

REPORT FROM THE FRONT LINE: CHICAGOLAND AREA'S BATTLE AGAINST DRUGS

HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY,
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
OF THE

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REFORM AND OVERSIGHT
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

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CONTENTS

	Page
Hearing held on June 24, 1996	1
Statement of:	
Chretien, Craig, Chief of International Operations, Drug Enforcement Administration; James Morgan, Special Agent, Drug Enforcement Administration, Chicago; Michael Snyders, master sergeant, Illinois State Police; and Dan Gillette, master sergeant, Illinois State Police	13
Malkin, Bruce, sergeant, West Chicago Police Department; David Akemann, Kane County State's attorney; Mike Coghlan, Dekalb County State's attorney; Pam Maakestad; and Ken Hinterlong, Southeast Side Neighbors in Aurora	57
Letters, statements, etc., submitted for the record by:	
Akemann, David, Kane County State's attorney, prepared statement of	63
Chretien, Craig, Chief of International Operations, Drug Enforcement Administration; and James Morgan, Special Agent, Drug Enforcement Administration, Chicago, prepared statement of	18
Coghlan, Mike, Dekalb County State's attorney, prepared statement of	73
Hastert, Hon. J. Dennis, a Representative in Congress from the State of Illinois, prepared statement of	6
Hinterlong, Ken, Southeast Side Neighbors in Aurora, prepared statement of	80
Snyders, Michael, master sergeant, Illinois State Police; and Dan Gillette, master sergeant, Illinois State Police, prepared statement of	44

REPORT FROM THE FRONT LINE: CHICAGO- LAND AREA'S BATTLE AGAINST DRUGS

MONDAY, JUNE 24, 1996

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE,
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT,
Elgin, IL.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at 9 a.m., at the Business Conference Center, Elgin Community College, Elgin, IL, Hon. J. Dennis Hastert (member of the committee) presiding.

Present: Representatives Hastert and Souder.

Also present: Representative Weller.

Staff present: Robert B. Charles, staff director and chief counsel; Sean Littlefield, professional staff member; Ianthe Saylor, clerk; and Cherri Branson, minority professional staff member.

Mr. HASTERT. I would like to bring this meeting to order, please. The field hearing of the National Security, International Affairs, and Criminal Justice Subcommittee will now come to order. And I want to, first of all, thank everybody for being here this morning and wish a good morning to everyone.

Today, we're holding the first in a series of field hearings on national drug policy or counter-narcotics policy and how that policy affects us and especially this morning, folks here in the Fox Valley area. Later on today we'll be traveling on to Fort Wayne, IN, the greater Fort Wayne, IN area and listening to testimony there, but what we will do here is hear testimony from two distinguished panels, including witnesses from the Illinois State Police and the people there that are the experts on interdiction; the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration; the Kane and DeKalb County State's attorneys; our West Chicago Police Department; and both the Southeast Side Neighbors of Aurora and a special witness that we will have later on.

These are people who are on the front lines every day, including the National Drug Enforcement Agency's top international official, who traveled with the CODEL to South America and certainly is a real leader in this effort.

Our topic today, as most of you know, is "A Report from the Front Lines," focusing on the Chicago area's battle and the Fox Valley's battle against drugs and the link between that battle and international drug trafficking.

Our central aim today is three-fold: first, we're going to explore the national security threat posed by international narcotics trafficking; second, we will hear testimony on how that threat is mate-

rializing here in the Fox Valley area; and, third, we will try to examine the link between domestic and international drug trafficking and certainly the related problems, namely our children and our grandchildren having access or drugs pushed on them in the streets of this area.

Let me first welcome all of our witnesses. It's a privilege, certainly, to have you here today and I think we will learn a lot as these proceedings unfold. I can also assure all of you that the Members of Congress here today will bring the knowledge we gain back to Washington and use it in setting the course for national drug policy.

Let me at this time introduce my colleagues. First of all, Mr. Souder, who represented the greater Fort Wayne area in Indiana, and Mr. Jerry Weller, who represents the district south of us that runs all the way from the very south part of Chicago along the Indiana border all the way out to LaSalle, Peru, IL. Jerry, we certainly welcome and thank you for being here and, Mark, thanks very much for your being here, as well.

We have people working very hard to turn back the tide of illegal drugs and we have indications in this region of both the strengths and the vulnerabilities of our current national drug policy. Most importantly, Chicago and the Fox Valley area is just a stone's throw away and we're here in the heartland of America where we would think that we would be safe from this type of thing but, obviously, we're not.

Now, here's a surprise. Believe it or not, deadly drugs produced in Peru and Bolivia, processed in Colombia, and transshipped through Mexico and Puerto Rico are also here with a vengeance.

In describing the growing national security threat posed by the Colombian and Mexican drug cartels, it's hard to know exactly where to begin. What I'd like to do is to start with a few basic, but I think alarming, facts.

Last year, for the third year in a row, approximately 400 tons of cocaine entered the United States. Of that total, roughly 70 percent came over the border from Mexico and the Drug Enforcement Administration estimates that 26 percent was trafficked through Puerto Rico.

What many people don't realize is the close link between these seemingly far away places and our own homes and our own schools. Virtually all the world's coca, the plant from which the cocaine is made, grows in Peru and Bolivia. Almost all of the coca is processed into cocaine, HTL which is the narcotic components, in Colombia from which it comes to us through the Mexican or the Puerto Rican borders. And while most of the cocaine, heroin and marijuana comes from Mexico, most people don't realize that 80 percent of the drugs that arrive in Puerto Rico also end up on the mainland of this country and sadly, that means in Illinois in the hands of local kids.

This year, several General Accounting Office investigations commissioned by this subcommittee reported that the maritime narcotic traffic is up, and Mexico's four powerful cartels are simultaneously mounting a new and serious threat to this country on our Southwest border. Two of these reports are available on the back table and as is the annual report by this subcommittee which was

released in March 1996 and the House/Senate Drug Task Force Report issued earlier this year. All of these reports confirm the low priority recently placed on the drug war and the dire effects of that decision.

They also indicate quite clearly that we are, as a Nation, missing the insidious creep of this national threat toward and around us. Not least, we are missing key assets for drug interdiction in the Caribbean, on our Southwest border and fighting the powerful drug traffic in organizations at their source, in the source countries of Peru, Bolivia, Colombia, and Mexico.

While stopping cocaine and heroin production in Peru, Bolivia, and Colombia is critical, Mexico is a threat for other reasons. Last year, Mexico produced 115 tons of methamphetamine. This is a deadly drug that is making its way east from California. It commonly goes by the name of "speed" or "poor man's crack" and is killing kids and putting them in hospital emergency rooms at an amazing rate, alongside LSD, heroin and crack.

Mexican drug cartels are now shipping two deadly types of heroin into the United States, so-called white and black tar heroin and marijuana coming from Mexico and Colombia is now up to 25 times more potent than what it was on United States streets in the late 1960's.

I personally believe that we as a Nation have to begin recognizing the enormity of the problem that is confronting us and that our children and grandchildren must now deal with on a daily basis.

This threat of illicit drugs and drug-related crime is not receding. In fact, over the past 3 years, it has deepened and one reason, I think, is a general failure to understand or to fully appreciate the direct link between the international and domestic sides of the drug ware. While both are important, neither can produce lasting victory by itself.

The message I hope we all begin to think more about is fairly simple. This country, the United States of America, is under siege. The international cartels and narcotic traffickers are getting very close to home. They are sophisticated, wealthy and powerful, as we will hear today. To beat this threat, we have to put our differences aside and work together, setting the right priorities and implementing a multi-level, balanced counter-narcotics strategy, prevention and treatment with sound drug interdiction and source country programs.

Let me roll out a few other statistics, the kind that may bring this terrible war home like casualty counts and body bags have in other wars. Over the past 3 years, we have witnessed a 200 percent increase in drug use by our Nation's children, that's kids age 8 to 17. At the same time, the price of dangerous drugs has fallen by several magnitudes. Availability has risen and the street purity for cocaine, heroin, and marijuana have each gone up through the roof.

Three weeks ago, for the fourth year in a row, the Drug Abuse Warning Network, which collects emergency room data from across the Nation, reported record-level emergency room admissions for cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, and the THC or marijuana. In 1995, overall drug-related emergency room episodes jumped 12 percent. Cocaine-related episodes leaped up at 21 percent. Heroin-related episodes skyrocketed 27 percent.

The THC or marijuana-related emergencies, as a result of higher purities and the lacing of marijuana with PCP, were up 32 percent. And methamphetamine emergencies were up 35 percent. I think those numbers speak for themselves.

The sad part of this is that most of the use is rising among kids. Supply and purity are so high and prices so low that kids can buy or have pushed on them drugs that were unaffordable and unavailable 10 years ago. And these drugs are destroying the lives, young lives, in record numbers.

Now, let me tell you something. There will always be those who say we cannot win. We cannot win the drug war or we cannot permanently disrupt the production and distribution of cocaine, heroin, and marijuana.

In my view, we cannot afford not to win. And I'll go a step further. If we frame the right strategy, if we get proper inter-agency cooperation and we get proper funding, we will win. History shows us that we can generate excellent results with the right priorities.

The Former DEA Administrator and Federal Judge Robert Bonner recently testified that between 1985 and 1992, regular drug users fell by 80 percent, from 5.8 million to 1.3 million. Crack use declined from nearly a million in 1990 to just over 300,000 in 1992. And marijuana use plummeted from 22 million regular users in 1985 to 8.5 million in 1992. That's a 61 percent drop.

Unfortunately, at the national level, we're still a long way from getting back on track. Today, drug use is up for juveniles in every drug category—heroin, crack, cocaine, LSD, non-LSD hallucinogens, stimulants, inhalants, and marijuana. Today, one in three high school seniors has smoked marijuana, which is up to 25 times more potent than in the 1960's. In 1994, there were three-quarters of a million more teenagers using drugs than in 1992, a reversal of the 1981 to 1992 downward trend.

Even the Justice Department has made the point that drug-related violent juvenile crime will double by the year 2010, if we do not turn it back now.

And let me close by saying that a lack of funding is a big part of the problem. In 1992, President Bush committed \$1.5 billion to drug interdiction. In 1993, President Clinton cut \$200 million out of the interdiction effort. Unfortunately, the President mothballed Customs and other aircraft, removed certain intelligence assets and reduced the number of cutters, ship days, flying hours and personnel. This subcommittee detailed much of those losses in our annual report.

Sadly, in 1994, the administration cut interdiction again by another \$18 million, and in 1995, by another \$15 million. In the 1996 strategy released last month, President Clinton has put drug interdiction down at a level still nearly \$100 million below the 1992 level, and source country programs \$123 million below 1992 levels.

Now, there are a lot of committed people, both inside and outside the administration, and I will also share with you today that I have been working closely with the Speaker of the House for the past month to get these numbers back on track and I have a real hope that we can do so.

It's my view that we have to stand up and say it like it is. This is a war and it's deadly. It is also winnable, and I think that the

dedication shown already by those who are witnesses today deserves enormous recognition.

We are lucky to have such dedicated people working on this research and threat. I'm also lucky to have recently traveled with some of these folks, openly committed to winning both here at home and in the source countries of Mexico, Peru, Bolivia, and Colombia.

And let me welcome then all of you and turn to my fellow Members for a brief opening and after that we will introduce our witnesses and open our first panel. We'll then go to questions and thereafter turn to our distinguished second panel.

Mr. Souder, we'd like to have your opening statement, please.

[The prepared statement of Hon. J. Dennis Hastert follows:]

Good morning everyone, and thank you all for coming. Today, we are holding the first in a series of field hearings on national drug policy, also known as counter-narcotics policy, and how that policy affects us locally.

This morning, we will hear testimony from two distinguished panels, including witnesses from the Illinois State Police, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Kane and DeKalb County States Attorneys, the West Chicago Police Department and the Southeast Side Neighbors of Aurora. These are people who are on the front lines every day - including the DEA's top international officer, who traveled with us to South America and is a real leader in this effort.

Our topic today, as most of you know, is "A Report from the Front Lines", focusing on the Fox Valley and Chicago Land Area's battle against drugs and the role that international drug trafficking plays in that battle.

Our central aim at this hearing is three-fold: first, to explore the rising threat posed by international narcotics trafficking; second, to understand better how that threat is materializing here, in the Illinois area; and, third, how to better understand the link between domestic drug usage and the international drug supply.

Let me welcome all the witnesses, and also say that it is a privilege to be chairing this hearing, and I hope we will all learn a lot today. I know that the Members of Congress here today, both Congressman Weller and Congressman Souder, who have a strong interest in helping protect our young people from the scourge of drugs will join me in bringing the knowledge we gain here back to Washington, and we can expect this hearing to have an impact on the direction of national drug control policy, as many of our past hearings have.

Let me say that this location is perfect for opening the nationwide discussion, about the strengths and vulnerabilities posed by our current national drug policy. Chicago is a stone's throw away, and this is the heartland of America. Yet, believe it or not, the deadly drugs produced in Peru and Bolivia, processed in Colombia, and transshipped through Mexico and Puerto Rico, are here with a vengeance. They are destroying the lives of our children and increases the crime that threatens our senior citizens and, in fact, all Illinoisans.

In describing the growing national security threat posed by the Colombian and Mexican drug cartels, it is hard to know where to begin. Let me, however, start with a few basic, but I think alarming, facts.

Last year, for the third year in a row, some 400 tons of cocaine entered the U.S. Roughly 70 percent came over the border from Mexico, while the Drug Enforcement Agency estimates that 26 percent was trafficked through Puerto Rico.

And here, let me say that there is something many people don't realize - 80 percent of the drugs that arrive in Puerto Rico end up on the mainland - and that means here, in Illinois, in the hands of local kids.

This year, several General Accounting Office investigations commissioned by this Subcommittee have reported that maritime narcotics traffic is rising, and that Mexico's four powerful cartels are simultaneously mounting a new and serious threat on our Southwest border. Two of these reports are available on the back table. They indicate that we are missing key law enforcement resources for drug interdiction both in the Caribbean and on our Southwest border.

While stopping cocaine and heroin production in Peru, Bolivia and Colombia is critical, Mexico is a threat for other reasons. Last year, Mexico produced 150 tons of methamphetamine, a deadly drug that is making its way west from California, and commonly goes by the name of "speed" or "poor-man's crack."

Also, Mexican drug cartels are now shipping two deadly types of heroin into the U.S., and a strain of marijuana that is up to 25 times more potent than what was on the streets in the late 1960's.

I personally believe that we as a Nation have to begin recognizing the enormity of the problem that is confronting us - and that our children and grandchildren confront daily.

This threat is not receding. In fact, over the past three years, it has deepened. One reason, I think, is a failure to understand, or to fully appreciate, the direct link between the international and domestic sides of the drug war. Both are important, and neither can produce lasting victory by itself.

The message I hope we all begin to think more about, and to fully absorb, as a society is this: America is genuinely under siege, and we will have to begin to put our differences aside and work together, setting the right priorities, if we are to win this devastating drug war.

Let me roll out a few other statistics, the kind that bring this terrible war home. It is a war with real casualties. It may not be as visible as some wars where we see on television flag draped coffins returning from abroad. Instead, the dying is happening right on our streets. Over the past three years, we have witnessed a 200 percent increase in drug use by the nation's children - that's kids from age 8 to age 17. At the same time, the price of dangerous drugs has fallen, availability has risen and street purities for cocaine, heroin, and marijuana have each gone through the roof.

Three weeks ago, for the fourth year in a row, the Drug Abuse Warning Network, which collects emergency room data from across the nation, reported record-level emergency room admissions for cocaine, heroin, methamphetamines, and THC or marijuana. In 1996, overall drug-related emergency room episodes jumped 12 percent. Cocaine-related episodes leaped by 21 percent. Heroin-related episodes skyrocketed by 27 percent.

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There will always be those who say we "cannot win" the drug war or we "cannot permanently disrupt" the production and distribution of cocaine, heroin and marijuana. In my view, we cannot afford not to win. I'll go a step further, if we frame the right strategy, get proper inter-agency cooperation, and get proper funding, we will win. History shows us that we can generate excellent results with the right priorities.

Former Drug Enforcement Agency Administrator and Federal Judge

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Unfortunately, at the national level, we are still a long way from getting back on track. Today, drug use is up for juveniles in every drug category - heroin, crack, cocaine, LSD, non-LSD hallucinogens, stimulants, inhalants and marijuana. Today, one in every three high school seniors has smoked marijuana, the strain which I mentioned before, which is up to 25 times more potent than in the 1960's. In 1994, there were three-quarters of a million more teenagers using drugs than in 1992, a reversal of the 1981 to 1992 downward trend.

Even the Justice Department has made the point that drug-related violent juvenile crime will double by the year 2010 if we do not turn it back now. General McCaffery, as the drug czar, we need your help - and I look forward to your ideas. For many of us, you are this Administration's - and our - last best hope.

Let me close by saying that a lack of funding is a big part of the problem. In 1992, President Bush committed 1.5 billion dollars to drug interdiction. In 1993, President Clinton cut \$200 million out of the interdiction effort. Unfortunately, the President mothballed Customs and other aircraft, removed certain intelligence assets and reduced the number of cutters, ship days, flying hours and personnel committed to drug interdiction. This Subcommittee detailed many of these losses in our annual report.

Sadly, in 1994, the Administration cut interdiction again by another \$18 million, and in 1995, by another \$15 million. In the 1996 Presidential drug strategy released last month, President Clinton has put drug interdiction down at a level still nearly \$100 million below the 1992 level, and source country programs are \$123 million below 1992 levels.

As I and my colleagues have worked on this problem, we have discovered there are a lot of committed people - both inside and outside the Administration - who want to reverse this trend. I will also share with you today that I have been working closely with the Speaker of the House in the past month to get our

nation's spending priorities with respect to stopping drugs coming into our country back on track. I have real hope we can do so.

In my view, we have to stand up and say it like it is. This is a war, and it is deadly. But it is also winnable. Prevention and treatment are important elements of any drug strategy, but so is stopping these poisons at their source and at our borders. I think that the dedication shown already by those who are our witnesses today deserves enormous recognition. We are lucky to have dedicated people working on meeting this threat to our communities and our national security.

Mr. SOUDER. I don't have a formal statement, but I want to say that it's been an honor working with Congressman Hastert as a Member of our leadership. The committee and the subcommittee headed by Chairman Zeliff, has been toiling away. Since the Republicans first got control of Congress, we started and have had a concerted effort for months looking at the international question on drug interdiction, looking at, starting with Nancy Reagan, a lot of the treatment and education programs, and we've had hearings around the country, in Puerto Rico, and interdiction efforts along the border and then the so-called Hastert CODEL Congressional Delegation in Central and South America looking at the source countries. And Congressman Hastert's leadership coming in, has helped us move this from just a theoretical debate into the budget process, and he's been a critical leader in that.

This is one of a series of field hearings around the country, starting with New Hampshire. We're doing a couple in the Midwest. We hope to do at least one in the West and South if we can this year, and it's a great honor to be here today.

I also want to pay tribute to my fellow freshman, Congressman Weller. One of the things that I had a lot of experience in Washington working with first Congressman Coats and then Senator Coats with the Children and Family Committee and the House when we first started working at the drug issue back in 1984, when it was just starting to become a national question, particularly as it related to crack and kids. Congressman Hastert came onto that committee and his background, coming out of the State legislature, was very valuable in Congress because many people don't have the knowledge of how the bills move, how the finances move, and he came in and had an early impact.

Well, the same thing with Congressman Weller in our freshman class, coming out of the Illinois legislature. He also brought a lot of experience that's been very valuable, both inside our class and inside Congress. So it's great to be in Illinois with two of my good friends.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you, Mark. Now I'd like to introduce certainly my good friend and colleague from the 11th Congressional District, Jerry Weller.

Mr. WELLER. Good morning, Chairman Hastert, and it's good to be with you and have a chance to be with you in your District today and talk about an issue that's, I know, a very long-time concern of yours, particularly having known you over the years, even prior to your service in the Congress, of your strong interest of young people and the impact of drugs and substance abuse and particularly on families and children.

I know that you bring to that your concern both as a parent and, of course, as a former teacher and coach with a long-time background in working with young people and that's, of course, you've taken that concern now and, of course, now you're our heavy lifter in our delegation as Chief Deputy Whip of the House of Representatives and in a position to have a greater impact, and that's why I want to commend you on your leadership on this issue and continuing to push forth.

I represent the most diverse District in the State of Illinois. I represent part of the city of Chicago, I represent the south suburbs

in Cook and Will Counties, industrial communities, farm towns, corn fields; a very, very diverse District, but let me tell you, the issue of drug abuse and the impact of drugs hits my District hard, which is an important part of Illinois. And even though it's very diverse, the impact of drugs is the same in the city, the suburbs and the country. As we've seen, particularly as drug use has grown, the impact of drugs on the communities that I represent, we've seen, of course, greater gang activity, particularly as it moves from the urban area out into the suburban areas. Now we're seeing increased gang recruitment in the rural and farm communities. The basic reason that gangs are moving into suburban and rural areas is for the bottom line, they want to sell drugs. Of course, looking to young people as a part of that network so they can continue to sell drugs to the young people.

