

**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 Thursday, June 4, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Legislator Jack Eddington, Chairperson  
Legislator DuWayne Gregory  
Legislator Thomas Barraga  
Legislator Kate Browning  
Legislator Daniel Losquadro

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

George Nolan, Counsel to the Legislature  
Robert Calarco, Aide to Legislator Eddington  
Marcus Povinelli, Aide to Legislator Losquadro  
Maxvel Rose, Aide to Legislator Gregory  
Renee Ortiz, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Legislature  
John Ortiz, Budget Review Office  
Paul Perillie, Aide to Majority Caucus  
Linda Bay, Aide to Minority Caucus  
Kara Hahn, Director of Communications/P.O. Lindsay's Office  
Michael Cavanagh, Legislative Aide/P.O. Lindsay's Office  
Bobby Knight, Legislative Aide/Presiding Officer Lindsay's Office  
Ben Zwirn, Deputy County Executive  
Ed Hennessy, County Executive's Office  
Michael Sharkey, Chief of Staff/Suffolk County Sheriff's Office  
Robert Anthony Moore, Chief of Department/SCPD  
Robert Ponzo, Chief of Patrol/SCPD  
Thaddeus Nieves, Captain, Chief of Department's Office/SCPD  
Tracy Pollak, Suffolk County Police Department  
Harold Jantzen, Deputy Inspector/Commanding Officer/Marine Bureau  
Joe William, Commissioner/FRES  
John Searing, Deputy Commissioner/FRES  
Gail D'Ambrosio, President/Probation Officer's Association  
Tom Tatarian, Suffolk PBA  
Michael Applequist, Financial Secretary/PBA  
Louis Molinari, Suffolk PBA  
Laura Ahearn, Parents for Megan's Law  
Russ McCormick, Suffolk County Police Department  
Jim Barr, ABATE  
Joe Billotti, ABATE  
Hope Collazo, Community Service Program  
Debra Alloncius, AME Legislative Director  
Other Interested Parties

**MEETING TAKEN BY:**

Lucia Braaten, Court Stenographer

***[THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:37 A.M.]***

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Could I have everybody stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Legislator Losquadro.

***(\*Salutation\*)***

Please remain standing for a moment of silence for all those that serve our country, both domestically and abroad.

***(\*Moment of Silence\*)***

Thank you very much. Okay. I would like to start the meeting. Before we get to the agenda, is there anybody that would like to address the Legislature? Yes, would you come forward?

**MR. BARR:**

Thank you. Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

It's not on.

**MR. BARR:**

Thank you. Good morning. Thank you for hearing me. I did fill out a card, by the way. It just didn't meet you, I guess.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Okay.

**MR. PERILLIE:**

I'll check it out.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Okay.

**MR. BARR:**

My name is Jim Barr. I'm the President of the Long Island Chapter of ABATE, American Bikers Aimed Toward Education. I would like to share an incident with you that occurred over the last weekend, Sunday, the Sunday that just passed.

There was a motorcycle, antique motorcycle show that was set up for -- in Ridge at the Firemen's Park, and it was to be attended by a lot of motorcyclists, and it was a good cause. It was for charity, for Pal-O-Mine, you know, handicapped children who ride horses. But the event was very -- it was interrupted. There appeared to be like some sort of a motorcycle stop performed by the Suffolk County Police Department. And while this was not a roadblock where every single motorcycle was forced off the road, it appears that many motorcycles were pulled over. I'm not -- the membership of ABATE has been calling me with information. I'm still collecting the data. As of yet, I haven't found a person that was able to proceed past these vehicles. So, as far as I know, you know, all the people that I've spoken to yet have been pulled over. So I don't know yet if it was all bikes or if it was only ones with obvious equipment violations. The majority of the people that have called did confess that they had equipment violations, novelty helmets of some sort and, you know, those are understandable to be pulled over.

