh, okay.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
I thought we were on to the next one.

LEG. NOWICK:
I'll tell you when.

P.O. LINDSAY:
It's okay, Dan.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
You see, I've got my meeting going over an hour and people are falling apart on me here. ***I.R. 1190.***

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
There we go.

LEG. NOWICK:
There you go. Go ahead. Go ahead, Dan, get your hand up.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay. ***Authorizing increase in the fleet of Suffolk County Police Department to accommodate specialized vehicles purchased with United States Department of Homeland Security grant funding with 100% support (County Executive).***

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Motion to approve and place on the Consent Calendar, Mr. Chairman.

LEG. NOWICK:
Okay, there you go.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay. Thank you, Legislator Losquadro, seconded by Legislator Horsley. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? ***(Vote: Approved 6-0-0-0)***

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay. Get ready. ***1193 - Accepting and appropriating one hundred percent federal pass-through grant funds from the NYS Office of Emergency Management of the NYS Division of Military and Naval Affairs for a Suffolk County Citizen Corps Council Program (County Executive).***

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Same motion.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Same motion, same second. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?
(Vote: Approved 6-0-0-0)

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
I.R. 1210 - Accepting and appropriating grant funds received from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, under the STOP DWI Program (County Executive).

LEG. BROWNING:
Motion to approve.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Motion to approve by Legislator Browning, I'll second that. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? ***(Vote: Approved 6-0-0-0)***

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
I.R. 1211 - Approving an increase in the fleet for the Suffolk County Police Department (County Executive).

LEG. BROWNING:
Motion to approve.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Motion to approve by Legislator Browning.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:

On the motion. I'll second the motion --

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
-- but on the motion. I got a copy of this. I guess this was a late-starter. I know this is going to be an undercover vehicle for the Police Department, but I guess, because it's a Police vehicle, a public safety vehicle, it is going to be -- I'll just ask Counsel. That would be exempt from the County vehicle standard; is that correct? It's just not specified in here.

MR. NOLAN:
That's my recollection --

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Okay.

MR. NOLAN:
-- that there.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
I just wanted to make sure. I mean, obviously, we want to give them the flexibility to purchase an undercover vehicle that won't be recognizable. So all right. Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
I have a question on that. I mean, I know we seize vehicles, and I'm wondering why a seized vehicle can't be used for those purposes.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Well, to my understanding, we lease these vehicles with asset forfeiture funds, but we like to be able to turn vehicles over on a somewhat regular basis so they don't become recognizable to the individuals who might be looking for an undercover vehicle. So that's why we do short-term leases on many of these vehicles.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Excellent.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
I think the Police Department would agree with that.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Okay.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Yeah.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
I see heads shaking, so --

P.O. LINDSAY:
So these aren't going to be Ford Crown Victorias.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Doubtful.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:

No.

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
With tinted windows.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
They're not going to be Corvettes either, probably.

LEG. NOWICK:
I'm trading in the red car, Bill.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
All right. Then I have a motion and a second. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? ***(Vote: Approved 6-0-0-0)***.

All right. ***Home Rule Message 11 - Home Rule Message requesting New York State Legislature to authorize the Suffolk County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to make inspections and impose fines (Eddington).*** I'll make a motion to approve.

LEG. NOWICK:
I'll second.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Second by Legislator Nowick. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? ***(Vote: Approved 6-0-0-0)***

Okay. ***Home Rule 12 - Home Rule Message requesting New York State Legislature to amend the Civil Service Law in relation to the resolution of disputes between a public employer and Suffolk County Probation Officers (Presiding Officer).***

LEG. LOSQUADRO:
Motion to approve, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:
Motion to approve by Legislator Losquadro, I'll second that. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? ***(Vote: Approved 6-0-0-0)***

Okay. If there's no one else who would like to address the Committee, I will close the Committee. Thank you very much.

[THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 10:44 A.M.]

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