Now, I'm particularly concerned when, you know, if you just look at the statistics that have occurred in just the last 3 years, that what we've seen particularly in this administration, in the Clinton administration, a significant reduction in the priority when it comes to the introduction and addressing the problem of drugs. In fact, under the current administration, we've seen an 80 percent drop in the funding provided for anti-drug efforts under this administration, particularly with drug interdiction, preventing drugs from coming into our neighborhoods and into our country.

At the same time, while we've seen an 80 percent reduction in funding priority for anti-drug efforts, we've seen drug use go up 200 percent amongst our Nation's children, particularly amongst kids age 8 to 17. Those are very, very disturbing statistics. Our Nation's leading administration in the White House places less emphasis on, and we've seen a dangerous increase in, the use of drugs.

Also, we've seen the impact internationally of drugs and their impact on international politics. I was just reading this week where the President of Panama admitted that money and revenue gained from the sale of drugs helped fund his campaign. And we understand the corruption that causes in some of the countries we're working with to try and prevent drugs from coming into our country.

I think Denny Hastert's strategy is the right one, and that is a coordinated strategy—Federal, international, State, county, local communities all working together, law enforcement, education, communities, neighborhoods.

I always learned that one of the best ways of dealing with problems in a community is what a community will tolerate. When a community says it will no longer tolerate the use of drugs and substance abuse and gang activity in its own neighborhoods, it can have a big impact. That's why I'm so anxious to listen to the ideas of our local law enforcement, local community leaders who have succeeded in helping win the war against drugs.

And with that, Denny, thank you for the opportunity to be with you and be part of your hearing this morning.

Mr. HASTERT. Well, thank you, Congressman Weller. At this point, I'd like to welcome our first panel. First of all, Craig Chretien is currently the Drug Enforcement Administration's Chief of Operations. He is directly responsible for American law enforce-

ment activities abroad to block the shipment of illegal drugs to the United States.

He recently accompanied Congressman Souder and I, as well as Congressmen Zeliff and Mica, to five Central and South American nations, a 6-day trip which was interesting in itself, and he's certainly a real asset to our Nation's counter-narcotics effort. It's a privilege to have him with us today. Thank you, Craig.

Also, I'd like to introduce James Morgan, who is the Special Agent in charge of the Chicago DEA Office and has seen first-hand many of the problems I alluded to in my opening statement. His responsibility includes several States through the Northwest and Northern Midwest and I think we learn about the regional threat as a result of his presence here today.

Mike Snyders is Master Sergeant of the Illinois State Police. He works out of the State Police Headquarters in Springfield and sees regularly the connection between rising juvenile drug use and drug-related violent crimes.

He also serves as Coordinator for the Illinois State Police Drug Interdiction Program, known as Operation Valkyrie, about which we will learn more shortly.

Dan Gillette is also Master Sergeant with the Illinois State Police. He works out of the LaSalle post which sits astride Interstate 80, a major transshipment highway for drug shipments from the east to west, and I think you will learn in his testimony that certainly Sergeant Gillette is one of the finest people in this State and has great results. I think, again, you will learn a lot from his experiences.

We all thank you for being here today and, with that, let me ask you to stand, raise your right hand and take the oath.

[Witnesses sworn.]

Mr. HASTERT. Let the record show that the witnesses have responded affirmatively. Thank you.

First of all, I would like to ask Mr. Craig Chretien to give his remarks. And, incidentally, we'll limit remarks to as much time as you need, but would like to keep it 5, 7, 10 minutes, in that area, and then we'll take all your remarks and put them in the record and then we'll have questions.

STATEMENTS OF CRAIG CHRETIEN, CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS, DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION; JAMES MORGAN, SPECIAL AGENT, DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION, CHICAGO; MICHAEL SNYDERS, MASTER SERGEANT, ILLINOIS STATE POLICE; AND DAN GILLETTE, MASTER SERGEANT, ILLINOIS STATE POLICE

Mr. CHRETIEN. Chairman Hastert, Congressman Souder, Congressman Weller, I appreciate the opportunity to be here to discuss some product control issues on behalf of DEA Administrator Constantine. We want to personally express our appreciation for the support this committee has provided over the years.

Chairman Hastert mentioned a recent trip that the delegation, which was chaired by him to South America, which was somewhat embarrassing for me. Here I had been tripping around the jungles for quite a few years in my various assignments, Peru, Bolivia, Co-

lombia, and Brazil, and I came down with the Panamanian Intestinal Disorder. I would like to have said it was from something exotic, but I think it was a piece of shrimp at the Ambassador's residence. So I missed part of the trip and they carried on without me.

All joking aside, I was very impressed and appreciative of the trip because I think the focus and the emphasis and the attention to source and transit countries needs to be done more. I don't think it has been done that much in the past, and I really appreciate the efforts that have been done and we are seeing some positive results come out of it.

I think it's important, first of all, to emphasize the fact that we now have in this country, and we haven't seen this previously, an organized threat that operates outside of this country and has a significant impact orchestrating drug trafficking and its related violence in this country.

They operate in Colombia and other countries and direct their activities from outside the borders. While we recognize borders, because that's just what protocol calls for, these traffickers do not. They don't recognize borders, they operate out of convenience. They operate where the money has influenced and corrupted power. Their operation really is a continuum from source countries into the United States with seamless borders and it makes our job that much more difficult trying to work within the confines of the law and dealing with an enemy that doesn't recognize any law.

First I'd like to describe the source countries. Sometimes, I was mentioning this to Chairman Hastert earlier, that it's difficult when I try to explain to somebody who has a crack problem, the importance of dealing with source and transit countries and trying to resolve the problem at its source. You need to do both. You can't ignore the local issues because obviously there's a serious impact, but I think we get more bang for the bucks by paying closer attention to where the problem originates.

There are two primary growing countries for the coca leaf, Peru and Bolivia, of which Peru produces approximately 60 to 75 percent. The figures are somewhat loose because it's hard identifying how many plants are in a particular area, but they are the largest producer of the coca leaf.

The process is they convert the leaf into a base, cocaine base, and then Bolivia and Peru sell it to Colombian buyers. They process it into cocaine hydrochloride which is ready for consumption and from there it goes into the United States. I think I have a slide that probably illustrates the flow and how it goes from the source countries into the United States. Let me go up in a second; I'll keep talking.

The drugs then go from Colombia, traditionally through several different ways. The Caribbean and Puerto Rico were always major routes. The slide shows the flow of cocaine into Colombia.

The next slide, I think, shows different ways of getting into the United States from Colombia. This is the current way of coming through Mexico, as Chairman Hastert said earlier, approximately 70 percent of the cocaine that's produced in South America now enters into the United States through Mexico and previously cocaine came into the Caribbean, Puerto Rico and we're seeing a slight in-

crease. Not anything to get alarmed about at this point, but something we're paying very close attention to.

What we've seen is when we were successful in the Caribbean, they shipped it over into Mexico. So it's not unreasonable to see them ship to someplace else where our efforts become more productive, they'll find the point of least resistance. But for right now Mexico works for them. It's geographically and strategically important. The border offers a lot of opportunities. There's 2,000 miles, most of it is hard to control, and there is a long-standing relationship between Mexican trafficking groups and trafficking in the United States.

Previously, Mexican trafficking groups, and you can show the next slide, they have a long-standing history of smuggling marijuana and heroin into the United States and the Colombians developed a relationship with these families. These are the major Mexican trafficking groups and you can see that they control strategic areas along the border where the drugs come across.

What's happened is, the Colombians said look, we'll get the cocaine into the United States but we're going to give it to Mexican trafficking groups and we'll pay you \$1,000 a kilo to get it into, say, a warehouse in San Diego or Los Angeles and we'll take it over and we'll distribute it. That has evolved into the Mexicans saying, look, why don't you just pay us in kind. If we're going to transport 1,000 kilos of cocaine into the United States for you, why don't you pay us on 1,000 kilos. And so it developed into that type of arrangement. What that has done is generated significant amounts of money for the Mexican trafficking groups that they didn't have before. It expanded their market for selling cocaine, which they didn't have before, and they had the infrastructure because they sold heroin and marijuana, traditionally, and that money now comes back into Mexico.

Unfortunately, it furthers corruption. Those who were already corrupt get paid more money. It has the potential to distort the banking industry and also legitimate businesses and it has major impact and it does affect the United States with a lot of financial and strategic interest there.

That's all I have on the slides.

Methamphetamine, as the chairman mentioned before, is a major problem. It's something we thought we had control over when we pretty much dismantled the methamphetamine producing industry in the United States which was mostly limited to biker gangs. We had very effective law enforcement programs and you see relatively few laboratories, although there's still quite a bit out on the West Coast. Mexican trafficking groups have now taken that over. They are importing tons of precursor chemicals into Mexico. Very little controls over precursors coming in and very significant laboratories where they're producing methamphetamine and sending it to the United States.

When you look at the emergency room statistics, they're off the chart. Really it's something that's bothersome. The good news with that is if it's somewhat comparable to what we had with quaaludes a few years ago, where we were able to stop the precursors coming in and had a dramatic affect. We saw production drop down significantly. That's what we're looking for to happen in Mexico. We have

some innovative programs that will take time to really get implemented. The Mexican Government needs to fully implement some legislation that they recently enacted and hopefully I can come back in a different setting in another year or two and say that we've had some major successes in that area.

Mr. Morgan will speak in a minute about what happens to the drugs once it enters into the United States at that point. How does it get to Chicago? How does it get to Fort Wayne? How does it get to Elgin or Aurora?

And, again, we will show that there is a continuum from Colombia and what used to be the Cali Cartel, right into small cities.

We had a significant victory with the dismantling of the Cali Cartel. All of the major figures were arrested with the exception of one, and he will be, I predict, fairly shortly. They're still operating, but with much less efficiency and more recently we're now seeing signs that the Young Turks or groups that now want to wrest control from Cali Cartel are now competing for that area.

We are seeing several incidents of bloody confrontations in Colombia; we hope it stays there, and what will emerge will be interesting. It will be interesting to see if we now have several dozen distinct groups now buying for the same area or is there a union of traffickers to replace the Cali Cartel. We're monitoring that very closely as are the Mexican trafficking groups and we have seen signs of them, which I always wondered while I was in Peru, why they hadn't done this sooner, but we have seen signs of Mexican traffickers now negotiating with source country traffickers, with Peru and Bolivia and bypassing the Colombians.

It will be interesting to see if the Colombians allow that to happen. There are some that say, at least intelligence suggests, that the Colombians will not allow it to happen and we'll see some bloody confrontation, hopefully not here, but someplace else.

And those who said that, well, we've learned from the Cali Cartel. We've seen how they made their mistakes. They were successful because they micro-manage many of the operations well into the United States, even to small, what would be considered minor transactions. That gained them a profit, but it also made them vulnerable and that's how they were exploited. The fact that had to communicate, the fact that they had so much control, that exposed them and that's why we were successful against them.

So we'll see what happens with the Mexican traffickers. They see this as an opportunity to expand their market, and it's something that bears a lot of attention.

In closing, I think that the source and transit countries, they need continual emphasis. I think with our national drug strategy, we can't have one or the other. We can't emphasize just on domestic enforcement and ignore transit and production countries. We need the emphasis and I'll let the politicians decide what needs more emphasis, if it's production, if it's education, treatment, demand reduction, I would argue need for all, but with diminishing resources. I think you get more bang for the bucks by trying to attack the problems as close to the source as possible and then as it comes up the pipeline.

It's a multi-faceted approach. It is a solvable problem. There's a sense of frustration I see even within law enforcement that gee,

we've been at this for 20-some years. The price of cocaine is the same. The volume doesn't seem to be dropping. Heroin is now on the rise, and maybe we should look at alternative resources.

My response is that I think that as bad as the situation is now, if nothing were done it would be significantly worse. I think the public needs to know that there are no silver bullets. This is a problem that's going to take a lot of focus, a lot of attention on this end, meaning the consumption, the users as well as on the source countries and the producing end. It is probably something that's going to take 10, maybe 15 years, but it is solvable and with the attention that the committee like the Congressman is chairing, it's something we can do. Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Chretien and Mr. Morgan follows:]

Testimony before the House Committee
on Government Reform and Oversight
Craig Chretien, Chief Foreign Operations
James Morgan, Special Agent in Charge
Chicago Field Division
Drug Enforcement Administration
Elgin, Illinois
June 24, 1996

Introduction

Mr. Hastert, we appreciate this opportunity to appear before you today to discuss narcotics control efforts in the Western Hemisphere. The Drug Enforcement Administration is appreciative of the support that the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight has provided us over the years, and we look forward to working with you in the coming months. It was my pleasure to accompany you to South America to see first hand the circumstances DEA faces in the cocaine source countries.

There have been some improvements in our cooperative narcotics control efforts with countries in this hemisphere, notably Mexico. However, some major challenges still need to be met before we can confidently say that efforts aimed against the world's most powerful drug traffickers have been effective. The U.S. Government's efforts against these criminals have been multi-faceted.

Today's well-financed and sophisticated international narcotics traffickers are the organized crime figures of the 1990's. For over 30 years, Americans have had a view of organized crime as a group of individuals involved in extortion, loan sharking and gambling. Today, we are facing a new breed of international organized criminals whose power and influence have grown far beyond any we have seen before.

We are here today to describe for you the operations of these foreign drug syndicates and how they introduce themselves, their poison and their violence into our communities. These groups are headquartered in Colombia and Mexico, and their leaders control the vast majority of drug trafficking within the United States. There is no doubt that much of the crime that impacts communities across the United States is attributable both directly and indirectly to organizations such as the Cali Cartel, and the groups within the Mexican Federation—the Sonora Cartel, the Tijuana Organization, the Gulf Cartel and the Juarez Cartel.

The relationship of these foreign drug organizations with crime in our communities was clearly demonstrated in May of this year when arrests, made as a result of the investigation known as Operation Zorro II, clearly indicated the domination of drug trafficking in America by the groups in both Colombia and Mexico. Their handiwork that began in the boardrooms in Cali ended in cities and towns as varied as Chicago, Illinois and Richmond, Virginia. These criminal syndicates employed hundreds of Colombians, Mexicans and Americans to transport

and distribute their drugs throughout our country. This case is historic because it clearly identifies the absolute dominance of the groups in the cocaine trade in the United States. Zorro II also demonstrated that with a joint effort of the DEA, FBI, U.S. Attorneys, Criminal Division and other Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, we can be successful by attacking the command and control functions of the drug syndicates. More importantly this strategy combined with continued cooperation allows us to be successful all along the seamless continuum of the drug trade, effectively dismantling the entire network from Cali and Sonora to Aurora, Illinois.

Zorro II is particularly important because for the first time we dismantled not only the U.S. infrastructure of a Colombian organization producing the cocaine, but also that of the organization from Mexico that provided the transportation. During the course of this eight-month investigation, law enforcement officers coordinated and shared information gleaned from more than 90 court-authorized wiretaps. The operation involved 10 Federal agencies, and 42 state and local agencies across the country, and 10 U.S. Attorneys' offices. As a result of the operation, we seized over \$17 million and almost 5,600 kilos of cocaine, and arrested 156 people. In Aurora we conducted four court-authorized wiretaps and arrested 12 subjects, who the organization sent to Chicago to control their wholesale distribution cell.

The Cali Cartel and the Situation in Colombia

Fifteen days ago we marked the first anniversary of the beginning of the end of the Cali Cartel. On June 9, 1995, Gilberto Rodriguez Orejuela was arrested by the Colombian National Police, setting off a chain reaction which culminated in the arrests of six of the seven top Cali cartel leaders in the last year. As we note this anniversary, we should assess where we are today in the international drug trade, and what our prospects are for success in the long term, as we work with other nations to eliminate major drug trafficking organizations. DEA continues to work closely with officials in foreign countries to target the highest levels of the international drug trade in Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Bolivia and other countries where drugs are produced and transported.

The significance of last year's arrests of six of the seven top leaders of the Colombian cartel cannot be overstated. Masterful police work on the part of the Colombian National Police, working with DEA and other U.S. Government agencies, led to these arrests, which represent the most serious blow to international drug trafficking in history. During the months following these arrests, the world learned how influential these traffickers really are within the Colombian Government and Colombian institutions. Dating back to the first series of raids in Cali in 1991, and in particular after the three Cali principals arrests in 1995, thousands of key documents depicting the Cali Cartel's financial empire have been seized.

The Cali Cartel had operated with virtual impunity for the past 15 years. Their influence was as widespread as their drug distribution networks. From their Cali headquarters, cartel leaders ordered assassinations within the United States and directed business transactions around the world through phone and fax communications. It is critical that law enforcement continue the pressure on the remainder of the Cali infrastructure to insure its total demise.

I can illustrate how the cocaine controlled by the Cali Cartel is affecting major American cities, such as Chicago. Let me tell you about the Gangster Disciples and their chairman, Larry Hoover. The Gangster Disciples is a well-organized street gang with an estimated 30,000 members in the Chicago area, of which 9,000 are prison inmates. The gang's nationwide membership is approximately 100,000. The gang has an extreme propensity toward violent assault, robbery and murder. Of Chicago's 650 murders from 1990 to 1994, Gangster Disciple members were involved in 43% as either victims or perpetrators.

Investigation revealed that this gang is involved in money laundering, murder, and the distribution of cocaine. The cocaine that fueled this violent gang and its reign of terror on the city of Chicago is traceable to the drug lords in Colombia. Two members of the Cali cell who were supplying the gang with cocaine, were arrested in 1994 in possession of 98 kilos of cocaine and approximately \$400,000 in cash.

Larry Hoover, the gang chairman, led the Gangster Disciples from inside state correction facilities that have housed him since a 1993 murder conviction. The Chicago news media have likened Hoover to Al Capone and Pablo Escobar. Hoover is currently serving a 150-200 year sentence for murder. Despite his incarceration he received \$100,000 to \$200,000 a week from a "street tax" imposed on drug sales and money laundering.

Last August law enforcement officers from DEA as well as state and local agencies arrested 39 gang members, including Hoover, several of the gang's top leaders—known as board members and governors—and one Chicago police officer. Hoover has been charged with violating federal statutes that include conspiracy and controlling a Continuing Criminal Enterprise. The first eight defendants were convicted last March. Two additional trials are scheduled for later this year.

As I noted earlier, the Cali cartel, which fashioned itself after the Silician Mafia and the La Cosa Nostra, became far more sophisticated and successful than its predecessors. However, in the transition stage since the Cali Cartel arrests, we have seen the same patterns of violence we observed in the La Cosa Nostra when the families fought to take over territory or fill a vacuum of power from fallen family leaders. A recent incident illustrating this point occurred in Cali when William Rodriquez-Abadabia, the son of Miguel Rodriguez-Orejuela, was wounded and six body guards killed during an ambush.

This trend is likely to continue with the increasing sophistication

among the trafficking groups from Mexico, the remnants of the Cali cartel and the young violent groups emerging in Colombia as they battle to increase their control of cocaine production, transportation and distribution networks.

Complicating the Colombian situation is the very high purity of Colombian heroin for sale on the streets of major American cities. This heroin is relatively cheap, compared to that available from other worldwide sources, with a purity as high as 90% in some cases. The Colombian traffickers are utilizing well-established cocaine distribution networks to distribute heroin. By underpricing Southeast Asian and Southwest Asian heroin traffickers by as much as \$20,000 to \$30,000 per kilogram, these Colombian traffickers have established a substantial share of the market in the northeast corridor of the U.S. and appear poised to expand their markets in other major U.S. cities.

How did these criminals from Colombia gain such enormous power and wealth? They began in the early 1980's to monopolize the cocaine trade in the United States. The syndicates in Colombia realized the way to maximize profits was to control the product from manufacture to wholesale distribution. To that end, the Cali Cartel developed a sophisticated, disciplined, and compartmentalized cell system for their entire criminal operational structure. The Cali drug bosses were able to combine the business acumen of a *Fortune* 500 company with the cunning and violence of terrorist organizations.

Further, they realized it was necessary to dominate crop production, as well as wholesale distribution. Both the Cali and Medellin Cartels struck deals with traffickers in Peru and Bolivia to buy coca leaf from peasants, process it into cocaine base and ship it to Colombia for further processing into cocaine hydrochloride (HCl). Peru and Bolivia are by far the largest producers of coca leaf in the world and over 80% of the cocaine consumed in the world is controlled by the syndicates in Colombia.

The Source Countries

Allow me to take a few moments to describe the importance of "source countries" in the global drug trade. The coca leaf, harvested in Bolivia and Peru, is processed into a pasty substance known as cocaine paste and then flown into Colombia where the paste is converted into cocaine HCl powder, packaged and shipped by the Colombian cartels to Mexican transportation organizations. In Peru and Bolivia counternarcotics actions are having a significant impact on coca processing and transportation. As a result the drug trafficking situation is now changing dramatically.