My biggest concern is the perception that might be existing within some members of the Suffolk County Police Department. We did meet earlier this morning. I did speak with Chiefs of the Department, and I have, you know, received some assurances which make us feel a lot better. But the concern is also that perhaps some of the officers on the street aren't really aware of what's

going on. The disturbing part is that there's -- some officers appear to have been telling the motorcyclists the reason for this crackdown this last weekend was because of a certain motorcycle organization that interfered with their ability to perform roadblocks on the Long Island Expressway. And if that perception exists, I'd like to try to, you know, open the lines of communication, clear those things up. We're only looking for our civil rights not being violated where there's people that are stopped without probable cause. We're not opposed to law enforcement enforcing rules, you know, of the highway.

I just -- you know, it's -- I was very happy to speak with the Chief this morning, and I understand that that's not the Department's perception. I'm just hoping that line of communication transfers down to the law enforcement personnel on the street. And there was other incidents about a local Legislator that interfered with the process and this is retaliation for that. And I just want to remind all that ABATE did testify, speak on behalf of accepting the grant money for the Police Department. We were not opposed to them receiving the 25,500. We ended up at the second meeting coming back and speaking in favor of it. We just question the way it was handled, you know, executed, their police enforcement.

So I'm just here to say Long Island ABATE is concerned about motorcycle safety, motorcycle awareness, and just looking to open lines of dialogue between the motorcycle -- the law enforcement community and the Legislature, and perhaps work together to resolve motorcycle safety issues. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Thank you, Jim. I appreciate you coming forward. It appears that the message did get through, because I had a dozen or so calls on Sunday. I don't know if everybody else was working, but I certainly was, returning calls, and I was told that it was because of a biker organization and a certain Legislator, so I did get the message. And I think this is another example of where people -- it's not what they say and do, it's how they say and do it. And I think that's going to be on my tombstone, because I keep saying that in the Legislature. And I hope that the officers involved will have gotten the message, that this is not against any unit, that we all agree that if you violate the law, you should be dealt with appropriately, but we don't want any group in society targeted. So, thank you for coming forward.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

If I could have the Chief of the Department come forward to discuss the Marine Bureau for us, and company. Chief, I asked you to come today because I had gotten some calls from my second favorite Assemblywoman with some real concerns. And I did talk to the Commissioner, and, again, I guess I was somewhat misunderstood, because I'm a visual person and I try -- he was giving me all kinds of numbers, and I said to him, "You know, it looks -- it sounds like a shell game." And at that point his tone changed, and I want to make sure the message gets back to him. I verbalize how it appears to me, not the reality of how it is. I try to tell people, "I need you to clarify it for me, because I'm not getting it." And if I'm not getting it, there may be a lot of other people not getting it. So I really was trying to say, "Please, clarify it, because I can't -- you're moving numbers and people and I can't follow it in my head." That's why I always ask BRO to give me graphs and pictures. So, if you could kind of draw us a picture of what it was and what it is so we can really understand that.

**CHIEF MOORE:**

Good morning. I am Chief of Department Robert Anthony Moore. I have with me today the Chief of Patrol, Robert Ponzo, Deputy Inspector Harold Jantzen, who's the Commanding Officer of the Marine Bureau, and the bus with all the others was delayed, so -- but I think we'll proceed anyway.

A cornerstone of the Police Commissioner's deployment strategy is flexibility. The Police Commissioner understands that, unlike in the past where we more or less had stationary patrol units and stationary staffing, he's a strong proponent of a more flexible approach, using multi-agency Task Forces, our COPE officers, moving officers from one precinct to another as needs arise, which in

the past was unheard of. In the case of Marine Bureau, we know that the winter months tend to be slower, and the summer months, people -- there are not only more people, but they're far more enthusiastic in their pursuits, and, as a result, we know that Marine Bureau needs additional staffing in the summer, not every moment of every day, but certainly generally more than it does in the winter. And the Police Commissioner has been trying to fine-tune an appropriate level of staffing.

Last year, ten Police Officers were transferred from precinct commands to the Marine Bureau to enhance the Marine Bureau operation -- I'm sorry, yes, during the summer months. This year, the Police Commissioner has -- he's attempting other topics. He is -- there was at one time a patrol sector in the First Precinct, the 119 Sector, and I'll let Deputy Inspector Jantzen discuss this in more detail, but I'll just give you an overview. That sector was deactivated and Marine Bureau took over the patrol responsibilities for that sector. And Deputy Inspector Jantzen will give you the, you know, parameters of that sector. It's largely roadways. The Police Commissioner reactivated the 119 Sector, if that hasn't already gone --

**CHIEF PONZO:**

Not yet.

