The CHAIRMAN. Now, gentleman, it is always a pleasure to have your input, sometimes more of a pleasure than others. In this case you have a record which you could speak to. The last time you all testified, the judge for whom you testified—which was your right, and you did it eloquently—had hardly decided any criminal law cases, had never written about it, hardly spoken to it, knew nothing, had indicated himself he did not take much interest in as an academic nor have opportunity to as a judge, speak to any criminal-law issues.

But in this case we have a judge who in fact has probably decided a couple hundred, 130 criminal cases. And I think your testimony is particularly important because he has made some decisions, and I am sure the police officers in the community which the decision affected were very angry, and I think, Dewey, your testimony is particularly relevant when you point out that he has been balanced. And I think this should be evidence of the fact that you do not ask for purity, you do not ask for someone who agrees with you all the time.

This is a man who you believe, though, on balance, is fair-minded, and cognizant of the rights of victims as well as the criminal, and I, having looked at a summary of all of his criminal-law cases, I tend to agree with you.

I have only one question, if I can find it here, and that is with regard to the exclusionary rule. Is it your view that Judge Kennedy believes that there should be no exclusionary rule, or that he thinks it should be modified?

Mr. STOKES. Are you asking——

The CHAIRMAN. I will start with you, Dewey, first, and then work our way down.

Mr. STOKES. I think in his opinions that he expressed, that the exclusionary rule should be modified, not necessarily done away with. I think he understands that the exclusionary rule is a check-and-balance system. There is none of us pure as driven snow that does not need a check and balance, and I think that is what the exclusionary rule really does.

Mr. VAUGHN. Nothing I have seen indicates to me that Judge Kennedy would support the abolition of the exclusionary rule, but rather, a common-sense interpretation, and the good-faith exception that reasonable people could arrive at based on a review of the facts.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you. Mr. Hughes?

Mr. HUGHES. I would agree with my two counterparts. I could not add any more. I alluded to that in my testimony on the exclusionary rule. I just think it is overdone, in some instances.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much. I yield to my colleague from South Carolina.

Senator THURMOND. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I think we are very fortunate to have the able representatives from these law-enforcement organizations here. Mr. John Hughes, executive director of National Troopers Coalition; Mr. Gerald Vaughn, executive director of International Association of Chiefs of Police; and Mr. Dewey R. Stokes, national president, Fraternal Order of Police.

We have had you all testify before when judges were up, and you have done a fine job. I want to commend you. I want to commend you for studying the records of these people. There is nothing more important than protecting the public, and that is what you do. Law-enforcement people protect the public.

I just attended a funeral this afternoon of J.P. Strom, a cousin of mine, who was the chief of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division, the top law enforcement in our State, and I know the good work you all do.

I am in touch with our State highway patrol, and State officers, and others, and there is no group of people I have more respect for than law-enforcement people. Just as our soldiers protect us against external enemies, you all protect us against the internal enemy, the criminal, and it would be a terrible situation in which to live, if it were not for the able, dedicated efforts of the law-enforcement officers.

Now I just wanted to say that there are several who cannot be here and testify, for one reason or another. The schedule was changed, and maybe some of them could not come for that reason, or others could not come for other reasons.

Mr. Robert R. Fuesel, president of the Federal Criminal Investigators Association. Mr. Cary Bittick, executive director of the National Sheriffs Association. Mr. John J. Bellizzi, executive director of the National Narcotics Enforcement Officers Assoication.

[The aforementioned statements follow:]