Until about five years ago, Peruvian drug traffickers like those in Bolivia were producing cocaine paste that was refined to cocaine base in large, well equipped labs located in remote jungle areas. Many of these labs were built and financed by the Colombian cartels. These efficient operations required many

workers, running water, large supplies of chemicals and electrical power to operate the equipment necessary for large scale production. They were expensive for the traffickers to operate and provided law enforcement with excellent targets of opportunity. Counterdrug operations conducted in the early 1990's by the the National Police, aided by DEA, successfully targeted these massive conversion labs in Boliva and Peru, forcing the traffickers to abandon these large operations in favor of smaller, more mobile, laboratories in remote locations to reduce their losses and the risk of detection.

At the same time, law enforcement authorities, with DEA support, took aim at the traffickers' preferred method of transporting cocaine base from the mountainous jungles of Bolivia and Peru to the cartel operations in Colombia. Law enforcement efforts against this "air bridge" have forced traffickers to abandon the air route, develop alternative transportation routes, and resort to more time consuming, riskier transportation over land and water.

To avoid further disruptions to their processing operations due to the increased time and risk involved in land and marine transportation to Colombia, Bolivian and Peruvian traffickers are now beginning to refine cocaine base into cocaine HCl and distribute it directly to Mexican transporters and buyers themselves, thereby circumventing Colombian middlemen and increasing profits. Although they are not nearly as organized, powerful or wealthy as the groups in Colombia and Mexico, their potential for growth to that level is enhanced due to the

increased profits that accrue to them. We are closely monitoring this disturbing trend.

Colombian drug organizations still play a part in Bolivian and Peruvian cocaine production, but there is increasing evidence that traffickers from Mexico, Peru, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Argentina are playing a larger role in Bolivian cocaine trafficking. Concurrently the influence of Colombian traffickers appears to be decreasing. The number and stature of Bolivian and Peruvian trafficking appears to be increasing sharply.

Meanwhile, the Government of Bolivia has enacted laws to control and regulate essential chemicals for the cocaine conversion process in Bolivia. To address the change in trafficking operations, Bolivian counterdrug police have successfully implemented these laws, made several large seizures of precursor chemicals and, with our assistance observed a change in the trends in trafficking of these chemicals. For example, cocaine base and HCl processors have begun to use substitute or reconstituted chemicals whenever possible.

On to Mexico

In order to appreciate the magnitude of Mexico's role in the international drug trade, it is important to understand that approximately 70% of the cocaine available in the United States transits Mexico. Organized criminal drug syndicates in Mexico

are versatile and well-established, having been engaged in heroin, marijuana and cocaine trafficking for the past 30 years. During the late 1980's Cali traffickers turned to transportation groups in Mexico to assist them in smuggling their multi-ton loads of cocaine into the United States. This change in modus operandi was due in large part to successful enforcement and interdiction operations in south Florida and the Caribbean. Smuggling groups in Mexico were a natural choice for the Cali leaders, since they had been smuggling heroin and marijuana across the Southwest border since the late 1960's. Early on, the Mexican transportation groups were paid \$1,000 to \$2,000 per kilogram for their services. They would receive the cocaine in Mexico from a Colombian transportation group and smuggle it in to the United States and turn it over to a Colombian distribution cell.

In the early 1990's they reached an agreement with the Cali criminal bosses to receive payment for their smuggling services in cocaine. The Mexican smugglers began receiving up to half of every shipment of cocaine they transported. This new arrangement had the immediate effects of significantly increasing the Mexican traffickers' profits and necessitated the expansion of their own distribution networks in the United States.

As I previously mentioned, Zorro II gave an insightful look at the success and sophistication of these new distribution cells controlled by the members of the Mexican Federation. What we saw were parallel Colombian and Mexican distribution

organizations with sophisticated operational structure, controlling wholesale distribution of cocaine in a wide variety of locations throughout the United States, receiving their cocaine from the same Mexican transportation group which was supplied by Cali traffickers.

The Mexican Federation

There are four major groups from Mexico under the umbrella of the Mexican Federation, an organized crime group which operates in many parts of Mexico.

The Tijuana Organization is headed by the Arellano Felix brothers, Benjamin, Francisco and Ramon. It is headquartered in Tijuana, Baja California Norte. This group controls smuggling across the border to California and is among the most violent of the Mexican organizations and has been connected by Mexican officials to the killing of Cardinal Juan Jesus Posadas-Ocampo at the Guadalajara Airport in 1993. During 1994, this group was engaged in a turf battle over methamphetamine territory in San Diego. Twenty-six homicides were committed during one summer as rival groups battled over trafficking regions.

Benjamin Arellano Felix was indicted on May 2, 1989 in San Diego on charges of operating a continuing criminal enterprise which involved the importation and distribution of cocaine. Arellano Felix is frequently seen in Mexico and has never been

arrested on these charges. Francisco Rafael Arellano Felix, his brother, was indicted in San Diego in 1980 for possession and conspiracy to possess cocaine.

The Sonora Cartel is headed by Miguel Caro Quintero, and operates out of Hermosillo, Agua Prieta, Guadalajara and Culican, as well as the Mexican states of San Luis Potosi, Sinaloa, and Sonora. Rafael, Miguel's brother, is in jail for his role in the killing of DEA Special Agent Enrique Camarena in 1985. The Sonora Cartel has direct links to the Colombian cartel and operates routes into California, Arizona, Texas and Nevada. Miguel Caro Quintero was indicted in Arizona for shipping two tons of cocaine from Mexico to Arizona, and he has been indicted twice in Colorado. He continues to be a fugitive.

The Juarez cartel is headed by Amado Carillo Fuentes, the most powerful figure in the Mexican drug trade. His organization is linked to the Rodriguez Orejuela organization in Cali, and has family ties also to the Ochoa brothers in Medellin, Colombia. For many years, this organization ran transportation services for the Cali cartel and used aircraft including 727's to fly drugs from Colombia to Mexico. He also used to move drugs from regional bases in Guadalajara, Hermosillo and Torreon. Carillo Fuentes has been indicted in Dallas and Miami, and has been a fugitive for eight years.

The Gulf Group was headed by Juan Garcia Abrego and is based in Matamoros, Tamaulipas State. It distributes cocaine in the

United States as far north as Michigan, New Jersey and New York. DEA has reports that this organization smuggled in excess of 30 tons of cocaine into the United States. Humberto Garcia Abrego, Juan's brother, was arrested in October, 1994 by Mexican authorities. Juan Garcia Abrego, one of the FBI's Ten Most Wanted, was arrested on January 14, 1996. After his arrest, Mexican authorities worked quickly to expel Abrego to the United States to face charges of conspiracy to import cocaine and the management of a continuing criminal enterprise.

The capture of these powerful drug traffickers, and the dismantling of their organizations operating on both sides of the border are top priorities of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Methamphetamine

Traffickers from Mexico are also heavily involved in methamphetamine production and trafficking, the devastating effects of which are spreading across our country. Methamphetamine is a very potent and toxic drug. The common thread that runs throughout the methamphetamine trade is violence. From binge users to manufacturers to wholesale and retail distributors, violence is attendant to all aspects of the methamphetamine trade.

Methamphetamine has become a serious law enforcement and health problem, especially within the last three years.

Methamphetamine production and trafficking were previously confined to the West Coast where outlaw motorcycle gangs were responsible for the bulk of the methamphetamine available in the United States. Traffickers from Mexico have now taken over methamphetamine in the U.S., including manufacturing operations, distribution, and in some cases even obtaining the necessary chemicals from Asia and Europe, all to maximize their profits.

Methamphetamine seizures along the U.S.-Mexico border rose from 6.5 kilograms in 1992 to 665 kilograms in 1995. Previously, enormous amounts of ephedrine, an essential ingredient in methamphetamine production, were shipped to Mexico. In an 18-month period between June, 1993 and December, 1994, approximately 170 metric tons of ephedrine was diverted from the international commercial trade to Mexico. This amount of ephedrine could be used to produce an estimated 119 metric tons of methamphetamine. Effective controls are being implemented in an attempt to control the availability of ephedrine and other essential chemicals.

The impact of methamphetamine trafficking and its use has been devastating to many cities and rural counties in the United States in areas as diverse as Iowa, Georgia and Florida. Methamphetamine deaths have risen dramatically in cities such as Phoenix, Los Angeles, San Francisco and San Diego. In Phoenix deaths have jumped 510% between 1992 and 1994. While methamphetamine use has not yet reached epidemic proportions in the Chicago area, its use is steadily spreading

eastward.

Another tragic aspect of methamphetamine production has been its impact on the environment. Many of the labs are often operated by individuals who have direct links to organizations based in Mexico, and these labs pose a hazard to both law enforcement officers investigating them, and also to residents in communities surrounding the labs.

Cooperation with the Government of Mexico

Both President Zedillo and Attorney General Lozano are committed to fighting narcotics and eliminating major drug trafficking organizations. They are cognizant of the negative consequences that unchecked cocaine trafficking has had in Colombia, and they are working to ensure that traffickers in Mexico do not become as well-entrenched and powerful as they have in Colombia during the past decade.

There are many obstacles facing the President and the Attorney General in their efforts, but despite these, some important steps are being taken by the Mexican Government to address problems created by major drug trafficking organizations. President Zedillo pledged in his State of the Union address that Mexico would pass comprehensive organized crime legislation. The Mexican legislature has passed, subject to the approval of the Mexican States, organized crime legislation authorizing, for the first time, a witness protection program, judicially-approved

electronic surveillance, undercover operations, conspiracy prosecutions, controls on the production of precursor chemicals and an interagency financial investigative unit, as well as providing for asset seizure and forfeiture for the proceeds of crimes covered by the Organized Crime Bill.

The Mexican Government has recently criminalized money laundering under the penal code. This new provision in effect since May 14, 1996 provides for sentences for violation of its terms, as well as a 50% enhanced sentence when the violator is a government official in charge of the prevention, prosecution, or investigation of money laundering offenses. In addition, the public official likewise is barred from public office for a period equal to the sentence.

Additionally, asset seizure and forfeiture provisions of the organized crime legislation have been approved by the Mexican legislative branch, and are awaiting approval from the Mexican states. These provisions cover the forfeiture of assets, if it is determined that they were amassed as a result of organized crime or criminal activity.

The Mexican Government has also reformed its penal code to modernize provisions against the smuggling of precursor chemicals. Additionally, in March, 1996, the Mexican Government's Public Security Law became effective. This law helps Mexico professionalize law enforcement throughout the country, and includes provisions which direct law enforcement agencies to conduct comprehensive background investigations,

adopt a code of ethical behavior and rotate personnel to help minimize corruption.

Cooperation between the United States and the Government of Mexico is improving. However, it is imperative for the Government of Mexico to arrest and incarcerate all the major traffickers who are significant players in the global drug trade. While the Government of Mexico has made some important improvements in their legal and penal codes, and has worked more cooperatively with the United States in recent months, some endemic problems, such as corruption and the enormous influence of the major traffickers, continue. Within the last several months, three top former law enforcement officials from Tijuana have been assassinated. These killings are indicative of the impunity with which the Mexican crime syndicates feel they can operate and consistent with the intimidation and narco-terrorist methods of the Cali and Medellin Cartels.

Conclusion

We would like to thank you again for the opportunity to testify at this hearing, and hope we have left you with a clear understanding of the drug trade in the United States. Most importantly, I want to emphasize that the drug trade is a seamless continuum—from the source countries to the streets of our cities and towns and is totally controlled by the drug barons in Colombia and Mexico. And to be successful against these powerful syndicates, we have to apply our resources all along

that continuum from the growing regions of Bolivia and Peru to the syndicates' distribution cells that exist throughout the United States. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you, Mr. Chretien. One of the things I will make comment on regarding your testimony, one of the opportunities we have such in Peru where most of the coca is grown, President Fujimori of Peru has instigated a shoot-down policy of narco-trafficking flights coming in from Colombia, picking up the coca paste and moving it back to Colombia for remanufacture. The results of that is that last year there were 70 planes a month coming in from Colombia picking up coca paste and moving it back to Colombia. He has started the shoot-down policy that we coordinated with him and using our ability to look down radar and think radar and things like that, that they've cut that amount of planes. They shot down over 50 planes in the last year and there is now only seven planes a month coming into Colombia.

The price of coca leaf and coca paste is down about tenfold and a lot of those growers are walking away from their fields. So I know you've worked on that type of coordination. So that's an example of how things work.

I'd now like to go to Mr. Morgan so we look at the national effort, kind of look at what we're doing in this country and then go to our State efforts.

So, Mr. Morgan, if you'd like to give your testimony, please.

Mr. MORGAN. Chairman Hastert, Congressman Souder, Congressman Weller, thank you very much for the opportunity to represent the Chicago Division of Drug Enforcement Administration at this hearing today.

What I'd like to do first is kind of tie in what Craig Chretien has said and how it fits in with the Chicago land area.

Recently, the Drug Enforcement Administration, along with many State and Federal and local organizations, particularly the Chicago Police Department and the Aurora Police Department, took down an operation called Operation Zorro II. There was a slide up, if that one could go up again, please.

This was an operation that was a long time in the making and what the significance of this operation encountered was that we identified Mexican transportation organizations working with Colombian distribution organizations and actually tied it up in one complete package with the take down in May of this year.

This resulted in approximately 136 arrests around the country, almost 12,000 pounds of cocaine taken off the streets, a little over 1,000 pounds of marijuana, but significantly, we seized assets totaling more than \$17 million. This was everything from cars and trucks, to planes, boats, houses, real estate and commercial ventures as well as just cash in the banks. But what it showed us was the significance of how the Colombians and the Mexican traffickers were working in a joint effort, so to speak, or a joint venture and this brought about a very significant stoppage to the traffic, for a while.

The second slide on Zorro shows the method, as we call it, the farm to the arm. The way it went through and came into Chicago primarily from Houston and Los Angeles and sometimes transiting Chicago into New York and then conversely down southward again to Richmond and even a small town, Rocky Mount, NC, which has a lot of significance to me because that's where my wife is from. That's a little town in North Carolina, approximately 30,000 coun-

try folks, it just blew us away when our wiretaps, et cetera, were going into this small town and they were coming from Los Angeles to Rocky Mount, Chicago to Rocky Mount, Chicago to Richmond. It was just a tremendous network of the Colombians and Mexicans working together to get the cocaine into the country.

Several things about that, and that's all I have on that particular slide or any other slides.

What this has shown here in the Chicago land area is that there is no stoppage, as yet, to the cocaine influx into this country and into this area, particularly. I think from a previous slide that Craig showed, the predominant amount of cocaine and marijuana, for that matter, is coming right to Chicago from the Texas/Mexico border. And I hate to point out a particular city, but El Paso seems to be our main source of supply here in Chicago.

Agents in my office in Chicago are continually working with the El Paso Agents on loads of cocaine and marijuana that are coming directly across the border into El Paso and its main destination is here in Chicago.

You mentioned in your opening statement, and Mr. Chretien also did, about the methamphetamine problem. Although we do not have what I'd call a significant problem here in the Chicago area, we have not gained any knowledge or any intelligence on any particular organization in this area that deals in methamphetamine. The methamphetamine problem in the Chicago Division, which encompasses North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana is predominantly in southern Indiana and in Minnesota. I don't want to allude that we don't have methamphetamine here; we do, but it's not as significant a problem here in this area as it is in Minnesota and southern Indiana.

What we do need in this area of methamphetamine, since it's not a terrific problem here in Chicago, is to do a little bit harder work as far as DEA's concerned, as far as any local agency, whether it's an enforcement agency or not, to educate our youth that this kind of drug, methamphetamine, is a hideous drug and to educate them of the ill effects and the long-term effects of this drug, as well as the other drugs, cocaine, marijuana and heroin. As Mr. Chretien said, we are seeing, in the Chicago area, a significant influx of heroin at this point.

The other thing I would like to touch on is the gang situation here in Chicago and in August—excuse me, yes, in August of last year, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and in particular the Chicago Police Department and the Aurora Police Department took down the Black Gangster Disciple Nation leadership with 39 arrests in late August 1995.

This organization is led by a Mr. Larry Hoover, who has been in prison for the last 20-some years. This gang is approximately 30,000 members in the Chicago land area.

Mr. HASTERT. That includes Fox Valley as well?

Mr. MORGAN. Yes, sir.

Of those 30,000, we estimate there's at least 9 to 11,000 in the State prison system at this point. Nationwide, that membership exceeds 100,000 members. What the Black Gangster Disciples are known for is their violent behavior, assaults, robberies, murders and in the period of 1990 to 1994. In Chicago there were 650 mur-

ders and it was through Chicago Police Department Intelligence that we know 43 percent of them involved Black Gangster Disciples.

Mr. HASTERT. Would you repeat that one more time?

Mr. MORGAN. OK, there were 650 murders in 1994—excuse me—between 1990 and 1994 in Chicago, 43 percent of them, and if my math is correct, that's 279 out of the 650, Black Gangster Disciples were involved in. Whether they were the ones shooting or being shot, they were involved in it.

They were getting, and they still are getting their cocaine, which they make into crack, from Cali Cartel sales here in Chicago and in 1994, we arrested two members of that Cali Cartel possessing 98 kilos of cocaine and we seized \$400,000 in cold hard U.S. currency from them.

Larry Hoover is their leader. He was convicted of murder in 1993, but he has led this organization from inside the State maximum security prison. He's currently serving a 150 to 200-year murder sentence now. He was among those in August 1995, that were arrested and he's currently in the Metropolitan Correction Center in downtown Chicago.

The media is comparing Mr. Hoover to Al Capone or Pablo Escobar in that the Black Gangster Disciple Gang is really what we call a corporation. It's not just a bunch of kids or a bunch of young adults on the street corner anymore. It's an actual corporation with corporate structure, Mr. Hoover being the CEO, if you will, with a Board of Governors, with another layer of regents and it gets down to street soldiers, which account for the 30,000 total members in that gang.

A lot of times during the week, and it's been in the prior testimony in a Federal case just earlier this year, Mr. Hoover was receiving between \$100,000 and \$200,000 per week in street tax, as he called it, and this was from drug sales and money laundering efforts in the Chicago land area.

Presently, Mr. Hoover and his cohorts are charged with conspiracy and continuing criminal enterprise. Eight of those 39 members arrested last August have been convicted this past March and there are two trials scheduled for later this year for the rest of the 39 and 5 days ago there was a Federal indictment charging approximately eight of these members for several murders. That trial will probably take place in August of this year.

One other thing I didn't mention, I'd like to just kind of go back to it, because I think it's important that the committee hear this, but it's on the methamphetamine issue and when a clandestine laboratory is seized by the DEA or by any State or Federal or local agency, what is left of this lab, whether it's in a garage or in a bathtub or in the basement of a home, is an extremely hazardous situation.

The Environmental Protection Agency actually defines the generator of this hazardous material, which are the chemicals necessary to make methamphetamine, but they actually charged DEA or the local agency as the generator of this hazardous wastesite, if you will. One of the things we face as an agency is a many million dollar outlay every year to contract with a private waste disposal com-

pany to get rid of this hazardous material that is left after the laboratory is seized.

It's a thing that I think the committee ought to know. It's a great expense to this agency, and many State and Federal and local agencies. It's something that's kind of not thought of, but the law enforcement agency ends up being the generator of the waste when, in effect, we've found the place where the methamphetamine was being made and then we have to clean it up, in effect.

Again, I appreciate the time that the committee has taken to come out here and if there's any questions, I'd be happy to answer them.

Mr. HASTERT. We will hold all the questions until the end, but thank you, Mr. Morgan, for your testimony and being here today.

I'd next like to go to Sergeant Gillette, from the Illinois State Police.

Sergeant GILLETTE. Sir, if Sergeant Snyders could go first I would appreciate it; then I'll go in.

Mr. HASTERT. Sure, absolutely.

Mr. SNYDERS. Good morning; on behalf of the Illinois State Police, I, too, wish to thank the Congressmen and the staff and others here in attendance for this opportunity to testify this morning.

December 7, 1987, a couple of Illinois State troopers made a traffic stop on Interstate 55—I'm going to turn this thing on before I get any further, OK.

A couple of Illinois State troopers made a routine traffic stop on Interstate 55 and issued the driver a written warning for speeding and improper lane usage, and I was one of the troopers at the stop. As we talked with the driver of the tan, 1984 Lincoln Continental, we noticed that there was a bottle of No-Doze laying on the dashboard of the vehicle. He had a green tree-shaped car deodorizer hanging from the headlight switch, another car deodorizer hanging from the rearview mirror, a third car deodorizer laying on the back seat and a spray can bottle of car deodorizer laying on the floor in the front seat.