**CHIEF MOORE:**

Not yet, but it will be going on-line. As you know, because of contractual obligations, generally, any sector, any post, whether it's a foot post, a sector, it doesn't matter, any police patrol post requires approximately seven officers in order to staff that post. So, the Marine Bureau officers, there were seven officers who were patrolling that post that we'll now call Sector 119. Well, all seven officers are not being transferred out of Marine Bureau. The obligation to patrol that area is being removed from Marine Bureau and being given to the First Precinct. However, those seven officers are going to be transferred within Marine Bureau to enhance Marine Bureau's patrol. In addition to that, five officers are going to be transferred from the precincts to Marine Bureau for summer deployment.

So the fact of the matter is that with the redeployment of officers and reallocation of patrol responsibilities, Marine Bureau is going to net approximately twelve officers, the seven officers that they're going to retain, who will be assigned to other duties within Marine Bureau, plus five officers from the Patrol Division to help support the other activities of the Marine Bureau. So, in fact, when the smoke clears, there'll be twelve officers assigned to a smaller area, as opposed to last year, when ten officers were assigned to a larger area.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Excellent. So, okay, now it's a little clearer to me. So that the one -- the sector that is mostly roadway will now be by one of the precincts, and you're moving the other service people into the other areas where there are more population.

**CHIEF MOORE:**

Yes, sir.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Then now -- so that that won't have any effect on like the quads being -- and the trucks being, you know, manned and operated, there will be no cutbacks in anything like that?

**CHIEF MOORE:**

It actually should improve the availability.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

And how about the boats?

**CHIEF MOORE:**

Well, the same thing would apply to the boats. Marine Bureau officers have credentials, and, again, I'll let the Deputy Inspector address that, but credentials, boat captains licenses, scuba diving

certification. They have a whole host of certifications and training unique to Marine Bureau. So, during the summer, when we take Police Officers and assign them to Marine Bureau, basically, they work, you know, foot posts or they do the ATV's. We give them a little bit of training. But they -- we -- I don't believe we use them at all on the boats, because it takes a higher level of expertise. These seven officers, Marine Bureau officers, because of their training, because of their certifications, will be able to afford the flexibility to do boat patrol, ATV patrol, you know, car patrol. So there's a benefit in retaining the Marine Bureau officers in the Marine Bureau because of the certifications and training.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Okay. Did anybody want to question?

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Yes.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Yeah, okay, go ahead, Legislator Gregory.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

I see your expression. You know I'm not happy with what you just told me. So you're telling me that -- all right. Let me just clarify on Sector 119. Where is that exactly?

**CHIEF MOORE:**

That's a very good question, sir. Chief Ponzo will be happy to answer it.

*(\*Laughter\*)*

**CHIEF PONZO:**

All right. What Chief Moore has been referring to, the 119 Car now is going to be the 123 Car. 119 is already dedicated to within the First Precinct, and it's going to be patrolling mainly the west end of Fire Island from basically like Robert Moses west.

**DEPUTY INSPECTOR JANTZEN:**

Am I on here?

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

You have to hold the button down.

**DEPUTY INSPECTOR JANTZEN:**

How about this, can you hear me now?

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Yep.

**DEPUTY INSPECTOR JANTZEN:**

Hi. I'm Harold Jantzen, Deputy Inspector, Commanding Officer of the Marine Bureau.

What was referred to as the 119 Sector historically over the years was the First Precinct part, the Babylon part of Ocean Parkway and those communities lining each side of it, Gilgo, West Gilgo. Not quite Tobay, because that's in Nassau, but Oak Beach, and all the area on Ocean Parkway. And if you could use -- perhaps it's not quite accurate, but it's a good physical boundary, that you can use the Robert Moses Causeway west would be the old 119 Sector, perhaps the new 123 Sector, which was or is still as of today the Marine 1 Sector. So many of those communities are serviced by Ocean Parkway and some of the small roadways that run off of them. There is, you know, a segment of off-road patrol that we address in the Democrat Point, Sore Thumb, some of the surf casting areas. There's a small golf course and things over there. So that's the area that we're talking about.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Okay. So that I understand, last year we redeployed seven personnel from the sector, or this year? At some point, it was seven initially, and then five additionally.