As we're talking with him, we see about 16 McDonald's coffee cups that were used. We saw the ashtray was open and about 30 cigarette butts laying in plain view, and the driver tells us that he was returning on a trip back home to southern Illinois from a 2-hour trip to Detroit, MI.

The troopers that were there, we looked at each other and I thought, you know, this sounds like it's right out of the drug interdiction training class that we had just attended 1 week before the traffic stop.

We walked back up to the driver, we gave him back his license, we gave him back his copy of the written warning. We told the driver he was free to leave. We asked him to have a safe trip, please be careful pulling back out onto the highway. By the way, driver, will you consent for a search of your vehicle by the troopers here.

The driver looks up at us and says, "If you guys really want to search my car, go ahead." We said, "gee, we really appreciate your cooperation. If you don't mind, we would like to search your vehicle, could you please stand away from traffic toward the ditch while we do a quick vehicle search."

As the driver gets out of the car, walks toward the ditch, we see a 12 gauge shotgun shell laying on the seat right where the driver was sitting. We looked at him and asked him for his Illinois Firearm Owner I.D. card, which is required any time you possess firearm ammunition. The driver says, "I don't have one."

We said, well, Mr. Driver, we have some bad news for you. In Illinois it's a Class C misdemeanor for possession of firearm ammunition without a valid FOID card. We are going to have to take you in to the local jail. You'll post \$50 bond and we'll have to do a tow of your vehicle, since there's no one else with a driver's license here to drive. We realize you're kind of in a hurry. We'll hurry up and try to get you back on the road 2 hours, 2½ hours after we book you.

We take the driver to the jail. Just before we do that, we do an inventory of his vehicle and we discovered about 123 grams of cocaine, a loaded 44 magnum handgun and a police scanner in the trunk of his vehicle.

We go to court with this individual about 6 months later and the judge was kind of upset with the driver. The judge went ahead and sentenced him to 33 years in prison, and we did not know at the time that the driver was on parole for a homicide at the time of the traffic stop and one of the conditions of his parole that the judge had given him was not to become involved in drug trafficking, which he had forgotten about at the time we stopped him. So the judge was pretty upset and sentenced him to 33 years.

The point to this story, a routine traffic stop, which took all of about 11 minutes, 11 minutes of intense police work—I mean, we were pretty tired and we were sweating—a whole 11 minutes, we were able to get a dangerous criminal off the street and sentenced him to 33 years and, again, it was directly related to the training that we had just encountered 7 days prior to this traffic stop.

It was because of cases like this and numerous other cases going around the State, both within the State Police and other agencies, that we were able to justify a new drug interdiction program called Operation Valkyrie. In early 1990, we took 800 Illinois troopers and sent them to a 3 to 5-day training program. We also trained 650 local officers from city and county departments around the State and gave them drug interdiction training.

I don't think anyone, in their wildest imagination, could have anticipated the results that were achieved. In a nutshell, routine traffic stops by nosy, police officers, we have taken over 70,000 pounds of marijuana off the street now, and I want to make it clear that this dope was not tips from DEA, it was not tips from our own criminal investigators. These drugs were just found by routine traffic stops when officers asked extra questions.

The traffic stops ranged anything from opening the trunk and finding the drugs to a sophisticated electronic compartment, such as in this case, where there was a fake husband, a fake wife, fake kids, fake luggage and a fake floor. This is the floor; it's a classic concealment method where the drug traffickers had to take a needle inflator, stick it into the hole, have the car on and in reverse for this to work and it was in reverse because the electrical system was hooked up to the back-up light fuse box. When he took this air inflator, it was found in the glove box, inserted it into the hole,

then the seats pop back, exposing the 125,000 pounds of marijuana in the floor.

And by fake husband and fake wife and fake kids, fake luggage, we mean it looks like a family in the vehicle, but when you get everyone separated, you find out that they hardly know each other.

This was a classic case. Routine traffic stops by nosy but polite police officers, Illinois State troopers, in the last few years, we've taken 10,000 pounds of cocaine off the streets and, again, these were cases where the officer was doing traffic enforcement at the time of the stop and the cocaine cases are similar to the marijuana. This, again, was a fake husband, fake wife, fake kids and this one was a fake roof.

The officers noticed that the roof was a little bit too thick. Seventy-two kilograms of cocaine stuffed into the roof of that station wagon which, incidentally, is a popular smuggling vehicle of drug traffickers. They want to appear like they're a family on vacation.

I threw this in here kind of because it's funny. We're very proud of our money for interdiction program within the Illinois State Police, but I do give out accurate stats. I checked with the El Paso Intelligence Center this morning to make sure this is accurate. The Illinois State Police still lead the United States in money for interdictions, but the point to this is, you never know what you're going to run into on routine traffic stops. Whether it's hazardous materials, whether it's drugs, whether it's murder weapons, but by training the officers to look for the criminals during routine patrol, they encounter a lot of strange things.

Weapons seized, we're proud of these. These weapons were not in the hands of mom and pop Joe Q. Citizen. These weapons were taken from people that had felony amounts of drugs in their vehicle and, again, it's a routine traffic stop by nosy but polite police officers who are encountering these things. This was a routine traffic stop where these guns were all loaded sitting on the front and back seat underneath blankets in a passenger vehicle.

Again, this is something we're probably most proud of. Routine traffic stops with the drug interdiction training that the officers are receiving, we've put right now it's at over 8,000 felony drug users in prison, at least temporarily, because of the program.

In summation, what I want to point out is—if you could hit the lights a little bit—historically the drug interdiction statistics over the last couple of years have placed the Illinois State Police either second or third in the Nation in marijuana or cocaine seized, which we're very proud of, particularly when you look how far the Illinois State border is from Mexico where many of the drugs are coming into this country.

What I want to make sure everyone is clear is virtually every ounce or every gram of dope that is consumed in this country is at one time or another in somebody's vehicle, whether it's a truck or a car, it's in somebody's vehicle and the law enforcement officers in uniform are clearly on the front line in the war on drugs. And the more training we can give the officers to be aware of the indicators that may suggest a criminal is stopped at their traffic stop, the more successes we're going to have in cases like this.

The last point I want to make, leading into Master Sergeant Dan Gillette's discussion is, we don't want the cases to die here. We

don't want to make a routine traffic stop, find a large amount of dope, lock up the evidence, lock up the bad guy and go off and get another one. With the inter-agency coordination that's already been discussed some this morning, the goal is to assist shutting down major organizations and what we've learned over the last few years is we can accomplish that by working with the Federal agencies and the other local law enforcement agencies.

When we take someone with a large amount of drugs, we want to immediately work out a plan to deliver those drugs and arrest the people in the community that are waiting for the drugs and work back to the source to arrest the people that loaded up the drugs. That's the point that we're trying to elevate our program now to the next level by working with the other agencies and looking at it from both ends to try to continue to stop the drugs coming right into the community.

One classic successful case on a controlled delivery that was just in the spring was done by Master Sergeant Dan Gillette, and I think we'll go ahead and invite him to followup here and present one simple case that demonstrates the success of the program.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Snyders and Mr. Gillette follows:]

The following is the planned testimony of Master Sergeant Dan Gillette and Master Sergeant Michael Snyders. The testimony will be accompanied by a slide show depicting scenes from various drug interdictions.

On December 7, 1987, an Illinois state trooper made a traffic stop on I-55 just south of Bloomington, Illinois. The driver was issued a written warning for speeding and improper lane usage. He told the trooper he was returning to his home in southern Illinois after a two-hour trip to Detroit, Michigan. The trooper noticed a bottle of "No Doze" sitting on the dash, a green tree-shaped car deodorizer attached to the headlamp switch, another one hanging from the rear view mirror, a third laying on the back seat and a spray bottle of car deodorizer laying on the floor in the front. There were about six disposable coffee cups and 30 cigarette butts in the open ashtray. No luggage was visible.

The trooper realized this scenario appeared to be right out of the drug interdiction training course he had attended one week ago. After the traffic enforcement was complete, the driver was told he was free to leave. A backup officer arrived and the trooper asked, "Sir, may I search your car?"

The driver responded, "If you really want to search my car, go ahead." The trooper advised "I appreciate your cooperation. Could you please step out of your vehicle, away from traffic." As the driver stepped out of the vehicle, the trooper noticed a twelve gauge shotgun shell laying on the driver's seat. "Sir, can I see your Illinois Firearm Owner Identification card?" The driver claimed he did not have one.

The trooper replied, "I am afraid I have some bad news for you. Possession of firearm ammunition without a valid FOID card is a Class C misdemeanor. You are under arrest. I will have to tow your vehicle and complete a tow inventory. You will be back on the road in two hours after you post \$50 bond."

During an inventory of the vehicle, troopers discovered 123 grams of cocaine, a loaded 41 magnum handgun and a police scanner. About 11 minutes of "intensive" police work resulted in a dangerous criminal going to prison for 33 years. At the sentencing hearing, the judge handed down the lengthy sentence after it was disclosed the driver was on parole for homicide at the time of the traffic stop.

The above case, coupled with numerous other traffic stops that resulted in significant drug interdiction seizures and criminal arrests, provided the impetus for the Illinois State Police to train 800 of its troopers as well as 650 local officers on drug interdiction tactics. The success of the program has been phenomenal.

Since 1990, Illinois state troopers have seized over 75,000 pounds of cannabis, the equivalent of 34 million marijuana cigarettes that did not hit the streets in our communities. During that same time, troopers seized 11,000 pounds of cocaine, enough to provide a single "trip" for more than 41 million cocaine users. More than 954 guns were seized during the above drug arrests. These are guns that did not belong to Joe Q Citizen; rather, these guns were taken out of cars transporting dangerous drugs.

Over 8,000 people have been arrested on drug charges during the last five years during routine traffic stops. Virtually every ounce of dope consumed in Illinois is transported within a vehicle at some time. Traffic patrol officers are encountering drug users and drug dealers every day of their career. With enhanced training, officers learn to be aware of indicators of criminal and drug activity. The officers on patrol are on the front line in the war on drugs.

Historically, the interdiction statistics have placed Illinois among the top five states in the nation in the quantities of drugs and cash seized on the roadways. In 1995, Illinois troopers seized 16,236 pounds of cannabis and more than 2,200 pounds of cocaine. Illinois ranked second in the nation in the total amount of cannabis seized and third in the nation in cocaine seizures for 1995. The Illinois State Police's drug interdiction strategy has earned a nationwide reputation as an aggressive, highly successful program. Its record of accomplishments supports that reputation, and the dedication of its officers plays a significant role in the attainment of those accomplishments.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you very much, Master Sergeant Snyders, and now I'd like to introduce Master Sergeant Gillette.

Mr. GILLETTE. Congressmen, on behalf of District 17, I'd like to thank you for the opportunity to be here to present this testimony in front of you today about what we're seeing in District 17, which encompasses LaSalle, Bureau and Putnam Counties. We are Interstate 80, which is undoubtedly the major drug trans-shipment, drug route in the country at this time.

What we try to do is we try to make interdiction into an art form. You have to have contacts throughout the country, throughout the State who will contact our contacts. For instance, in the winter time when we see the majority of the narcotics being shipped through us, we will contact Colorado and find out if Interstate 80 is open, a lot of times it will close, so we'll know that our efforts don't have to be as strong during that period. Once it opens, they will call us back and we know 2 days later we're just going to be seeing a lot of drugs coming through us because they're all backed up in the mountains and then just the express comes through us.

It's very important to have the contacts, along with the training. Sergeant Snyders and I and several others throughout the State will travel around the country. We will teach our program. We will teach drug interdiction and interdiction training techniques, interview techniques. We don't care who gets the drugs. We don't care if we get it in Illinois or DEA gets it in Nebraska on Interstate 80. All we want to see is that the drugs get seized.

I'm going to do a video here of a stop that I happened to make and this was on February 29th, which was leap year. I'll show you some of the indicators. It's one of the basic things that we're looking for.

This was a motor home that was seized on Interstate 80 on February 29th and we'll first show a photo of the motor home, which was an indicator in itself. What is anyone doing in a motor home traveling eastbound on Interstate 80 in the middle of winter time? You've got nowhere to go.

The main indicator is that third step doesn't belong there, which indicated as soon as we got up in there that, as you can see there, the floor had been built up. Nothing inside the motor home worked. There was carpet fibers throughout the motor home indicating some carpet had come up.

The driver is a 68-year-old male. He and the passenger both gave consent to search. They had conflicting stories about where they were going and where they were coming from. What we wound up doing is we used a tool called a crow bar to pry up the floor and the floor, this was just pounded in. All the other compartments were on hydraulic lifts. You hit a button and the floors would just come up once you got the carpet up.

It had a total of 350 pounds of cocaine in there that was destined for New York City. After we debriefed the people, they both cooperated, and between the two of them they had made over 40 trips. So they had run cocaine in excess of 40 times. He was getting paid \$25,000 a trip, and she was getting paid \$40,000 a trip.

What we did is we contacted the Drug Enforcement Administration. We got a C-5 transport plane and the plan was to deliver the

narcotics and the people to New York, where they would further the load and we would attempt to arrest the people in New York that were picking it up and the people back in California that had loaded it.

As it turned out, we did deliver the load. It worked very successfully in New York with the cooperation of the Drug Enforcement Administration and State Police and the U.S. attorney out there. We arrested the head of the sell, this particular sell in New York, that he came to pick up the narcotics. A couple of his people were also arrested out there. Two people had been arrested in California and they've got the intelligence on the leader of the sell in Colombia off of this stop and the whole reason this stop was made was they were doing 71 miles an hour in a 55 mile an hour speed zone.

Just instead of writing out a ticket and going on to another stop, you talk to the people. The more you speak to them, you see if their story makes any sense, and in this case their story didn't. They both resided down around Miami. They were in Los Angeles, the male said they were in Los Angeles, the female said they were in Las Vegas and he said they were in Los Angeles gambling.

I had asked him—I don't know where you gamble in Los Angeles, I'm sure you can, but not very legally.

I had asked her if they were staying in the motor home at night and she got quite upset, which I would think that there's only one bed in there. How dare I think that they would sleep in the same bed, which, if you're in a motor home, you'd think you want to sleep in it.

There's the plane taking off from the Rockford Airport and we are seeing more and more of the loads of narcotics being successfully taken to their destination point, which we think is very important. It used to be years ago that once the dope was seized, that was the end of it. Now our attitude is once the dope is seized, that is only the beginning, that we weren't making the impact that we could make just with what we've called the mules, the people transporting from point A to point B, that we are making a greater impact now once we are getting it to the destination point and then we're using wire taps.

As I said, this one resulted in a major player being—I don't believe he's been apprehended, but he's been identified down in Colombia.

Again, I'd like to thank you on behalf of the Illinois State Police. It's an honor to be here, sir.

Mr. HASTERT. Well, Master Sergeant, we certainly appreciate your testimony and your insight and teaching us, as well.

We'd like to go through one round of questions here and start out, I'm going to start with Mr. Chretien.

Can you, very briefly, Craig, kind of walk us through logistically how cocaine gets from Peru or Bolivia to Illinois and how easy and quickly this happens?

Mr. CHRETIEN. The transportation set-up in South America is simple but very effective. After the coca leaf goes through a process of various chemicals, look at the process itself. The people think, who use cocaine, that it's pure and when you've seen first-hand the laboratories, there's just filth and garbage and all sorts of impuri-

ties, not to mention the effect that cocaine has on your body itself, but it's not as pure as a lot of people think it is.

Well, once that product comes out as cocaine base, then it is flown or heretofore it's been flown from Peru, to a lesser degree from Bolivia, to Colombia and then it's processed into cocaine hydrochloride. Then it goes on by airplane, container ships, body carrying, whatever.

As you pointed out, the Peruvians have been very effective with a lot of assistance from the U.S. Government in tracking those suspect aircrafts coming from Colombia, piloted by Colombian pilots, and going through international regulations trying to determine if there is legitimate need for them to be in that air space. The air space has been declared off limits during certain times, so any legitimate traffic should not be there.

If the plane does not land or does not respond or does not show some type of legitimate means for being there, it goes through a process of signals, warnings, shots fired across the bow, then the last resort is they force the plane down.

As a result of that, the Colombian pilots have been a little less enthusiastic about flying these flights. The air traffic has dropped dramatically. The price of the basic coca products has dropped dramatically and, as you pointed out, we are seeing a lot of people—not all of them are traditional farmers, some are just opportunists—and they're growing coca just to make money. It doesn't mean if a coca is not there they're going to grow oranges. They're just doing that to make money. The prices have fallen dramatically.

But what we've seen through the years, and we're seeing right now, is that the traffickers are looking for other methods to get the product out. They're now using the river system more and more. We've been working very closely with South Com, or the Southern Command, out of Panama. We have some very good programs. We're working with the different countries—Peru, Bolivia and Colombia—and trying to stay ahead of the traffickers and force them to use another route or dismantle the organization.

Mr. HASTERT. Let me just ask you very briefly, shouldn't we be trying to stop these narcotics, the poison that gets into our kids, in source countries before it gets into the United States and what is the economics of that? I mean, what is the cost of stopping something before it gets here instead of after it's on the street with a lot of money and a lot of power behind it?

Mr. CHRETIEN. Well, I hope to conduct investigations in a country like Peru. From personal experience, to go after a trafficking organization that has laboratories and they have different staging areas or air strips by which they get the stuff out of the country, to conduct such an investigation—and I'll just throw out some hypothetical, but fairly accurate—figures, it may cost maybe \$50,000 \$60,000 to collect intelligence. Maybe a little more money to send people in to support the host country or national police force to go to these areas to conduct the operation. Sometimes they are done in the city and then you compare that with what it costs to conduct a wire tap, to move resources around, as you saw just there.

I wouldn't even want to guess what it cost to fly that plane from Rockford to New York. I'm sure it's astronomical because that's just

the way it is. You do get more bang for your bucks in working at source and transit countries.

However, I don't want to suggest it has to be one or the other; it has to be both. Maybe I'm a little prejudice, but I think that working close to the source countries, you do get a lot of bang for the buck.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you.

Mr. Morgan, Mr. Chretien mentioned it, too, you did too, talking about wiretaps. Is it true, I've been briefed before, that by making wire taps in this country and listening to conversations in Aurora, IL, for instance, you can tell what's moving in California, along the border of Texas, inside Mexico and even sometimes in Colombia? Is that the truth? I mean, is that how you see this?

Mr. MORGAN. Yes, sir. From our various wiretaps that have basically been concluded in the Zorro II case, the toll call information that we receive from the phone companies after subpoenaing them through the legal process showed, as I say, even on the map, calls were going back to Colombia, back to Peru, back to California, over to New York, to Rocky Mount, NC. It documents itself right on the phone call toll information that there's calls coming back and forth, not just out of Chicago to these areas, but incoming calls, too.

Mr. HASTERT. And with the ability with the amount of money that these drug gangs have, that encrypted phone calls are becoming more and more prevalent; is that true?

Mr. MORGAN. That's very true.

Mr. HASTERT. That makes it more difficult, so do you see a need for your agency to be able to have the encryption equipment and things needed?

Mr. MORGAN. Yes, sir, I do. It's becoming more and more difficult for law enforcement, and not just DEA, but for all of law enforcement, because of the encryption of the telephone system. Basically the bad guys are way ahead of the good guys and with the amount of money that they can put into their encryption systems that we cannot afford to get the de-encryption systems.

Mr. HASTERT. So even though the great work that we see from Mr. Gillette and Mr. Snyders of just stopping at routine traffic stops, with a little intelligence, which we get through being able to do wiretaps and have sources out there, we can even do a better job. I'm sure even the State Police, sometimes you need a little help from your friends and that's very, very helpful.

Mr. Gillette, could you tell us a little bit, you know, we were able to increase the Burn grants last year so that local police groups can fund D.A.R.E. and other things. Is that a good decision? Do we need to continue or to favor these Burn grants? Do you see actually positive things coming out of that?

Mr. GILLETTE. Yes, sir, I do. I've got two small children in school and D.A.R.E. is part of the program at the local school they're at and even though we're seeing a lot of large shipments of narcotics being transported, we still need the education out there to the kids. It's one form of maybe helping the kids out. At least if they don't use it, maybe we could be out of a job, which I would like one day.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Snyders, we're very impressed with the work you're doing both down in Springfield and certainly on the road, the work that Master Sergeant Gillette and his troops are doing.

What else can we do to make your job easier? How do we need to inter link more or communicate better with several groups, either one of you?

Mr. SNYDERS. Well, I know from my angle right now, I think the key is increased inter-agency coordination and I think there are a lot of different efforts going on right now between agencies to work along with each other and for networking.

But I think that needs to be increased and, of course, funding with some of the intelligence data bases and intelligence networks between the agencies is certainly a big part, particularly when we're talking about the gangs and dealing with—you know, virtually most of the drugs that we just showed and discussed. At some level, they are going to be distributed to some of the mid-level gang distribution leaders, and I think we need to continue addressing some of the intelligence exchanges between the agencies and how the gangs are moving the drugs to increase our interdictions of their amounts of dope.

So I think it's a total of inter-agency agreement from the beginning to the end, where we can work both where the drugs are coming from and where they're being distributed within the community.

Mr. HASTERT. Master Sergeant Gillette, I know that the work that you do with local law enforcement is outstanding, too. We were hoping to have Chief of Police Dave Stover here today from Aurora, who I know you've worked with and cooperated with and, Mr. Morgan, you have too. Unfortunately, he couldn't be here, but we appreciate that type of interconnection.

Mr. Morgan, what could we do better to increase this better communication among agencies?

Mr. MORGAN. I think we're on the right track, Congressman. I think with your emphasis on these type of hearings, I think, too, that our Administrator Constantine has spoken to you about and in my previous briefing to you in Washington, what I see more now, and I just celebrated, if you will, 32 years with the DEA and its predecessor organizations. Right now we, in the law enforcement community, Federal, State and local, are cooperating more and more effectively than at any time in my over 30 years in drug law enforcement.

I think the trend that we have going right now is terrific. No one agency, large or small, can do it all in this drug battle and I think we're finally seeing it and the fruits of this are paying off right now in the way this Operation Valkyrie is working, with Zorro II type operations, with foreign work that we're doing under Craig Chretien and with the State Department, the military, it's going absolutely in the right direction right now.

With the committee's support, I think that's the most important part of it.

Mr. HASTERT. That's good, I'm sure the drug czar will be happy to hear that. Thank you very much. Thank you for your excellent testimony. I'd like to turn now to my colleague from Indiana, Mr. Souder.

Mr. SOUDER. Well, I'm certainly going to be nervous driving down the interstate in Illinois; make sure I don't have any car fresheners in my car, make sure I don't have any kids, grand-

parents, no van and I guess my wife is going to have to get rid of her monkey fur coat.

One of the things I wondered or just kind of out of curiosity with these two older people who had been making these runs for such a long period of time for the money, where do they recruit mules like that? Probably not an ad in the newspaper.

Mr. SNYDERS. We spent a lot of time debriefing these mules and asked them that very question. To answer your question directly with this last one, this driver told us, again, he's a 68-year-old white male. He said he hung around in bars in south Florida and would get to be known within a particular drinking establishment and before long they'd be drinking beers or whatever next to a Colombian drug dealer and after a while they'd get to know each other and these trafficking organizations would start to trust this guy and they would send him on a test run.

They would end up putting him in a vehicle and asking him to transport a vehicle from Florida to California or Florida to Chicago with no drugs in it and see if this guy stuck to the schedule he was supposed to. If he did then they would pay him good bucks the next time. But a lot of it, I think, happens in bars or relatives or a cousin of a cousin, that type of thing.

Mr. SOUDER. Kind of like Miami Vice in real life or something like the TV shows.

Mr. SNYDERS. A little bit.

Mr. SOUDER. How, when you, and I'm not sure whether you can answer this question or Mr. Morgan, Mr. Chretien, how, when you arrest somebody and you took the time to go through that van and load it on an airplane, come to New York, what kind of communication systems do the dealers have and how long do you have before they realize somebody's been busted in the process?

Because then you got him to New York, you got that guy. Sometimes it would work real fast, sometimes longer. What kind of pattern do you see in that?

Mr. SNYDERS. I can start out on that one. The patterns that they use are very sophisticated and that, of course, is the reason we used the C-5 transport jet in that particular case. We don't like to use the aircraft every time and usually you don't need to, but sometimes they're on a very sophisticated, very set schedule and if they are a couple of hours late, people at the other end are not going to accept the drugs.

And in that particular case, the only way to get them there on time was to put the van into the motor home or the motor home into the plane and fly it out there. But they have paging set-ups, they have cellular phones and their communication is pretty sophisticated, it really is.

This particular driver, to tell you how widespread it is, told us that she had to page New York from every State and then in the pager she had to enter in her driver number I.D. number, her driver I.D. number, and her I.D. number was 65. We said, why did you have number 65 and she said at any one time there's 80 of us out there and they have to know who's reporting in.

So we picture a big war board monitoring the progress of all these vehicles, but what she told us turned out to be truthful on

virtually everything and if we take that with a half a truth, it's incredible. The scale of this is incredible.

Mr. CHRETIEN. The level of sophistication sometimes even astonishes law enforcement. I know when we've done raids in Cali, Colombia, and you go into a room and you see a large computer that tracks down to the kilo a shipment of drugs in New York to a very particular seller, and the records are very well detailed and accurate and we try to exploit that, but they're in it for business. They're in it to make money, and they take all the precaution that a regular business would.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Morgan, you made illusion to the clean-up costs and the DEA picks up the clean-up costs. Asset forfeiture doesn't cover that? How does that work?

Mr. MORGAN. We get some of the money from asset forfeiture. I think, and I hate to give you a total bill, but I think DEA's cost last year was something in the neighborhood of \$7 million to do this. We did get some of that money from the asset forfeiture fund, but not all of it.

Mr. SOUDER. It's not the before asset forfeiture, before assets are distributed the costs of the bust aren't calculated? In other words, it goes to fixed amount to the different groups regardless of what the cost was of the——

Mr. MORGAN. No, that's not figured into it, no, sir.

Mr. SOUDER. Another question I had, in the \$100,000 to \$200,000 that are going to this guy in prison who's either going to be very old in prison or more likely be out in 10 years, the \$100,000 to \$200,000 he's taking in a week, how did that figure get arrived at? Do you intercept that?

Mr. MORGAN. That was part of an interception that he made the demand of his Board of Governors that he wanted personally \$100,000 to \$200,000 per week. He named the date, it was Tuesday, I want \$150,000 to \$200,000 on Tuesday and he was meeting with them and gave them this direction from the prison during a meeting there with one of his compatriots on the outside. This money was not just necessarily all drug sales, but he had, when I mentioned about having a corporation, they had ways of laundering that money, they had ways like this, and that's how the money is laundered. That was his goal and he met it.

Mr. SOUDER. It's kind of scary to think that they can be that organized when they're under our jurisdiction, yet alone when they're running around loose.

Mr. MORGAN. Yes, one of the search warrants that we did here in Chicago on that gang disclosed, when we were talking about computerized records, et cetera. They had totally on a portable computer the total structure, organizational structure of the gang as well as their own constitution all computerized.

Mr. SOUDER. It's good to know they're constitutionalists.

Mr. Chretien, on the heroin, does it follow, not as high a percentage of the heroin is coming from Central and South America.

Could you give us some ideas of that and how that might be entering in here to Chicago and other areas?

Mr. CHRETIEN. We calculate now, based on seizures and sampling of seizures of heroin across the United States, the Colombian grown and processed heroin is approaching 35 percent of total

sales. That's significant, particularly when you consider a couple of years ago the amount was minuscule. They've made a concerted effort. We've even heard of meetings where they figure that cocaine, at some point, is going to top out. We're starting to see some signs of that, that there are fewer users but those that are using are using more and are looking for a different market. They make much more money by selling heroin. It's the same weight. They already have the mechanism for getting the drugs in the country.

As a matter of fact, there was a joke about two Colombian traffickers trying to figure out how they are going to smuggle this heroin into the country and one says, "oh, just stick it in a load of cocaine." So they can get it into the country fairly easy.

We've seen anecdotal information where they're passing out free samples, creating new markets in New York and other places and I think the media has been reporting a lot lately. Rolling Stone had a couple of series of good articles about the misinformation in heroin use, that if you snort it or chase the dragon that it's not going to be as addictive as injecting heroin. It doesn't carry the same stigma, but, on the contrary, it's just a lethal, just as addictive. I think we're seeing a rash of new addicts now. Hopefully that will start dying down as the word gets out.

Mr. SOUDER. One other question on, over the weekend there were some about President Sempere who's been in a lot of trouble in Colombia from our side, allegedly having death threats from the drug cartel and so on.

Can you talk about it? Do you know anything particular? Is that more of a bluff? What's going on?

Mr. CHRETIEN. Well, a lot of that is ongoing type of classified information. I think it's a very unstable situation in Colombia. We have a president who has been accused of accepting campaign money that was generated from drug sales, drug proceeds. There seems to be, from what we can determine, some veracity to that and we're just observing all of the different maneuvers going on within that government. They're struggling within themselves trying to determine what do we do with this within their own constitution.

So I can't comment on whether or not it's accurate or not.

Mr. SOUDER. It's difficult as politicians because as we try to show that the interdiction efforts are important, that we need to do all these type of things, when media stories, it's just good for people to have their eyes open and to understand that this may or may not be true, that Colombia is, in fact, cracking down, that the president's under duress from the drug dealers.

Like you say, it's classified. I personally don't know whether it's the truth, but I'm skeptical enough at this point to know that they will come up with all kinds of reasons, not only the traffickers, but the governments, to try to show that their efforts to try to show that they're clean because it's a very profitable thing in their countries. It's becoming, if we don't get control of it in Mexico, it could easily become like Colombia where the government, if not directly, at least indirectly is heavily influenced by the narco traffickers.

Mr. CHRETIEN. I can say this, in most of the discussions we had with Mexican officials, they always express the fear of being Colombianized and they point to Colombia as, well that's some-

thing, we don't want to get to that point. So it doesn't go unnoticed, the problems taking place in other countries.

Mr. HASTERT. Congressman Weller.

Mr. WELLER. Thank you, Congressman Hastert, and the first question I have is for Mr. Chretien.

Can you go into a little greater detail on how the source country strategy works and how, or frankly, how it's supposed to work and why has the so-called controlled shift to the strategy not occurred yet?

Mr. CHRETIEN. Shift to?

Mr. WELLER. To the source country strategy.

Mr. CHRETIEN. The program that we have going now, and there's been a transition from more of a direct involvement on the ground, if you will, with DEA sponsored operations where we had people that were really on the ground working with host country police agencies going into very hostile jungle environments and as part of the strategy of that program was after a certain number of years our sort of up front participation, we were to pull back. There was an institution building on the part of these countries and then we would sort of lead from the rear, and have them go out and do the things that they should be doing.

Right now our strategy is to continue to support that; to emphasize institution building and now to emphasize another phase and that's attacking the organizations. So to have this other strategy where they attack the infrastructure, the processing, the landing strips, all the production facilities, and now try to get police experience and expertise built up to attack.

Well, where does the money go, how is it laundered, where's the commanding control structure, who's responsible for shipping, things like that. Encouraging them to enact laws that will enable them to do it. A lot of these countries don't even have the tools to work the type of investigations that we think are necessary to disband these groups.

Mexico, for example, up until relatively recently, and it still hasn't been ratified completely, they didn't have conspiracy laws, they didn't have laws that would allow their police officials to conduct wire taps and so they were really hindered. We would criticize them informally, but they would say we don't have the means to do it.

Now they do. We're working with them closely and we will in the future. I personally have been involved in several really sensitive programs that if they are successful we should see some very dramatic results. It's very difficult working in an overseas environment when you can't apply our laws directly to them.

Narcotics may be a priority to us, but the economy may be their No. 1 priority. So we're pushing to—

Mr. WELLER. With the, obviously requires a lot of people to work on this strategy in communicating with the corporate officials in each of the countries plus the followup on our responsibilities.

Do you feel that you have an adequate number of agents and staff on this international effort?

Mr. CHRETIEN. I don't think you'd ever have enough. If I had a wish list, I'd say give me more helicopters, more agents, more secretaries. There's never enough when you look at the problem.

But considering the budget that we have to work with, and I think the congressional delegation probably saw first-hand that the few people that we do have, give a return for the bucks to the American public. We're really out there on the front lines. We work way over the hours that anybody's paid and our guys are put in some very dangerous, tough situations.

Could we use more people? Sure, we could always use more people.

Mr. WELLER. Well, clearly it's a cause you have to believe in to fight this type of fight and take the risks your agents take.

With the number of staff and agents you have now compared to 1992, for example, 4 years ago, do you have fewer or more than you had?

Mr. CHRETIEN. Actually, the spots have increased slightly. There's always a lag time between selecting somebody, getting them to language school, and the kids and timing them to get to post, but we have increased slightly. We're shifting some resources around. We're opening an office in Moscow. The Administrator and I went to South Africa recently, where they asked us to open up an office, which is unusual, and Beijing.

Wherever the need is, where we see emerging trends, that's where we try to focus our resources. In Central America, we had a heavy concentration of agents there a few years ago and we saw a shift from trafficking, using Central America as a trampoline. So we're not putting resources in other areas. In Panama, for example, which I think we need to pay more attention to money laundering and the free zone, which I don't know if anybody really has a handle on what's going on there.

Mr. WELLER. Well, I'm just noting from my notes that I made in preparation for this, I think the President's budget request for fiscal year 1996, our current level is \$123 million less than what was requested in 1992. So you have been, certainly, operating very frugally if you've been able to do your job with fewer resources.

I was wondering, talking about Mexico and the map that you first showed up there where you listed the various organizations, the Mexican cartels, you indicated that there's four new cartels basically on the border now operating in Mexico?

Mr. CHRETIEN. Well, they're not new, but there are four—organizations that pretty much dominate and control the traffic that goes through Mexico.

Mr. WELLER. What percent of the drugs that reach the Chicago region go through these four organizations, these four Mexican cartels, do you have any idea?

Mr. CHRETIEN. I'd say virtually all of it.

Mr. WELLER. All of it, so they control all access then through our borders?

Mr. CHRETIEN. Yes, sir, except for Puerto Rico.

Mr. WELLER. Except for Puerto Rico, OK.

I was wondering if, actually one other question I had. I realize we're a little bit limited on time, but also, Mr. Chretien, you used the term emergency room episodes are off the chart and I was just wondering, do you think this is the result of low price, high availability or is there just better stuff with better purity out there?

Mr. CHRETIEN. Well, referring to methamphetamine, I think the availability is there. It's cheaper than cocaine, it has longer lasting effects than cocaine, much harsher on the body. All of those are reasons as to why we're seeing more of this.

In fact, in Los Angeles, where cocaine used to be pretty much the predominant drug, it's pretty much been replaced by methamphetamine.

Mr. WELLER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. HASTERT. One last comment or question.

We talked about the sacrifice that our people are making in Colombia, which is really the center of all this activity. Chief of Police or General Jose Serano, who is the Chief of Police, very dedicated man who we work very close with, has lost, is that correct, thousands actually of his people, like 3,500 in the last year or so, is that correct?

Mr. CHRETIEN. The last several years.

Mr. HASTERT. Several years, so there's been a big toll other places, as well, of people who have tried to join with us and solve these problems. So it's really an international effort in many cases.

Mr. CHRETIEN. We seem to hear a lot about the corruption in a particular country and it's very easy to point that out, but I think it goes unnoticed a lot, particularly in the American press, about the sacrifices that a lot of these police agencies make. There are some very dedicated, very honest, very noncorruptive cops who work in a tough, tough environment where their take-home is \$200 a month.

Mr. HASTERT. I can think of the people, one of our folks that we worked with in Bolivia and certainly the General and the Admiral down in the interior of Peru who worked on—systems and shoot-down policies and certainly their troops were very dedicated. So there are some good people out there and we need to take advantage of those folks.

Well, I want to thank this whole panel for being here today. I think it was a great education for us. Certainly, you brought a lot of good insights to us and thank you very much.

We're going to move on to our second panel, so thank you, gentlemen.

At this time I'd like to introduce David Akemann, who is Kane County State's attorney. He's chiefly responsible for the efforts to obtain lengthy sentences for those convicted of violent gang-related crime. He's also worked with the police agencies and with the Judges of the 16th Circuit in Illinois to speed up the judicial process in an attempt to limit overcrowding at the county jail level.

I'd like to also introduce Mr. Mike Coghlan. Mike is the DeKalb County State's attorney. As State's attorney for the county which is home to the Northern Illinois University, he's dealt with the problem of drug trafficking between the city of DeKalb, NIU and the dealers in the Chicago area.

Bruce Malkin is a sergeant with the West Chicago Police Department, and for the last 4 years he has served as Supervisor of Investigations for West Chicago and we're going to ask him to go first today, after I finish the introductions. You have to appear in court in a very short period of time this morning, so what we're going to do, we'll introduce you first and you give your testimony and

then I'm going to excuse you because I know you have to appear in court.

Also, we have with us Ken Hinterlong. Ken is Aurora's Third Ward Alderman. He is instrumental in the efforts to build a strong citizen's organization in his ward called the South East Side Neighbors. This organization has taken the direct action against the residences of gang members and drug dealers, holding marches by their homes and knocking on doors to make it clear that their illegal activities will not be tolerated in their neighborhoods.

I would also like to welcome a very special witness, someone who came to speak first hand to the effects of drugs and gangs in our daily lives and later on we'll be introducing Mrs. Pam Maakestad. Mrs. Maakestad is from DeKalb, IL.

And at this time, we thank you for being here today. Let me ask you to stand and raise your hand.

[Witnesses sworn.]

Mr. HASTERT. And let the record show the witnesses responded in the affirmative. At this time, Mr. Malkin, we'd like to have your testimony.

STATEMENTS OF BRUCE MALKIN, SERGEANT, WEST CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT; DAVID AKEMANN, KANE COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY; MIKE COGLAN, DEKALB COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY; PAM MAAKESTAD; AND KEN HINTERLONG, SOUTHEAST SIDE NEIGHBORS IN AURORA

Mr. MALKIN. Thank you. I would like to also thank the Congressmen on the panel on behalf of the city of West Chicago for allowing us to speak here.

I have a prepared statement that I'd like to read.

West Chicago, with a pop—

Mr. HASTERT. Incidentally, let me say, you're welcome to read your statement. If you have prepared statements, they'll be part of the record and if you'd like to summarize your statements because of time constraints, that will be accepted, too.

Mr. MALKIN. OK.

West Chicago, with a population of approximately 18,000, lies 40 miles west of the city of Chicago. According to the U.S. 1990 Census, 30 percent of the population is Hispanic, and is the largest in DuPage County. Over the last 5 years the city has seen an increase in gang violence, which reached alarming numbers in 1994 and 1995. We are aware that gangs and drugs are synonymous with each other and creates a concern for our community. Addressing and understanding violence and drug abuse has become an important issue for the city of West Chicago.

Over the last several years, the city of West Chicago and the police department launched a major campaign to address both issues. The police department felt in order to effectively address these issues, it would require community involvement. The police department also felt that in order to prevent gang violence and substance abuse, interventions must focus resources on strengthening individual's homes and families which resulted in the development of two community resource centers.

The goal of the police department is to develop long term solutions rather than band-aid approaches to these problems. The for-

mation of the Community Resource Centers were attributed to the efforts of the police department and other key governmental agencies such as local clergy, education, and social service providers.

As part of working with the Resource Centers, in 1996 the police department developed a four-man Problem Oriented Policing Unit. The Unit is comprised of four officers whose goals are to work with the community in solving community problems. As part of their duties, each of the officers works closely with the resource centers. They also provide gang and drug education programs on an ongoing basis for those residents who frequent the centers.

Through an educational process, the police department provides other programs such as D.A.R.E. and VEGA. The police department also provides gang awareness and drug identification presentations for teachers and faculty members throughout both of the school districts in West Chicago.

In 1994, an officer was placed in the high school on a full time basis and as part of his function, provides a variety of educational programs. One of the educational programs he conducts is substance abuse which he teaches in health classes. Other programs the police department conducts are Parent Workshops which are done in both English and Spanish. Although a variety of topics are discussed during these workshops, substance abuse and gang awareness has been a focal point. The West Chicago Police Department also has a speaking bureau and in the past has provided drug awareness programs for various businesses throughout the community. The police department, through its Crime Prevention Program, has provided training both in gang awareness and drug prevention.

As part of the police department's strategies, the formation of a Gang Task Force and a Youth Commission were established. Each committee meets on a regular basis to work in developing alternative programs to deter gang involvement and substance abuse. Each committee is comprised of service providers, parents, and young adults.

In an effort to reach the community, a gang awareness publication was developed and distributed at various presentations, through businesses and the schools. The publication was sponsored by the police department, School Districts 33 and 94 and the Woodfield Police Department. The booklet was printed in both English and in Spanish.

From an enforcement perspective, the police department has a Drug Driver Program which involves extensive training for those officers participating in the program. The police department, on a yearly basis, conducts two roadside safety checks and has assisted a number of other departments in the same area of conducting their roadside safety checks. The police department works closely with DUMEG, a county-wide narcotics enforcement unit, to address drug trafficking within the community.

We feel when working with the multi-cultural populations in the community, in a community such as West Chicago, it's important to realize the differences that exist within ethnic educational, social and family bases systems. It's also important to note that these differences will play a pivotal role in developing intervention strategies when addressing issues such as drug abuse and gang violence.

The police department feels in order to foster a sense of community, we have to work with the community to make a difference.