**CHIEF MOORE:**

We increased the size of Marine Bureau last year by ten officers. Those ten officers were taken from Patrol. They were distributed throughout the area, not necessarily. But Marine 1, in order to run that 24/7, would require about seven officers. They wouldn't be these officers necessarily who were redeployed to Marine Bureau for the summer, it could have been anyone who was assigned to Marine Bureau.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

All right. I'm going to need pictures and graphs, like -- I don't know what --

*(\*Laughter\*)*

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Get Ross Perot, get a flowchart.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Wow. Okay. My concern is I'll be in office tomorrow ten days -- ten months to the day and we've had seven deaths. Now, what I heard initially was we redeployed personnel from 119 to the Marine Bureau, seven, and then I heard a five. In my head, I'm thinking 12. Well, in any case, we're redeploying personnel to the Marine Bureau when we have -- obviously we have issues within the First Precinct, that I don't see why they weren't redeployed, used in other areas. And we just had a shooting the other day, we just had the fight, then I'm having a meeting with the County Executive and the Commissioner later on today. We have obvious issues in the First Precinct. I don't see why we're not redeploying those personnel within the First Precinct, because there's not coverage as it is.

I went on the ride-along a few weeks ago, and the guys are great, they're doing their best, but they need help, they need more people. That's why I support a new police class, because we need those personnel. And in the areas that need them the most, we're not redeploying those personnel. I don't understand it.

**CHIEF MOORE:**

The Police Department has always redeployed officers to Marine Bureau during the summer, where actually --

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Yeah, but, Bob, but why the First Precinct? Obviously, there's issues in the First Precinct. And maybe I'm wrong, maybe I need the "Cat in the Hat" drawing, but it seemed like you were saying initially, "Well, we got them for the First Precinct, we've redeployed them for the summer for the Marine Bureau, we decided to do away with Sector 119." At some other point, five other personnel, then now -- then there was something, a statement about we're -- whatever you would say, we're opening up 119 again, but you're maintaining the same level in the Marine Bureau.

**CHIEF MOORE:**

Well, we're, in effect, adding a sector to the First Precinct.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

You're adding it, but you took it away, so you're just bringing it back, right? We used to do the same thing in the military, you know, deactivating a unit, then activate it two years later. It the same unit. Go ahead.

**CHIEF MOORE:**

I'm sorry, I'm having trouble following now. That area, that sector -- do you know how long it's been gone?

**DEPUTY INSPECTOR JANTZEN:**

It's been I think 25 years or more since the First Precinct actually staffed, and controlled, and dispatched to the Marine -- well, is one sector which then was called 119. The Third Precinct did the same with 319. The Fifth Precinct did the same with 519. Spawned from that and the need to try to address some of the unique and geological boundaries that the Marine Bureau and the Barrier Beach Patrol had to deal with, they transferred those assignments into the Marine Bureau, because, if you can imagine, you know, just the physical obstacles of trying to deal back and forth with, let's say, a unit that's operating in the middle of Fire Island, call it, you know, Ocean Bay Park, or Fair Harbor, or, you know, any one of those other communities that have a pretty substantial population. It didn't lend itself easily for the Fire Island part of those sectors to get supervision, to get assistance, to exchange paperwork, and to maintain, so it became the Barrier Beach Command, which was part of the Marine Bureau.

What's slightly different about the Marine 1 sector that is in effect today, that's going to go back to the First Precinct, is it has roadways going through it. You know, you take the Robert Moses Causeway and you drive on pavement, and you get to, you know, the sector that is now Marine 1 that will be back in the First Precinct, and I would say probably half of his patrol time is spent on pavement. And backup and assistance can come from either the First or the Third Precinct, because it is the Babylon area that he's patrolling. The fact that each summer we take, you know, a number that varies between ten and sixteen Police Officers to come to the Marine Bureau to work for, let's call it, the four or five months of summertime where the peek activities exists, we take a pretty good number of people from most of the South Shore Precincts to come to the Marine Bureau, the First Precinct included. You know, I can think of several officers right now that typically have been more than one assignment for the summer detail in the Marine Bureau. Those officers are not going to be brought to the Marine Bureau so that we don't detract from the First Precinct staffing levels this summer.