I just want to expound a little bit just on the aspect of working with our local narcotics unit, which was formed approximately 10 years ago and is also part of the State Police.

We work extensively with them conducting narcotics investigations within our community. Being a smaller department, we are always limited with resources and funding and manpower. So we have to rely on outside agencies, and DUMEG has been a big asset to us in that respect.

Over the years, we have conducted a number of investigations. Most recently, we seized a 1994 Jeep Grand Cherokee in an undercover operation and in the seizure of that vehicle, we were able to sell it back to the State Police and the funding that we received from that vehicle, we're looking at funding a program such as a canine unit which will get the program off the ground.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you very much. I know your next engagement is very important, Officer, so thank you for your testimony and we'll excuse you and you don't have to answer any questions.

Mr. MALKIN. Thank you.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you very much.

I'd like to now introduce Dave Akemann. Dave is the State's attorney for Kane County.

David.

Mr. AKEMANN. Thank you, Congressman Hastert and your fellow Members of Congress. It's great to be here today.

Kane County has a population of about 350,000 people. In the past year our office charged about 569 individuals for felonies. About 90 percent of those are for cocaine, 8 percent for cannabis and the other small 2 percent relate to LSD, heroin, or PCP.

In indicating those numbers, I would hasten to add, in my opinion, much of the illegal drug activity goes unreported because it is, in fact, undetected unlike, for instance, homicides and property crimes.

We have four different types of drug offenders; drug users, small volume dealers who sell out of houses; small volume dealers who sell drugs on the streets; and mid-level and upper level dealers who sell cocaine and other drugs ranging in one-eighth ounce to multi kilograms.

Cocaine, as already has been indicated, comes to us from a variety of sources. The high and mid-level dealers from Chicago come out to the more financial lucrative markets in the collar counties and suburbs to sell for larger sums of money.

A significant amount of the cocaine comes to the county directly from Mexico. In eliciting former persons that testified and your own questions, one of the greatest help in terms of local enforcement and problems that drugs cause in the community is stopping drugs from coming in the country. Obviously, an elementary thing to say, but I think often overlooked.

A lot of the frustration that I hear on the drug issue and many others from the citizenry is why do you let the stuff come in here in the first place? Where does it come and why don't you stop wherever it's coming?

I know that's a concern of each of the three of you, your colleagues and everyone sitting here.

We've had some very large drug arrests in recent days, months. We had one in Aurora recently where there was \$270,000 forfeited or, actually, forfeiture action is pending in a particular house there.

Drug dealers and gang members see this kind of money, which is a great deal of money, something that's often sold on the wholesale level at about \$23,000 per kilo currently in Kane County, which can be sold over and over again for a market value of somewhere around \$300,000 in its most distributed form.

Mr. HASTERT. So you say you can buy a kilo here for \$23,000. That kilo can be broken up for a street value of about \$300,000; where a kilo of coca paste in Peru sells for about \$200; huge.

Mr. AKEMANN. Very, very big money, which is the reason, of course, gangs in particular and others will market it at the street level. Gangs control the drug sale activity in this county. That's why it's done; the profits are huge.

Because time is short, I'll briefly get to the effect that the drug problems have. I mentioned gang violence, particularly in Aurora, the site of the largest problem that we have in terms of gang violence. Twenty-five people last year were murdered in that city, with a population of, I think it's 150 or less. I'm not exactly sure, but it's not an extremely large city and we get essentially daily reports of shots being fired in particular gang locations. I can't emphasize enough the negative impact that drugs have on gang activity because the economics of it on the street level fund the rest of the illegal activity.

Another tragic consequence that I've seen, and will adversely affect anyone I believe with a heart that's ever seen such a thing as the amount of cocaine babies that are born. In 1995, 102 cocaine babies were born in the county of Kane. In that same year, our office filed 304 petitions against parents who were believed to be drug addicts who abused or neglected those children.

Crime is obviously committed to pay for drug habits. I notice my colleague indicates about 70 percent of people in the DeKalb jail. We estimate about 75 or 80 percent are there because of substance abuse of some kind.

Mr. HASTERT. Can you repeat that? About 70 to 75 percent of the people in your jail are there because—

Mr. AKEMANN. Are there because of substance abuse of some kind.

Mr. HASTERT. That's amazing.

Mr. AKEMANN. And I think that's necessarily a universal statistic of local law enforcement in at least the collar area.

Domestic violence is a big problem and issue. Compete for the power and control in that area escalates with drug use.

A significant amount of the street level cocaine dealing in our county deals outside Government subsidized housing and near schools. School children and other law abiding members of the community have no choice but to be constantly exposed to gang members who openly sell cocaine on the street. It is difficult to predict what this exposure will have on our children when they grow up. Our Kane County Child Advocacy Center estimates 30 to 35 per-

cent of child sexual assault and severe physical abuse cases arise out of circumstances involving drug usage.

Mr. HASTERT. David, what was that percentage again?

Mr. AKEMANN. Thirty to thirty-five percent.

The Advocacy Center routinely handles cases in which the offenders goes on a drug binge and then violently abuses child victims.

I know that time is short and I did commit much of this and more to writing, but I would indicate these things that I would ask you gentlemen to consider in making your decisions. We do need increased access and increased speed of access to Federal law enforcement intelligence information in terms of the investigation of crimes as well as access to financial information.

At the present time, we do not have that without a great deal of paperwork and time lag. What I would like to see, quite frankly, is to have local law enforcement be able to be on line with the Federal system so they have access and a large key in what would need to be a Federal system with an inter-relational data base so that meaning that all the different kind of software language can talk to the source of information. Right now that is not available to local law enforcement and it can be.

Another big area, I would say, would be public housing design, regulation and restrictions. Through the method of putting regulations in terms of public housing, you're able to do things that otherwise normal law enforcement procedure because of constitutional limitations would not be able to do.

As for forfeitures, another huge area, until we've recently run into a snag in Illinois because of double jeopardy provisions. We're often made to choose between punishing a person in terms of forfeiting their assets or having that offender spend time in the prison system.

Often my conversations with the police chief run a lot like, well, we get \$200 some thousand dollars or we could put the guy away for 10 to 15 years; which would you prefer? Both make very difficult decisions for local law enforcement people strapped for cash.

Mr. HASTERT. You can't do both?

Mr. AKEMANN. You cannot do both in the State system because of double jeopardy. You can package something together, but that's often difficult. There's a decision pending now with the U.S. Supreme Court on that subject.

Mr. HASTERT. That's State law now, not Federal law?

Mr. AKEMANN. State.

Because of dual sovereignty, however, it's my belief that a system could be devised where if the Federal system chases for one or the other, the State could go after the other and that would be constitutionally permissible. That does not now normally occur and I think that could occur and would be a useful suggestion in terms of working toward further cooperation between State and Federal.

Finally, I appreciate Congressman Hastert's help when, it was a year or two ago where the administration was going to eliminate the Burn grant funding, which, in our county, means two-thirds of

the support for our entire drug unit. In these 570 or so cases, two-thirds of that would not be able to take place but for the Burn grant money we receive. I am very thankful for that.

I appreciate the opportunity to be here and speak to you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Akemann follows:]

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight

Sub-Committee on National Security, International Affairs, and Criminal Justice

Field Hearing on Drug Interdiction

Testimony of David R. Akemann, State's Attorney for Kane County, Illinois

I. The nature of the drug problem in Kane County.

A. Kane County has a population of about 350,000. In the past year our office charged 569 individuals for felony drug offenses.

1. Approximately 90% of the drug prosecutions in Kane County involve cocaine. About 8% are for the sale and possession of cannabis, and the remainder involve LSD, heroin, PCP, methamphetamine, and other controlled substances. We have seen a slight rise in the number of heroin cases in the last year, and expect to see a significant increase in the near future, as heroin has become much more popular in Chicago and other large cities recently.

a. When analyzing the drug problem, we must keep in mind that statistics regarding drug prosecutions vastly understate the actual drug problem in a community. We know exactly how many murders occur in a community in a given year because virtually every homicidal death is reported. Similarly, we can assume that most robberies and burglaries are reported, so our statistics regarding those types of crimes pretty accurately measure the actual level of criminal activity. It is much more difficult to measure the prevalence of illegal drug activity, however, because the vast majority of such activity goes undetected.

2. The majority of drug offenders in our jurisdiction fall into four main categories;

(a) Drug users

(b) Small volume dealers who sell drugs out of houses,

(c) Small volume dealers who sell drugs on the streets, often outside of

government subsidized housing, and

(d) Mid-level and upper-level dealers who sell cocaine and other drugs in quantities ranging from 1/8 ounce to multi-kilograms.

3. Cocaine abuse presents the most serious drug problem in Kane County. Cocaine dealers in Kane County sell their product in amounts as large as 15 kilograms and as small as 1/10 gram.

a. The large volume dealers.

i. Cocaine comes to Kane County from a variety of sources. Many high level and mid-level dealers from Chicago sell their product to gang members in Kane County who sell directly to the users. These individuals usually deal in amounts of one kilogram or less.

ii. A significant amount of cocaine comes to Kane County directly from Mexico. Large scale dealers regularly bring in shipments of 10-15 kilograms to Aurora. The cocaine is then divided into smaller amounts and sold to several levels of smaller dealers until it is ultimately processed into "crack" cocaine and sold to the users.

a. In the past year, undercover police officers from local departments have made several cocaine purchases in amounts of over a kilogram. Cocaine currently sells for about \$23,000 per kilo in Kane County.

b. In one drug raid this year, the Aurora Police seized over \$270,000 in cash from a home. In a raid of another home this year the same police department seized over \$207,000 in cash. Drug forfeiture actions for the cash are pending in both cases.

b. The small volume dealers and users.

i. Most cocaine users in Kane County purchase the drug in the form of "crack", and smoke it. A single rock of crack cocaine sells for \$10-\$20. Crack is readily available in Aurora, Elgin and Carpentersville. In all three locations, street gangs control most of the retail crack trade, and gang members sell openly in many locations. Crack is becoming increasingly available in the other communities in the county.

a. Many dealers sell crack in the streets and parking lots outside of housing complexes. To attack drug dealers who sell cocaine on the streets, our office and the police agencies

have planned and executed undercover operations targeting specific geographic areas, usually public housing areas. Typically, an officer from a town some distance from the target area is brought in to buy drugs from the street dealers. Other officers work surveillance details and videotape the drug sales. The undercover officer tries to buy drugs from one or two different dealers a day for a month or more. At the end of the operation all of the dealers are arrested in a single day. After the arrests, drug activity in the targeted area usually subsides for a month or so, but unfortunately, the arrested dealers are soon replaced by others. Most of the street dealers are teenagers or young adults. Some are as young as 14 and few are older than 25.

b. Other crack dealers operate out of "crack houses". The drug user goes to a particular house or apartment and buys the cocaine inside. Some users smoke the crack in the house, others leave and smoke the crack at another location.

i. Crack houses are more difficult to infiltrate than the outdoor dealers. The dealers are reluctant to allow entry to anyone who they don't know well, and sometimes require the buyer to smoke the cocaine in the house, to ensure the buyer is not an undercover police officer.

4. Although over 90% of our felony drug prosecutions involve cocaine, other drugs present a serious problem as well.

1. Cannabis.

a. Because cannabis is considered less dangerous than cocaine and other controlled substances, less resources are devoted to the prosecution of cannabis deliveries and use.

i. Although cannabis use was down for several years, it has increased recently. Cannabis is used by members of all socio-economic groups, but of most concern is the prevalence of cannabis use by school children. School officials and police report that a significant number of students at both the high school and junior high school levels use cannabis.

2. LSD

a. LSD has become more popular in recent years especially among high school students. This year officials from a high school in one of our more affluent communities, along with the police conducted an investigation, which led the suspension of 22 students who admitted to buying or using LSD on school grounds during that semester. Of even greater concern are reports of significant LSD use by junior high students. LSD use seems to be more popular in the prosperous communities in the county.

3. Heroin

a. Until recently, heroin use had almost disappeared in Kane County. In the last year, however, we have prosecuted several cases of possession of heroin and a few cases of heroin deliveries. Reports show a recent rise in heroin use on a national and local level. Heroin use has become more popular in Chicago recently, so we expect to see an increase in heroin use in Kane County in the very near future, as the distribution networks spread from the metropolitan area. Many new heroin users now snort or smoke the drug, others inject it intravenously.

II. The effect of the Drug problem on the Kane County Community.

Drug use results in a myriad of direct and indirect problems in our community.

A. Gang violence.

1. Street gangs control most of the street level drug trade in Kane County. A kilogram of cocaine purchased for \$23,000 will be processed and resold several times. Ultimately it will be sold as individual rocks to users for a total of over \$300,000. The enormous drug profits fuel other illegal gang activity. Much of the gang violence is a direct result of disputes over the right to sell crack at particular choice locations.

2. There has been a dramatic increase in violent gang related crime in our county in the past several years. In 1995, the Aurora Police Department, received at least one report of shots fired every single day. That same year 25 people were murdered in Aurora. Aurora has a population of less than 100,000. Police believe that most of the shootings and killings were gang related. The gangs financed the purchase of their guns primarily with drug money.

B. The children of cocaine addicts.

1. One of the most tragic consequences of the drug problem in Kane County is the birth of cocaine babies. In 1995 102 cocaine babies were born in Kane County.

2. Many children of cocaine addicts in our county are shamelessly neglected by their parents. In 1995 our office filed 304 petitions against parents believed to be drug addicts, who abused or neglected their children.

C. Crimes committed by addicts to pay for their habit

1. It is estimated that at least 75% of the robberies, burglaries and thefts prosecuted in Kane County are committed by addicts to support their drug habits. In many neighborhoods every small business, home and parked car is a potential target for an drug addict looking for \$20 to buy a rock of crack cocaine

2. Our office recently prosecuted two brothers who committed 11 armed robberies in only 47 days. The victims were employees of gas stations, restaurants and other small businesses. Both brothers told the police that they committed the armed robberies to support their cocaine habits. One of the defendants had been released from prison just months before the first armed robbery. Both brothers were under 22 years old. Unfortunately, cases like these have become all too common in our county. Predictably, the cities in our county find it increasingly difficult to attract small businesses to many of their neighborhoods.

D. Domestic violence.

1. Domestic violence is a major problem in our community which is closely associated to drug and alcohol abuse. Domestic Violence is a major problem in our community and drug abuse is often a key factor. With the need for power and control as a motivating force behind domestic violence offenders, drug usage enhances that need. The violence then escalates.

E. Drug dealers expose our children to an unhealthy environment.

1. A significant amount of the street level cocaine dealing in our county occurs outside government subsidized housing and near schools. School children and other law abiding members of the community have no choice but to be constantly exposed to gang members who openly sell cocaine on the street. It is difficult to predict what effect this exposure will have on our children as they grow up. Our Kane County Child Advocacy Center estimates that 30% to 35% of the child sexual assault and severe physical abuse cases arise out of circumstances involving drug usage. The Advocacy Center routinely handles cases in which the offender goes on a drug binge and then violently abuses child victims

The author would like to acknowledge the help of Assistant States Attorney Joseph Cullen , Director of the States Attorney's Office Drug Unit in the preparation of these remarks.

Appendix

The following is statistical data regarding mothers prosecuted in juvenile court for cocaine babies. I have also included data regarding parents who are being prosecuted in juvenile court for abuse and neglect where the use of illegal substances is the underlying cause.

The statistical data is rough since we do not presently have a data base to keep a totally accurate account. The numbers represent estimations only and may be higher than quoted. I have also attempted to provide rough data comparing the last four years. The 1996 data is accurate up until today's date.

Cocaine Babies

1996 (1/1/96-6/18/96)	1995	1994	1993	1992
62	102	74	46	29

Parental Drug Abuse

1996 (1/1/96-6/18/96)	1995	1994	1993	1992
186	304	274	207	189

The above figures represent new cases only. Juvenile abuse/neglect cases have a "life of their own". These figures do not represent cases that are already in the system in which another child was born with cocaine in his or her system. This would bring the numbers up (probably around 20%)

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Akemann, we certainly thank you for your excellent testimony. We understand that we have national strategies and State strategies, but your offices and the offices of the local police forces is where the rubber really hits the road. Again, some excellent insights.

I'm going to go next to Mr. Coghlan, who is the State's attorney for DeKalb County and at the end of your testimony, Mike, I'd like to have you introduce Mrs. Maakestad.

Mr. COGLAN. It's nice going toward the end because previous speakers pick up a lot of information on the handout, so I won't go to my prepared statement.

Instead, what I'd like to say, one of the things that would be helpful from Congress is to take possibly some of the programs from the county of DeKalb, which are small localized programs, and standardize those throughout the country.

As was mentioned by the DEA earlier, I believe that it is the biggest bang for the buck when it is for local prevention programs. I'm not at all suggesting that there be any efforts decreased in terms of the supply into the country. As matter of fact, I'm strongly supportive of decreasing the supply, but we have to do both of these at the same time.

Here's a picture of our county, 80,000 individuals, the dark clouds with the bolts of lightening. Now you say to yourself, now DeKalb County, that's a pretty small town. How the heck were they able to put together the second largest gang sweep in the history of Illinois? Which was fortunately surpassed by Rockford and Chicago after we did this in 1993. The answer to the question is very simple. As a prosecutor's office, we require less evidence to prosecute cases. We also work with the gang members. We try to arrest in groups as opposed to individuals. That's law enforcement.

With regard to prevention, there's a program referred to as DCP SAFE. It stands for DeKalb County Partnership for a Substance Abuse Free Environment. This, I believe, is a model in the State of Illinois. This is approximately 100 volunteers that have been together for over 7 years. I don't believe that there has been a volunteer effort that organized with that many individuals the same for so many years, as I am told by our drug abuse prevention experts in DeKalb County.

As a side note, Congressman Hastert's office and a letter from Congressman Hastert's office started DCP SAFE I believe in 1989. Here we have something, I mean it's very important to focus on. Time after time after time, you'll hear individuals say well, let's educate the kids, educate the kids, educate the kids.

Well, my friend, Pam Maakestad, is going to tell you next is that after the kids leave the classrooms and they have their drug education pamphlets and many of them throw them on the ground because when they go home, their mom and dad are using alcohol or using cannabis or something along those lines, prescription drugs, nicotine, et cetera.

Here's what we have. We have a group of parents in this program, and not only do we have a group of parents, but let's take a look at the businesses that they represent. Caterpillar, city of DeKalb, Commonwealth Edison, DeKalb County, DeKalb Genetics,

GTE, Ideal Industries, Midwest Finishing, Northern Illinois University, et cetera. You're talking about a lot of parents.

What we do here at the DeKalb County Partnership, we have them go through and clean their house. Take an inventory as to what alcohol is allowed, what substance abuse is allowed, et cetera, in terms of the workplace. Once they went through and implemented policies such as EAP's, et cetera, then they were certified by this group referred to as DeKalb County Partnership for a Substance Abuse Free Environment.

What are we doing? We're raising the awareness of the parents so that when the kids go home after the D.A.R.E. Program, they say to themselves, you know mom, dad, I notice you used to have beer cans in the refrigerator and they're not there right now or I notice you used to get drunk every other Friday and you're not doing that right now. That's a better prevention effort than all the money we're spending in schools right now.

Who deserves a big pat on the back? At least as far as DeKalb County is concerned, it's the media. I notice a lot of them took off at this point. That's OK, but the point is the media sets the norm and one of the things that occurred in DeKalb County is what I consider to be a minor miracle and I'll get to that in a second.

Here's a newspaper article about the media trying to stop violence and they're talking about things such as violent movies, et cetera. You may have heard these statistics before, but the average American by the age of 20, is directly engaged with television approximately 40,000 hours, directly engaged with school approximately 25,000 hours and is in direct communication with their parents approximately 2,000 hours. Of those 40,000 hours of television, they see approximately 400,000 acts of violence, 200,000 sex acts and 33,000 murders.

So let me ask you, who's raising the kids and who's setting the norm? The answer is it's the media by and large.

Now, what's the good news? The good news is in DeKalb County, highly responsible media has helped in setting the norm. Here's an example on what I mean. I'm throwing out a lot of these sociological terms, even though I'm supposed to be a prosecutor, but this works, by the way, and I'll show you why.

For example, the Wall Street Journal had a study that they were supposed to report on. Their article came out and it said binge drinking at Nation's colleges is widespread. It sounds pretty bad, but if you take the same information, the same information and you rewrite it as a conscientious media can do, and in our area has done, you write, the majority of college students drink moderately or not at all and you go through and you explain.

Now, this we're going through very quickly, but I want to show you that a series of articles were run over a 5-year period at Northern Illinois University and at first they were in a pattern that I wasn't even used to reading because I was used to the regular media reporting.

What would they say? They'd say focus on the positive without changing the facts, without slanting or gearing a story one way or another, they say 98 percent are not arrested for DUI, DWI; 92 percent do not vandalize; 88 percent do not get into trouble with authorities; 85 percent do not get hurt or injured.

What's happening? When the child comes home and he recognizes a fact which exists in DeKalb County, which is that 67 percent of high school juniors and seniors drink on a regular basis. Let me say that again; 67 percent of high school students drink on a regular basis, that's drug abuse. Alcohol is a drug and they're abusing it because they're using it illegally.

You have to ask yourself, for every 10 people hacking away at the leaves, there is one hacking away at the root. What's the root of the substance abuse problem or the demand? The answer is it starts with alcohol abuse, primarily, not all the time.

So this model is immediately adaptable to drugs and it is also immediately part of the drug phenomenon because the parents, many abuse alcohol as to the students.

The important thing to focus on with high school students is the fact that there are approximately 34 percent that don't abuse drugs and alcohol; 34 percent that don't drink on a regular basis in the local high school.

So when you go out and say to the kids, well the kids say, everybody's doing it. The answer is not, everybody is not doing it; 34 percent of your friends have a healthy attitude toward drug abuse.

This looks like some bureaucratic draft that nobody can understand, but to me it represents a minor miracle and here's what happened.

In 1988, this media campaign that I was showing you earlier, the one that's hard to read at first, was placed in advertisements at Northern Illinois University. By the way, it's the subject of a number of articles in the field of reducing substance abuse.

You notice here that in 1988 and 1989, 43 percent of college students would binge drink, which means five or more drinks at a time. Now, what happened? The advertisements were run over a period of time and this changes from 44.8 percent to 27.7 percent.

Now, take a look at the line right here. This is the average college student. All college students actually bingeing. This is Northern Illinois University, 27.7 percent. This, from here to here, is what I consider to be a minor miracle. Who's to credit for that? The answer is the media and the media campaign because we act as we are expected to behave.

One of the things that people find is that the perception, here's the line up here, the perception of people that abuse alcohol or let's say drugs when they drink, it's far above the actual. So, in other words, when people were asked how many people do you think abuse alcohol on the campus, the answer was almost 70 percent. But in reality, only 43 percent were abusing it.

With the education you'll notice that the actual abuse comes closer to the perceived abuse. So the more accurate information we get out, the more information that is not slanted or twisted, let's say in the old media style, the more the actual drug abuse reduces. The more we understand the true facts, the more the actual problem reduces.

The more people trying to use scare tactics and exaggeration, the more individuals tend to abuse drugs and alcohol. I'll conclude with that point.

At this point I'd like to introduce a friend of mine, her name is Pam Maakestad. Pam and I know each other from a tragedy that occurred in Sycamore in 1991. Pam's son, Brent, was murdered out in front of the courthouse in Sycamore. But for drugs and gangs, Brent would be here today.

What Pam and I decided to do was to take this tragedy and to turn it into something positive, which has occurred in the county of DeKalb.

As I mentioned before, a number of the programs that we have from law enforcement, community volunteers are generally considered model programs and much of that has come about as a result of Brent's death.

Pam.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Coghlan follows:]

DRUG ABUSE... AND THE RESPONSE IN DEKALB COUNTY
MICHAEL P. COGLAN, STATE'S ATTORNEY

70 MILES WEST OF CHICAGO, DEKALB COUNTY HAS A POPULATION OF 80,000 PEOPLE. NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY IS THE LARGEST EMPLOYER. UNEMPLOYMENT IS LOW, SOCIAL SERVICES AND COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS ARE ABUNDANT. 97% OF DEKALB COUNTY CITIZENS ARE GENERALLY LAW ABIDING. ABOUT 2000 PEOPLE ARE CHARGED WITH CRIMES OR JUVENILE DELINQUENCY EACH YEAR. BASED ON A SURVEY OF JAIL INMATES I ESTIMATE 70% OF THE CRIME IN DEKALB COUNTY WOULD NOT HAVE OCCURRED BUT FOR ALCOHOL OR DRUG ABUSE.

THAT'S THE CHALLENGE. REDUCE DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE AND YOU REDUCE CRIME.

IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS CRACK COCAINE CAME TO DEKALB COUNTY... ALONG WITH TWO GANG MURDERS, THREE DRIVE-BY SHOOTINGS, THREE CRACK HOUSES, A KIDNAPPING, SEXUAL ASSAULT, ARMED ROBBERY OF A DRUG DEALER AND A MURDER IN THE COURSE OF COLLECTING A DRUG DEBT. CRACK COCAINE SELLS FOR A HIGHER PRICE IN DEKALB COUNTY THAN IN CHICAGO. THE DRUG DEALERS BRING THE DRUG TRADE AND BIG CITY CRIME TO SMALLER TOWNS LIKE DEKALB COUNTY IN ORDER TO MAKE MORE MONEY.

I WAS ASKED TO COME HERE TODAY TO TELL CONGRESS WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN DEKALB COUNTY TO ADDRESS THE DRUG PROBLEM.

IN 1993 DEKALB COUNTY HOSTED THE SECOND LARGEST GANG SWEEP IN THE HISTORY OF ILLINOIS, RESULTING IN THE ARREST OF 25 GANG MEMBERS IN A THREE COUNTY AREA. (THIS NUMBER WAS LATER SURPASSED BY MASS ARRESTS IN CHICAGO AND ROCKFORD.) WHILE BEING TRANSPORTED TO THE PENITENTIARY, SEVERAL GANG MEMBERS SAID THEY WOULD NOT BE RETURNING TO DEKALB COUNTY WHEN RELEASED FROM JAIL. THEY FELT THE PUNISHMENT WAS GREATER THAN THE PUNISHMENT THEY WOULD HAVE RECEIVED IN CHICAGO.

THAT'S A BRIEF EXAMPLE OF OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS IN DEKALB COUNTY.

FROM A COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER STANDPOINT, MORE THAN 100 COMMUNITY LEADERS HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED FOR THE PAST 7 YEARS IN AN ANTI-DRUG TASK FORCE KNOWN AS THE DEKALB COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR A SUBSTANCE ABUSE FREE ENVIRONMENT (DCP/SAFE). THE VOLUNTEERS MEET MONTHLY IN ONE OF SIX ACTION GROUPS: 1) RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS, 2) WORKPLACE, 3) PUBLIC INFORMATION/PUBLIC RELATIONS, 4) FAMILY/HOME/COMMUNITY, 5) EDUCATION SPORTS, 6) LEGISLATIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT. THE STEERING COMMITTEE ALSO MEETS ON A MONTHLY BASIS TO COORDINATE THE ACTIVITIES FROM EACH ACTION GROUP. THIS HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR THE PAST 7 YEARS. ACCOMPLISHMENTS INCLUDE DRUG-FREE YOUTH ACTIVITIES, CERTIFICATION OF DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE SITES (FOR PARENTS), MEMBERSHIP OF 25 CHURCHES, DRUG ABUSE EDUCATION IN

SCHOOLS, A MEDIA CAMPAIGN PROMOTING A DRUG-FREE LIFESTYLE, AND MANY, MANY OTHER ACTIVITIES TO REDUCE ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE IN DEKALB COUNTY.

THE DEKALB COUNTY PARTNERSHIP IS OFTEN USED AS A MODEL THROUGHOUT THE STATE BECAUSE THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS, IT'S 7 YEAR HISTORY, AND HIGH LEVEL OF ORGANIZATION. CONGRESSMAN HASTERT'S OFFICE HAS PROVIDED A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THIS 7 YEAR DRUG PREVENTION EFFORT. IN FACT, THE DEKALB COUNTY PARTNERSHIP BEGAN AS A RESULT OF A LETTER CO-AUTHORED BY SUE WHEAT OF CONGRESSMAN HASTERT'S OFFICE.

FINALLY, DEKALB COUNTY HAS USED A MEDIA CAMPAIGN WHICH HAS HAD UNPRECEDENTED SUCCESS. OVER A FIVE YEAR PERIOD ON THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CAMPUS THIS MEDIA CAMPAIGN REDUCED ALCOHOL ABUSE FAR BELOW THE NATIONAL AVERAGE ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES. I AM CONVINCED THIS IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE TOOL IN REDUCING DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE IN OUR COUNTRY. STATED SIMPLY, THE MEDIA CAMPAIGN REPORTS THE DRUG PROBLEM IN THE CONTEXT OF AN OVERALL HEALTHY SOCIETY. IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN WITHOUT USING AN EXAMPLE.

BY MOST OBJECTIVE STANDARDS WE ARE LIVING AT THE GREATEST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF MANKIND, YET MANY PEOPLE SEEM TO FOCUS PRIMARILY ON THE NEGATIVES. SOME CALL THIS "NEWS." THE MEDIA TENDS TO GIVE US WHAT WE ASK FOR. SO LET'S START ASKING THE MEDIA TO FOCUS MORE ON THE POSITIVE SIDE OF DRUGS IN OUR SOCIETY. FOCUSING ON THE NEGATIVE LOWERS OUR ENERGY TO ADDRESS THE DRUG PROBLEM. WHEN WE PUT THE PROBLEM IN PERSPECTIVE, WE LOWER DRUG USE. THIS LOWERS CRIME AND RESULTS IN A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE.

THANK YOU.

MICHAEL P. COCHLAN
STATE'S ATTORNEY OF DEKALB

Ms. MAAKESTAD. Good morning. My name is Pam Maakestad, and I came here today to share some of my first-hand experiences with you. I'm here trying to help others avoid the problems that go along with drugs.

Five years ago my 17-year-old son, Brent, was shot and killed in front of the DeKalb County Courthouse in Sycamore, a town of about 10,000 people. If it weren't for Brent's involvement in drugs and gangs, Brent would be alive today.

On August 17, 1991, a car parked in front of the courthouse. The driver was 14 years old and the four passengers were 16 years old or younger. The driver unlocked the trunk, the 16-year-old took out a rifle, laid it across the top of the car and shot my son in the collarbone as he walked across the street. The kids were admitted gang members and had been doing drugs.

Brent had good grades in school before he started using drugs. He also had a number of good friends that quit hanging with him because of his drug use. Brent and I accepted responsibility for his drug use, but we also knew that it was hard to resist the pressure from his friends to use drugs once he completed treatment.

Brent was in a treatment program the first time at age 14. He was in drug treatment a second time when he was 16. At age 17 he was shot and killed. This has been a painful lesson for my family and I.

Brent's sister is 17. She was 12 when Brent was killed. She remembers the drugs and the shooting. Connie has learned her lesson the hard way and has managed to stay away from drugs and alcohol.

But I ask myself if she could have learned the same lesson without her brother's death. The lesson is simple; drugs are death.

After Brent's death, I studied gangs and drugs. I learned that gangs meant drugs and drugs meant gangs. Nongang drug dealers are put out of business by gang drug dealers. And all gangs, as far as I know, are involved with drugs. It frustrates me when I see people fail to make the connection between gangs and drugs.

The same is usually true of guns. Drug dealers have guns in their pockets because they walk around with a wad of money or drugs and they're afraid of being robbed.

That's why I say guns, drugs and gangs all represent death.

Ask me about death. I can tell you how it feels. A mother can feel the pain of her children, take my word for it, it hurts.

I think of Brent almost every day, especially when I see his son, who is almost 5 years old.

I remember one night a few weeks before he was killed. Brent was in hysterics, crying. He had been using drugs. I sat up with him most of the night, holding him to calm him down. He kept asking me if everyone in the family was OK. He was afraid that someone in our family was going to be seriously hurt. A few weeks later Brent was murdered.

It has been hard for me to work after Brent was killed. I am afraid that something terrible will happen to one of my other children, and this fear interrupted my work.

What have I learned from this?

I learned that we don't have enough drug education for parents. We have the kids trapped in school where we can require drug edu-

cation. Unfortunately, many of the kids think it's a joke because they see their parents using pot or alcohol at home. You can see the drug pamphlets lying on the ground around the school. You can't expect some of the kids to listen to the teachers when the parents are abusing drugs or alcohol at home.

People are afraid to tell adults to look at their own drug and alcohol use. Take an inventory of your house. Make a list of each can and bottle of alcohol you have in your house. Next, ask yourself the last time you used pot or some other illegal drug. Write it down on the same list. Finally, make a list of the legal drugs you use such as cigarettes and prescription drugs. Now ask yourself if your child is living in a danger zone.

I thought I knew enough about drugs and alcohol to give my kids a chance. I was wrong, and it hurts me to say it. Most parents don't know enough about drugs. The drugs today are different from drugs 15 years ago. The gangs make it very dangerous to be involved in drugs.

I have attended more than 50 classes, programs, and presentations about drugs, alcohol and gangs. Each time I learn something new. If you think you know enough about drugs and gangs to keep your child safe, you're probably wrong. Pick up the phone. Call your local hospital, school counselor, policy agency, library or book store. Start learning today. Don't put it off.

Once you start learning about patenting, drugs and gangs, give yourself a pat on the back. You'll need the encouragement when you see that it takes months of practicing your new skills before they begin to work.

This applies to you, whether you're reporting this story or a Government official.

Thank you.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you very much.

Mr. Hinterlong.

Mr. HINTERLONG. Congressman Hastert, Congressman Souder, Congressman Weller, thank you for inviting me.

One of the tough things about describing the devastating effects that drugs have on a neighborhood, as you look at some of the kids and you see a second grader that comes to school and makes excuses for his mother because she didn't make the teacher's conference because she's on drugs and was stoned.

Then you look at the family that lives in the same block as a gang banger that's making his money off of drugs, and they're afraid for their children because of the fact that their children might get shot. We've had instances where they have actually shot the house next door by mistake or that the family that lives in back of them are afraid that the bullets are going to go straight through a single wall in the garage and hit their kids behind them. So you have people that live near a known banger that live in fear for their own children.

Then we further wonder sometimes about whose side the State and Federal Government are on because you take the mother with three children, 3, 4, and 5 years old, who is on Section 8 housing, ABC payments and now the Government, in all its wisdom, decides that this person is a role model. We're going to assign her as a mentor for a troubled 16-year-old girl. And so we put this 16-year-

old girl in there and now this role model, this mentor, she gets extra money because she's a foster parent now, so now she can treat all of her boyfriends and she doesn't have to be home at all because the 16-year-old is a built-in babysitter. Of course, that babysitter doesn't get up until 3 p.m., because she's partying all night.

So now we hear gun shots taking place at that house because of all of the increased traffic, now that we have the extra money there and we have the 16-year-old there, so now the number of bangers hanging around there has gone up drastically and the number of shots and fights, five calls for police in 1 week at one house.

And it all starts there and, like I say, the Government is providing all the money, so you begin to wonder.

In the society in general, the judicial system seems to have placed more emphasis on individual rights than it has on the rights of society as a whole.

As an organized neighborhood group, we work at many of these same problems. We meet on a regular basis. We have probably 600 members that are active in one way or another. We have people, we have five different walking areas. There may be, on any given weekend, 10 different walking groups out walking in different parts on the southeast side.

Some of those same people that will go out and walk won't go to a meeting. We have some people that go to meetings. We have some people that sit in the courtroom. We have court watchers. They go and they sit in to see what the sentence is given to some of the bangers that were involved in murder and drug dealing.

So they're involved in a variety of things and, the organization itself, we invite, we work with the police department, we work with elected officials. We've invited judges to speak and explain to the citizens. We've invited the police chief, the mayor, we've invited different members of all of the different things that interact with us to explain to the people just exactly how they fit in the scheme of things.

And at the same time, this has given the people a much better understanding, although they still question sometimes what happens, but they found now that they're more willing to call the police. This is one of the major benefits, I guess, of the organization, the impacts. Aside from the fact that we're getting out there, being seen on every Friday and Saturday night, the bangers see us walking. We wear an orange vest with yellow reflector stripes on it, so they can't miss us and we get out there and walk through the neighborhood generally in a group of four to six people and we let them know, just by our presence, it's a psychological thing, that this is our neighborhood.

One of the major things is the confidence it's given the average citizen. They're now more willing to call the police. We found in 1995 versus 1994, because we've been at this for 3 years, the incidents of crime went down roughly 35 percent in the southeast side. The number of calls for police went up by 15 percent. So the people are now calling the police more often, but crime has gone down.

In many instances what they're doing is they'll see this group of bangers enter into a backyard, or what have you, and they know they're up to no good and so they call the police right away rather

than never calling. I still meet people that say gee, I should have called the police. They say it after the fact. I saw those kids going over there. I saw that car full of bangers sitting there and I was wondering what they were up to.

What we are encouraging them to do is to call ahead of time, get the police out there and let the police intervene in the situation. It has dropped crime significantly because in a lot of cases they are there questioning the individuals before they ever do a crime and so that the crime then is dropping and they make contact cards when they interview them so that if something does happen, or they find out later something happened, they know who was in the neighborhood.

So this is probably one of the bigger benefits that we've given to the citizen, aside from the fact that we psychologically let the bangers know that it's our neighborhood. We're not going to put up with it.

We still have a problem getting them out once they're entrenched, because even in this one with the 16 year old, we're working with the community policing officer, he's talked to the landlord. I've gotten the Inspections Department working on it. It's still going to take us several months to get that individual out.

In most cases, it takes us somewhere in the neighborhood, and we're getting more efficient at it, it used to take us 6 months. Now we're getting down to the point where we can generally get them out of the neighborhood in about 3 months, but then, again, sometimes they come back.

So it's just a constant involvement with the organization. Like I say, once they are convicted, the court watchers show up in court to let the judge know that there are people concerned, there are people whose lives have been impacted by these things and we're very concerned. The judge has a regular thing that he uses to make the sentences, but at least now he knows, and the judge is a human being like anybody else. Once he knows that there are people out there that care what happens, it's altogether different than when you're sitting there day after day doing your job, no matter what your job is, and you think nobody gives a darn, then once you see that there's people involved and they care, I think it makes a difference, even if it's a subconscious difference, in what the sentence is and what the judge says to the individual when he does sentence him.

So it's all of these things working together. There is no one thing that does it. The fact that we've gotten even some places we see where there are maybe Hispanics that are involved. In our neighborhood, there's no discrimination. We have every nationality, every race involved in drug dealing. The local Catholic private school 2 years ago didn't realize just how many of their students were involved in it, and so we showed them the facts and held one of our meetings there and now they have a D.A.R.E. Program and all of the rest of the things because they suddenly woke up to the fact that just because it's a private school, and a religious school, doesn't mean that you're not going to have a problem with drugs and gangs.

They've invaded everywhere. So it's just getting that message out to the total community and, like I say, there's no one thing. It's all

of the things working together, all of us need to be working together at every phase; the police department, the State's attorney's office, the elected officials at every level.

But one of the things that some of the bureaucrats in some of these agencies that hand out money and make assignments are going to have to realize, that there is an affect of what they're doing because that second grader, his mother's on public housing. His mother is getting money from the Government. Otherwise she couldn't afford the drugs.

That 16-year-old, that person she's living with is getting money from the Government. The Government subsidizes the housing. The Government is providing the money for the drugs and/or alcohol. In many of the cases, that's true; not in each and every case, but in many of the cases that's true.

So I think that some of the bureaucrats are going to have to start looking and being more selective where this money goes. We've made it too easy up to now. All they had to do is apply for Section 8. All they've had to do is apply for ABC. We've been very quick to make somebody a foster parent, just because they were willing to do it and they didn't have a criminal record where they have a felony. That doesn't make them a good mentor, it doesn't make them a good role model and we have to start looking harder at that area as we go forward.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Hinterlong follows:]

Kenneth J. Hinterlong (708) 851-8770 - South East Neighbors Association
 721 Talma St.
 Aurora, IL. 60505
 June 19, 1996

Drugs and their effect on neighborhoods

Where does one start in describing the devastating effects that drugs have on good family neighborhoods ?

Do you start with the second grader that has to not only gets himself dressed, feed, and off to school every morning, because his mother is stoned, but must also get his younger brothers and sisters dressed & fed. How much does he learn, other than survival, when there is no one at home to help him with math or listen to him read. He is more concerned with making excuses for his mother, who didn't show up for a conference with the teacher, than he is in preparing himself for the future.

Then there is the family that lives in the same block as a gang banger whose house is shot at several times a month by a rival gang who wants to sell drugs in the same territory. This poor family lives in fear that the bullets will accidentally hit one of their children, because on occasion they have found a bullet that hit their home.

Sometimes we even question whose side the State and Federal Government is on. Take the mother with three children under five years of age, section eight housing & ADC payments, the government in all it's wisdom decides that this woman is a "role model" and they assign her as a mentor for a troubled sixteen year old (they call her a foster mother) and on top of it she gets money for being a foster mother. Now she has a built in baby sitter so she can do what ever she does all day, and even has money to treat her "boy friends" to alcohol or drugs. In the mean time the sixteen year old gets up at three in the afternoon (who is watching the two, three and four year old) and parties till three or four in the morning. What does society get? They get to duck the bullets and put up with fighting at one o'clock in the morning.

The larger question is, what do we the citizens in the neighborhood, or society in general do? The "Judicial System" has placed more emphasis on the individual rights of the gang banger than on the rights of society as a whole.