So, when the Chief referred to the fact that there'll be a sector added to the number of sectors, I suppose it's 22 right now in the First Precinct, and this will be called 123, the officers that would historically go this time of the year to the Marine Bureau for their seasonal assignment are not coming. And those are officers with some experience, both on beach patrol, and on Fire Island patrol, and ATV patrol, that are going to use those skills and use their area of familiarization, because they've probably in the past patrolled our Marine 1 Sector in previous years. So they're going to still remain assigned to the First Precinct, so that they don't deplete the staffing levels of the First Precinct by offering up summer seasonal help to the Marine Bureau.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Okay. I won't go any further, but I'd certainly want to talk to you further about this. I won't -- I don't want to prolong the discussion.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Legislator Barraga.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Thank you. My approach is a bit different with reference to different agencies in the County. I really don't get involved in the nitty-gritty associated with how you run your department. There are four stars on your shoulder and you're being paid to run your department. Who you shift around and when you do it, that's up to you. My question as a Legislator, and I think I know the answer, because I sat at the meeting a week-and-a-half ago and Deputy Inspector Jantzen enunciated to all those present in terms of what he felt the coverage in Fire Island would be this summer. He felt it would be adequate, that they were going to get these temporary people in, and as far as the people of Fire Island were concerned, they'd have adequate safe coverage for the entire summer; and is that right?

**DEPUTY INSPECTOR JANTZEN:**

Yes, that's correct. You know, as I stated a couple of weeks ago when we were at the Fire Island Law Enforcement and Security Council meeting, that I expected the summer seasonal help to arrive and that --

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

And you've got a good comfort level whether they -- whether that's -- and I think there was a follow-up, too, from my office indicating sometimes you get these people over the Memorial Day weekend, sometimes you get it, you know, two weeks later, but there's a history there when they come.

**DEPUTY INSPECTOR JANTZEN:**

That's true. What we have done recently is adjusted the staffing levels to meet some of the other --

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

That's all right.

**DEPUTY INSPECTOR JANTZEN:**

Okay. Yes, the answer is yes.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

All I want to know is that you feel very comfortable, all three of you, that you've got adequate coverage on that beach for the summer.

**DEPUTY INSPECTOR JANTZEN:**

The answer is yes.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

I'd like to just bring up an issue that I had a number of phone calls on, that there was an altercation last weekend at Davis Park, and that there was some difficulty getting assistance to the patrol there. Is that going to be to be eliminated with this increase now, or you didn't hear about that?

**DEPUTY INSPECTOR JANTZEN:**

No, I'm 100% familiar with it. I spoke to the officers and the supervisor involved, I know the situation. And I don't know if I understand the question. Is there 100% possibility that I can prevent that from happening again, is that the question?

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Well, what I was hearing is there wasn't enough support staff, and I guess I wanted to be reassured that now that we're deploying ten more officers -- five more officers, that the likelihood -- I mean, I don't want any officer out on his own, you know, what I'm saying, with lots of kids and drinking, whatever else goes on. And so I'm just concerned for the security of the officers that are there. With this increase, the likelihood of something like that probably will diminish.

**DEPUTY INSPECTOR JANTZEN:**

Well, I can tell you that there'll be more people present on those assignments and those locations at the hours where this is likely to occur. It was an incident that started sometime around three o'clock in the morning. It was not their first encounter with this particular gentleman. They were able to defuse a tense situation once or twice, and then it ultimately resulted in an arrest. And there were two officers in the same sector at the same time, which is our usual staffing.

There was another incident down in the extreme west end community of Kismet, so there was

another officer and a Sergeant involved in that. The subject was taken into custody and they requested an assist, moving him from where he was placed under arrest and handcuffed to be brought down to the boat. The Sergeant responded down there in sixteen minutes, which, you know, when you're dealing with somebody that's resisting arrest and carrying on, sixteen minutes is an awful long time. That said, when you consider the fact that he probably had to travel twelve miles on the beach, I think he did a very good job of getting there as quickly as he could.

What happens is the staffing levels do go up. We have ATV posts. That was a Marine 5 sector, it was in Davis Park. It was a result of some incident, an intoxicated subject that they had to deal with. There'll be a usual assignment there, as there is on every weekend at Marine 58. He's often assigned to those hours until four or five o'clock in the morning. So the answer is the likelihood of this happening again with the same number of people is reduced since we're going to increase the staffing.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

It's a great answer. That's what I wanted to hear. Thank you very much. Legislator Gregory.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

I just have a quick question. I know I'm catching you off guard here. There's the article today in Newsday and it talks, you know, enough is enough, and I don't want to get into the Police Chief thing. But it refers to crime statistics from last year at 28,401. Do you have any idea if we're on pace with that same level this year, are we behind? Well, I hope we're behind, but do you know where we are as far as the crime statistics? Have you guys followed that? Is there an increase, a decrease from last year at this point?

**CHIEF MOORE:**

Year to date, we're down 9.4 as compared to last year.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Okay. And that's -- understand that we haven't gotten to the peak season, if you will.

**CHIEF MOORE:**

(Nodded Yes).

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Okay. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Legislator Losquadro.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Thank you. The normal course of operating the Marine Bureau, obviously, is you have fluctuations in staffing seasonally; correct?

**DEPUTY INSPECTOR JANTZEN:**

Correct.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

In the past, where were those other officers drawn from, historically, the same areas they're coming from now?

**CHIEF MOORE:**

(Nodded Yes).

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

And this -- I know we're focusing on Marine Bureau here in this discussion, but these -- where these

officers are coming from now. I know you talked a lot about flexibility within the Department. Are these officers coming from anywhere different now, or are they just coming from the same areas? And are there -- or when those officers come from other areas, are they being backfilled within the units they're coming from from different areas? And I know staffing, you said flexibility is what the Department is striving for now. So when you're shifting people to, you know, achieve the staffing that you need for the Marine Bureau, where are -- what other units are being drawn from to compensate in the areas where they're coming from?

**CHIEF MOORE:**

Generally, the -- in the past, and that remains the same today, officers were drawn almost exclusively from Precinct Patrol. And, as you can imagine, the Marine Bureau had a preference for officers who had served in the past, because those officers knew the area and knew the kinds of challenges they would be facing while they were assigned to Marine Bureau. As far as backfilling officers who had departed Precinct Patrol, that had never been done, so -- and that hasn't changed. The good news is that whereas in the past there were more officers leaving Precinct Patrol for Marine Bureau, that's not going to be the case this year.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Okay. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Legislator Browning.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Morning. You said crime is down 9.4%?

**CHIEF MOORE:**

(Nodded Yes).

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Okay. I can tell you, I read the paper and I get E-mails of what's going on. Robberies in Shirley, just a few days ago, a convenience store. You know, the convenience stores, the banks, we see on a constant daily basis robberies and home break-ins. So when you say 9.4%, I think what I'd like to see is a breakdown of where the crime statistics have dropped, because, you know, maybe some severe, more severe crimes like murders and that kind of thing have dropped. However, we're in a bad economy, and in a bad economy crime goes up, it's a well-known fact. So what I'd like to see is a breakdown of the types of crimes that have dropped and the types of crimes that have gone up, because I guarantee you, when we start to look at statistics, you're going to see the robberies, the home break-ins have definitely gone up.

**CHIEF MOORE:**

The F.B.I. recently reported that nationally crime is down. And, initially, I think many of us in the law enforcement community were pretty surprised to hear that, because, anecdotally, it would seem that crime would go up, and all sorts of crime, violent crime as well as property crimes. To our amazement, recent studies suggest that there's no correlation between economic conditions and crime rates. So, you know, instinctively, I think we all believe that, you know, the crime would go up, and, according to this most recent academic study, that appears not to be the case.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

I find that hard to believe, but that's okay. Can we get those numbers?

**CHIEF MOORE:**

Yes, ma'am.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Okay. Then thank you very much, gentlemen, for coming forward. You've clarified some issues for me personally. Thank you. Okay. Then we can get to the agenda. Let me see where we start here.

**TABLED RESOLUTIONS**

Okay. I have Tabled Resolution, ***I.R. 1028 - Establishing new procedures for housing homeless sex offenders. (Schneiderman)***

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Motion to table.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Motion to table by Legislator Gregory.