As an organized neighborhood group we are doing everything we feel will have a positive impact on the problem. We meet on a regular basis and invite elected officials, Judges, Prosecutors, Police officials and others to our meetings to discuss the problem and answer questions. We have formed walking patrols were citizens patrol their neighborhood on Friday and Saturday nights to send a message to the gang bangers that, "This is our neighborhood and drug dealers are not welcome." The South East Neighbors Association also has a court watchers group that observes both trials and sentencing hearings of both drug dealers and gang bangers.

The bottom line is that the neighborhood groups in Aurora are doing everything within their power to combat the gangs and drug dealers. We are working with the Aurora Police Department, our elected officials and we are willing to work with any agency that has an impact on the problems.

Now it is time for Congress, the Senate and the President to start the pendulum swinging to give Society as a whole some of their rights back.

Kenneth J. Hinterlong
Alderman 3rd Ward
City of Aurora

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you, Mr. Hinterlong. That's very revealing testimony and we owe a lot to not only our Federal law enforcement agencies and our local law enforcement agencies, but people that live in those communities who put their foot down and try to change their neighborhoods as well.

I'd like to start on the questioning and ask Mr. Akemann, one of the things that you said is you need more interchange of information and we had Mr. Morgan here today, who is the State Coordinator, DEA, we have the State Police. Do you get a lot of opportunity to coordinate information with folks like this or do you have access to DEA intelligence and data in a real time way or would access to DEA's data base help and how much?

Mr. AKEMANN. It would help a great deal. We do not currently have access to it. We can make certain requests for Federal information, although you have to make those through the State Police Department. Usually the timeframe for getting a response is many weeks, 6, 8 weeks. That's too long.

In the ideal world, what we're after is on line, punch in a name, scan a set of fingerprints, put up an image and have a response. We don't have that. It's not available to us.

Mr. HASTERT. Do you, in your law support work, do you have good inter-county sharing information, school department? We had a meeting like this a year or so ago, but sharing information with schools, sharing information with police departments, sharing information with judges, just so that you can track individuals like this.

Mr. AKEMANN. It's not as good as I'd like it to be. One thing we're trying in Kane County is to move forward with the SHOCAP Program, Serious Habitual Offender Community Action Program, which was started at the Federal level. But, of course, the problem becomes resources.

One of the things that law enforcement doesn't always do well is share and cooperate with each other. Oftentimes we're going after the same grant money, the same precious dollars and every different agency wants to shine itself. But I think we have a reasonable cooperation in Kane County between local law enforcement. We do share information, but I'd like to see the day come where we could get technological assistance help, a preset, ready to make program for instant information sharing.

The statute is there, the technology is available; so far the resources and the coordination have not been done and hopefully will—

Mr. HASTERT. Is that Federal or State resources?

Mr. AKEMANN. Well, when you're on the local level, you take it wherever you can get it. You say help with a loud voice and hopefully it comes, whether it comes from either source.

As I mentioned, the first time I heard about SHOCAP, I said this is a great thing. We need to know what's happening in the schools. We need to know what's happening at the penal institutions. We need to share this and have access to it among each other instantly.

Great program, got any money? If the answer is no, then it goes into the pile, great ideas with no money, but think of the rapid increase in technology that we have now. It makes that available at

a more affordable price sooner than not and that could be and should be done.

We always ask for Federal information. Every local law enforcement agency wants that and it's often zealously guarded by Federal authorities for a lot of different reasons. But the ideal would be, what you can get is criminal conviction information through NCIC and even Interpool, and you can get that relatively on line, relatively quickly.

What you can't get is the investigative information. That is what you need.

Mr. HASTERT. You need to share to get the job done.

Mr. AKEMANN. Yes, one of our Presidents once said that it's amazing how much good you can accomplish if you don't care who gets the credit. One of the occasional pitfalls is sometimes we care too much about who gets the credit and less about let's just share the information. I think we need more of that, but it's really at the investigative level.

You know, I can go on line right now in the State of Illinois and get from the Department of Transportation the time and dates for traffic to move in the Chicago land area. There's a nice pretty picture and graph, for instance, but there's nothing like that that I can go on line with, even as the chief law enforcement officer in this county, and get, from a Federal agency or even a State agency, on drug trafficking, for instance, or gang activity. That's not as easily or readily shared.

There are a lot of security issues in moving information, too, and I don't mean to belittle those, but the key is the desire to cooperate, the desire to share, the desire not to duplicate. We don't need to do the same things at the local level that the DEA is doing. We don't need to do the same things. You don't need to deploy the same resources to do those things.

Mr. HASTERT. Just share the information; it's clean.

Mr. AKEMANN. Yes, and if you tie the money to anything, in terms of distribution, what I don't often see is OK, at the Federal level we're going to worry about this level drug dealer and then at the State level, this level, and the local level, this level. Maybe that happens a little bit defacto, but there's no plan that just says, this is what we're intentionally going to be about.

You know, you can always flip somebody in the prosecution game and get somebody at the next level. At the local law enforcement level, you always say, how far up the pyramid do you want to go flipping people. We get the next higher up before we say stop, we're going to do these cases right now.

Generally it's thought, when you get up to the Federal level, and that's the really big guys, but that isn't always the case. It would be great if there was a national strategy that said, here's the program and here's how we're going to work with the different resources, because a lot of them, in the drug area, come from forfeitures or direct Federal money, like in our case the Burn grants.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you.

Mr. Hinterlong, I'd like to move in from Mr. Akemann's statements.

You said that your people say they're more comfortable in calling the police and the police are there then to break up the gang

bangers, which practically are the lowest level of this whole pyramid. We were hoping to have the Police Chief from Aurora be able to testify today. Unfortunately, he couldn't be here.

But do the police cooperate when you call them? Do they show up? Are they successful in disbursing these groups? Is there good cooperation?

Mr. HINTERLONG. There has been great cooperation. Whether they're successful in disbursing a group depends. There's many factors involved in that, but for the most part, yes.

Now, part of the group lives there, which sometimes is where we find it out. Then, of course, you can't, and it also depends on the ownership of the property. If the banger's parents own the property, it's much tougher. If it's rental property, then it's easier because then we get a hold of the landlord and get a trespass agreement signed by the landlord and bar certain people from that property. That way the police can arrest that person once he's been barred and it takes a couple of interchanges with the landlord, but once—

Mr. HASTERT. So the pressure is there.

Mr. HINTERLONG. The pressure is there, right, and it's just a constant pressure and we work with the police on a regular basis.

The officers that are involved in the neighborhood, they had out their pager number at the monthly meeting. So there's no excuse for not being able to get a hold of an officer. If you don't want to make a call and become a complainant over the 911 number, you have the officer's pager number and you can just page him. That way you know it's not going to go out over the police radio where somebody is going to hear that the call ahead of time, and what have you.

We also have the cellular phone number that's in the squad car and that's just a phone call. And when we want, we carry a cellular phone. It's the only thing we carry. We wear the vest and carry a flashlight and a cellular phone. We have the cell phone number in the squad car that's cruising in the area so we can call them directly. We don't need to go through radio.

Mr. HASTERT. So you're talking about feet in the street, you literally do that.

Mr. HINTERLONG. Yes.

Mr. HASTERT. Do your people get called? You said you're doing the court watching thing and watch what judges do and talk to the judges.

Do you actually then have the ability to testify from time-to-time in court? Have you done that?

Mr. HINTERLONG. Very seldom; it's very seldom, there's been once or twice that one of our members wound up testifying, but the vast majority of the time, no.

Mr. HASTERT. And then one of the things you talked about is the 16-year-old experience and the foster mother.

Has somebody told you that you could probably call DCFS and have that investigation happen immediately, or has that happened?

Mr. HINTERLONG. The neighbors have called DCFS and it doesn't seem to do much good and, in all fairness to DCFS, I guess they are overwhelmed with cases. It's not that easy to just call DCFS and have something happen.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Coghlan, your testimony was very interesting today because you've taken a little different vent and talked about what positive pressure does, the psychological studies, I guess, shows. All of a sudden people feel if they're being good, they're not isolated and there's a lot of positive things that people do and I have to hand it to you with your work with the press. I think it's a unique situation that you've been able to develop which is actually showing results.

What other things are you trying to do in your area, DeKalb County? I just want to say, to kind of tie it all together, I come from a small county like this in the same circuit, Kendall County, and it seems when Mr. Hinterlong is so successful in Aurora or Mr. Akemann is successful in Elgin and all of Kane County, and the pressure is on and the squeeze is on. Then we find those gangs developing in Oswego and Plano and Sycamore and Sandwich and other places, the next row out.

So tell us a little bit about your experience?

Mr. COGHLAN. To get into the experience, first I'd like to say that in 1991, DeKalb County had approximately 100 gang related crimes per year. Now we're down to under 50. So we've cut it in half when the rest of the country is going up.

And the big secret to doing that comes down to forms and secretaries. The big State's attorney may be in the courtroom trying the murder case and setting policy and talking to the media, but ultimately when you're talking about communication between governmental agencies, schools, and the community, the things that we're saying that we're lacking here, what we've done is we've boiled it down to a form.

So what I did is I took out a piece of paper and it says the school name on the top and the specific month. Each month each school turns in a form to the State's attorney's office, at which time I'm the humble secretary, I assemble it all together and I bring it to a monthly meeting of police officers. The sharing of information is exceptional, through little credit to me, but it's the secretary that basically compiles the school counselor's reports of gang incidents and then mails it to me and then we assemble it and then we distribute it to law enforcement throughout the county.

The second form—so the police send a monthly form to the State's attorney's office, the schools send a monthly form summarizing gang and drug related activity to the State's attorney's office and then we have what's referred to as a 5-year plan, which is a form letter from the State's attorney's office, and anybody else that would like to participate in it, police agencies, et cetera. It solicits approximately 100 groups throughout the community.

In our area, say 80,000 people, if I can recruit approximately 100 groups, which include Kiwanis, Rotary, teachers union, school superintendents, et cetera, which we have been able to do, if I can recruit these groups to commit to some gang or drug prevention activity on a regular basis, it doesn't need to take much more time than changing the oil in an automobile.

And I believe that gang prevention can occur at a local level, and if we standardize it throughout the country, it can occur nationally, with the people that are primarily involved with the gang activity and that's the citizens. A gang problem is only as large as the com-

munity will allow; not the police, not the schools, but the community. And once the community puts its foot down or gets itself on a regular reporting, activity, education schedule—and the key being reporting.

So, for example, the Kiwanis will say every year we'll give you \$150 to print up gang prevention literature to send to the at risk parents as you identify them through school. Once a year, at our September meeting, for 15 minutes we will analyze some of the outcomes of these reports that you have so we can educate ourselves so that we can talk to our grandchildren and our children and our neighbors.

It doesn't take a lot. They don't have to go out for 5 or 10 hours on a Saturday. They don't even have to leave their regular meeting as long as I can incorporate it into already existing meetings and procedures.

I think that this has had an exceptional result for an extremely simple plan. Now, if we are able to, I don't think it works for areas much larger than 10,000, let's say in a group being let's say of the city of Sycamore or, for example, let's say that high schools would implement this policy. All it is, literally, it gets the administrators out, who, in my estimation, often muck things up, and just has communication between the secretary and the officer on the street, the ones that are actually doing the hands-on work, and I think this has produced very good results. We've tried it over and over over the years.

Plus we have a nice laboratory in DeKalb County because we are small enough so that we, who are implementing this program, deal with the drug dealers because there are witnesses one day and the drug dealer being prosecuted the next day. So the people that are implementing the policies and the practices are actually getting to know the personal lives of the individuals who are involved in both using drugs and the ones that we're prosecuting at the same time.

So we try and see what works, we see what doesn't work and we've been able to, because of our size, I think been able to implement some very effective procedures.

Mr. HASTERT. Thank you very much. Thank you for your excellent testimony.

Mrs. Maakestad, certainly your story here, more than anybody else's, has been very personal and very moving. You have seen the darkest sides of drugs and gangs affecting this country. We appreciate you coming today and giving that personal insight.

In your estimation, what could we do, what is the best thing that we can do to get to these kids, kids that we're losing today and now hundreds of thousands that are using drugs, getting into the gangs.

What's your view; how can we best do that? I just want to say we really, really thank you for your testimony today. Thank you for being here.

Ms. MAAKESTAD. Thank you.

I feel that mostly it's the parent education. I had, long before Brent died, I had been through many different drug and alcohol programs and counseling and presentations and things, and I thought that I knew all there was to know; but I obviously didn't, because after Brent's death I learned a lot more than I did because I did more research and things.

But I don't think that the parents are getting the answers on how to tell when your child is in a gang or how to tell if your child is on drugs. I mean, they have the little spots on TV, but that doesn't give you enough information. I think it needs to be maybe mailed from the Congressman's office or local level.

Mike has worked several times with single gang members and gotten them out of gangs by helping them get jobs and working with positive programs with the gang members, which he's helped a lot in.

Mr. HASTERT. I guess it goes back to what I've been saying for a long, long time. You know, there's two sides to the drug issue; one is the supply side, which we've talked about a lot here today, especially the first panel, that if we can keep drugs out of this country, there's a lot of kids that aren't going to get their hands on it and get affected by it. But, really, the other side is the demand side and that's an issue which we can't dump on schools and we can't dump on judges and we can't dump on police officers all by themselves. It's the work of people like you and Mr. Hinterlong, communities, schools, neighbors, parents, standing up and saying we're just not going to take this any longer. We need to know how to stop it.

And then the information that Mr. Coghlan talked about, the excellent interaction that certainly Mr. Akemann talked about. So it's really a coming together and we could probably have 30 or 40 more witnesses here today, each with a different angle on this thing.

So I just wanted to say thank you very much, and I'm going to ask now if Mr. Souder has any questions.

Mr. SOUDER. I just have a couple.

One, I wanted to followup with you, and I know that it's very difficult and I want to say first hand, I also thank you for coming forth and talking because that's the type of thing that helps other parents and there's not much you can do about what's happened and every single parent who's ever had that kind of thing kicks themselves. What's done is done. You go on and try to see what good can come out of that.

So I have a question for you, not to try, because I know you re-live every little thing that every parent goes through. You reinvent the wheel on every accident that's ever happened, every thing that's ever happened, so I know you've done that and, like I say, I just want to make it clear I'm not asking this question for any underlying reason. I'm just assuming that it's there.

Do you feel, now in retrospect, that what's happened with your son, and you talk about the different programs that you've gone through, you've seen certain things, do you feel at the time that these things would have had that much impact? As parents, are we so overwhelmed ourselves with so many different things that unless we have it hit us straight in the face, that way we're almost in denial about our own children?

And really, could you have, knowing now you certainly wish, but how much of that is kind of looking back and now get yourself back in that first position. You, and I'm not faulting you because all of us are. I'm not sure what questions I want to ask my kids at different times about each person they're dating or about each thing they're doing or where they went last night.

And I want to believe the best and, particularly when we're busy, we don't necessarily want to get in a confrontational situation or particularly when you're not home much, you get tired of arguing about different things and every child wants to show their rebellion.

How much of that can parents really do as opposed to reaching a child and can you talk about that for a couple minutes?

Ms. MAAKESTAD. I just attended a parenting class. My youngest daughter is pregnant right now, and she went to a parenting class and I asked if I could go along.

I'm still learning things. There's no way that you can learn everything. After this class, we kind of sat and laughed because of the different things that are out there now that were there before. How did we raise our kids? How did I get as old as I am, you know, with the problems that have been going on all along?

And I think now, with more education, with the education of the parents and the questions that you're asking. If there was a way of getting a program—I was talking to Mike one time about possibly having once a year a parent program, a mandatory parent program where they spend 2 hours learning about the drugs, about the gangs, about the alcohol, about different types of gangs and the different things that you can do to spot if your child is having a problem. We should then get them to the correct person to have them be helped, and we've talked about that.

Mr. SOUDER. Part of the frustration at the Government end, and why we constantly look for good models, is interesting things like kids using justification, everybody's doing it. How can you change that popular perception and turn the statistics around without seeming too Pollyanna about it and excusing the problem. Nevertheless, trying not to get that, you know, eliminate that excuse.

The most depressing thing I ever heard, however, and this is what our problems are in Government, is there was a longitudinal study done a number of years ago by Robert Waller from the University of Tennessee in parent training, which has historically been really lousy, the results of it. There are parts of it that work, but it usually works best for those parents who don't necessarily need it.

What they did is they took high risk children. They tracked them and they tried having parent education courses for them. Not very many people came, particularly in the high risk groups. Then they tried paying them for coming. Then they tried putting a caseworker in the home for an hour a week. Then they tried an hour a day. Then they tried 4 hours a day.

What the conclusion was is high risk juvenile delinquents, those that have been in trouble with the law, I think it was at least 30 times at some point by the age of 15, those high risk juvenile delinquents often had single mothers who'd moved in multiple locations, who were ostracized partly because of their kid's behaviors, who then had dropped out of their church group, who weren't welcome in the community, who were somewhat hostile in the neighborhoods and the whole system had broken down.

And that's partly what we're looking at. We can try to make some difference at the margins, but that's why we're always asking the questions, looking for any examples we can find anywhere in

the country. Because it's not as though a lot of these things haven't been tried and the parents are just going to have to take the time and do it and the scary thing is that by the time we all learn how to parent, we're dead and it's a little late. That's one of the scary things about life.

Well, I know we're under time pressure. I have one question about the crack houses, if I could.

Do you have a lot of those in Kane County? Do they move? What's your experience?

Mr. AKEMANN. I don't know that I have a quantitative number to give you, but they do move and they don't know municipal boundaries or as you pointed out, or county problems either. Very often, if you go into what's known as a crack house and by whatever method you force it to move, it will go somewhere else and usually where the crack house will end up is where they can get away with it. Where they will get into a community or neighborhood that will tolerate it and, as others have said here, that's really the key to it.

So, yes, they move around a lot.

Mr. SOUDER. If I can ask one other quick question.

On the gang inter-relationships, how much of that do you see coming through juvenile delinquency or juvenile institutions and prison connections? I know a couple times meeting with people in L.A., they said that some of the gangs had spread out deliberately. They had tried to break them up in the California gangs by spreading them out to Kansas City, different places in the Midwest and instead of breaking up L.A., they spread L.A. The Disciples have done a little bit of that.

Our crack problem in Fort Wayne, over 12 years ago where we have now had over, I think, 140 crack houses busted in just the last few years, started with some people in Chicago who were part of a gang here. They originally had moved to Chicago from L.A., made connections through the juvenile systems and the prison systems and down into our city, in addition to Detroit coming in.

Do you see that coming out from Chicago? Have you seen any other patterns in Kane and DeKalb?

Mr. COGLAN. Yes, definitely, there's been a migration, especially from DeKalb, specifically with regard to subsidized housing. The subsidized housing individuals claim that 90 percent of the individuals placed in subsidized housing in DeKalb are DeKalb residents. But, in reality, what we're finding is that they're individuals who are very short-time residents of DeKalb.

For example, they'll come there, live there for a week or so and then claim that they're DeKalb residents. So is it migrating from Chicago? Yes, as a matter of fact, like I mentioned to Congressman Hastert, the only reason I'm here this morning is because I had a murder trial settle.

The gang member from Chicago murdered the local DeKalb individual because the DeKalb individual was behind on his drug debt and that type of example is common.

You mentioned juvenile; one other thing that I think is very helpful, we've got a lot of juveniles from the Chicago area that are on our juvenile court docket. And I think that's the area where the most benefit is gained and we have a very low standard for charg-

ing in DeKalb County. We don't require a lot of evidence and we charge a lot of minor offenses. So, therefore, we're able to bring a lot of individuals into the juvenile court system, which is where our best work is done because that's where we can have positive changes on these individuals.

So, yes, it's an absolute migration from the larger cities to DeKalb.

Mr. AKEMANN. No questions there's a migration. It usually follows the interstate and the ease of transportation has been previously pointed out.

Also, in terms of gang activity, the older gang members want the juveniles to commit the crime; not just drug crime, but any crime because the penalties are a lot less severe if you get into the juvenile court system as opposed to the adult court system, and that's planned this way.

Mr. SOUDER. And the solution isn't to eliminate our State highways, because I grew up in a little town surrounded by Amish and some of the dealers moved into that town because it was great cover. They thought it was a great place to hide out.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Hinterlong, I think you said it was tied a great deal to public housing as well, in your area.

Well, I'd certainly like to thank you all for coming today and to thank, especially, our witnesses who are out there on the front lines day in and day out. This is a national threat we all will be hearing more about. I can say that this Congress is dedicated to getting the drug war back on track and keeping it there.

In my view, working together we can win and we will win. This concludes today's hearing. The hour of 12 o'clock has come. The Subcommittee on National Security, International Affairs, and Criminal Justice stands adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 12 p.m., the subcommittee was adjourned.]