**LEG. BROWNING:**

Second.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

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

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Opposed.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

One opposed. Abstentions? ***(Vote: Tabled 4-1-0-0/Opposed: Leg. Losquadro)***

Okay. ***I.R. 1311 - A Local Law to implement a Red Light Camera Program. (Lindsay)***

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Is the Public Hearing closed?

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Motion to approve by Legislator Gregory.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Second.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Second by Legislator Losquadro. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? ***(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0)***

***I.R. 1312 - Amending the 2009 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds for the purchase of furniture and equipment for the Fourth Precinct, the New Fourth Precinct (CP 3184). (Nowick)*** I'll make a motion to table.

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Yeah, the sponsor wants to table it, so I'll second it.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Second by Legislator Losquadro. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? ***(Vote: Tabled 5-0-0-0)***

***I.R. 1314 - A Local Law to authorize a County Registry for the Domestic Violence Offenders. (Gregory)***

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Motion to table. It's still in Public Hearing.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Motion to table for Public Hearing, I'll second that. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **(Vote: Tabled 5-0-0-0)**

***I.R. 1443 - Approving the reappointment of Nayyar Imam as a member of the Suffolk County Human Rights Commission. (Co. Exec.)*** I'll make a motion to approve.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Second.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Second by Legislator Gregory. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0)**

***I.R. 1444 - Approving the reappointment of Rachel Davis as a member of the Suffolk County Human Rights Commission. (Co. Exec.)*** I'll make a motion to approve.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Second.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Second by Legislator Gregory. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0)**

***I.R. 1445 - Approving the reappointment of Gary Mar as a member of the Suffolk County Human Rights Commission. (Co. Exec.)*** Make a motion --

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Same motion.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Same motion, same second. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0)**

***I.R. 1464 - Approving the reappointment of Rabbi Steven A. Moss as Chair of the Suffolk County Human Rights Commission. (Co. Exec.)***

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Motion.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Motion by Legislator Barraga, I'll second that. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0)**

If I could just have the Rabbi come up. He wanted to say a couple of words.

**RABBI MOSS:**

Good morning, everyone, and hi, Renee.

**MS. ORTIZ:**

Hi.

**RABBI MOSS:**

I wanted to thank you for the support by all of you and the Members of the Legislature for the work of your Suffolk County Human Rights Commission. These nominations represent the first nominations for reappointment made by our County Executive, in addition to myself and Mark Epstein. These three nominations for reappointment today represent the beginning of more reappointments to come during the next few sessions of the Legislature. And these reappointments are extremely vital, as you can imagine, to the work of the Commission. And I'm also pleased to say that our Executive Director, Paulette Bartunek, is here today as well.

Also, let me say to all of you that the County Executive is welcoming resumes and letters of interest from your constituents who wish to serve on the Commission, because, after all the reappointments are made, we'll have about four openings for positions. As you might be aware, is that we have fifteen volunteer members of the Commission; I, myself, as Chair. And, as I said, there'll probably be about four openings or so of people who do not want to be reappointed.

What has been wonderful about the Commission is that although most of our members have not been reappointed over these years, you can remain a member, and as a voting member, until you are replaced. So it has not affected the work of the Commission over all these years, but, obviously, to have an official reappointment is very important, both personally, as well as for the actual working of the Commission. So thank you, everyone.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Thank you, Rabbi. ***I.R. 1465 - Accepting and appropriating a grant in the amount of \$358,500 from the New York State Office of Homeland Security for the State Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention program (SLETPP FFY2008) with 100% support. (Co. Exec)***

**LEG. LOSQUADRO:**

Motion to approve and place on the Consent Calendar.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

So moved, and I'll second that. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? ***(Vote: Approved 5-0-0-0)***

Seeing no other business, I'll take a motion to adjourn.

**LEG. BARRAGA:**

Motion.

**LEG. GREGORY:**

Motion.

**CHAIRMAN EDDINGTON:**

Motion by Legislator Gregory, second by Legislator Losquadro. All those in favor? Opposed? Thank you very much for attending the Committee.

***[THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 10:15 A.M.]***