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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

In re: Informational Hearing with the Pennsylvania
State Police

* * * * *

Stenographic report of hearing held
in Room 418, Minority Caucus Room,
Main Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA

Thursday,
February 14, 1991
10:00 a.m.

- HON. THOMAS R. CALTAGIRONE, CHAIRMAN
- Hon. Gerard A. Kosinski, Subcommittee Chairman on
Courts
- Hon. Kevin Blaum, Subcommittee Chairman on Crimes
and Corrections
- Hon. Karen A. Ritter, Secretary

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

- Hon. Frank Dermody Hon. Robert D. Reber
- Hon. Frank LaGrotta Hon. Michael K. Veon

Also Present:

- William Andring, Chief Counsel
- Mary Woolley, Republican Counsel
- Galina Milahov, Research Analyst
- Paul Dunkelberger, Republican Research Analyst
- Katherine Manucci, Staff

Reported by:
Ann-Marie P. Sweeney, Reporter

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*72 pages
+ 40 attached

112 pages*

1991-086

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INDEX

PAGE

Acting Commissioner Walp, Pennsylvania State Police 3

APPENDIX

73

1 CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: Okay, because of
2 the inclement weather and the other function that's
3 going on downstairs with Insurance on the first floor,
4 we're going to get started and I'm sure there will be
5 some other members that will be joining us as we go
6 along, but if you'd care to start, Mr. Commissioner.

7 ACTING COMMISSIONER WALP: Okay, Mr.
8 Chairman.

9 Mr. Chairman and committee members, on
10 behalf of the men and women of the Pennsylvania State
11 Police, I wish to express my appreciation for the
12 opportunity to testify before this House Judiciary
13 Committee concerning the operations of our department.
14 As requested, the following career information is
15 provided regarding myself.

16 I joined the Pennsylvania State Police on
17 May 12, 1966. Upon completion of academy training, I
18 was assigned to Troop A, Greensburg. I have served in
19 both line and staff functions and field installations
20 and department headquarters. I have been a Commander
21 of stations, Sections, Troops and Areas. I was the
22 first Director of the Bureau of Liquor Control
23 Enforcement when the duties were transferred to the
24 State Police in 1987. I was appointed Deputy
25 Commissioner in late 1987 and Deputy Commissioner of

1 operations in the department reorganization in 1990.
2 My responsibilities included the Bureaus of Patrol,
3 Investigation, and Liquor Control Enforcement. My
4 field command encompassed all department operations
5 consisting of 6 area commands and 17 troops. I was
6 appointed Acting Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State
7 Police by Governor Casey on January 15, 1991. I hold
8 an Associate degree in Police Administration from York
9 College of Pennsylvania in 1978, magna cum laude
10 Bachelor of Arts degree in Police Administration and
11 Criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania
12 1979, and I'm a 1980 graduate of the FBI National
13 Academy.

14 An act of May 2, 1905 created the
15 Pennsylvania State Police, the first department of its
16 kind in the United States. The State Police was
17 created at the request of Governor Samuel Pennypacker
18 to deal with escalating violence of the anthracite coal
19 strikes and the concern for the safety of the citizens
20 of Pennsylvania. Nearly 86 years have passed, but this
21 concern for our citizens has not diminished. The
22 Troopers of the Pennsylvania State Police have
23 responded repeatedly to disasters and incidents of
24 every nature, and we will continue to do so.

25 Our basic mission is to enforce the

1 traffic and criminal laws of the Commonwealth. Our
2 broader mandate is the protection of life and property
3 and service to our citizens.

4 While the Pennsylvania State Police is
5 perhaps most noted for its efforts in the basic traffic
6 and criminal related programs, I will provide you with
7 information relating to a wide range of programs and
8 activities that our department performs but often goes
9 unnoticed. Although the following is not
10 all-inclusive, it represents our major areas of
11 operation.

12 In the Bureau of Criminal Investigation,
13 which provides a wide variety of law enforcement
14 functions and related services.

15 The Drug Law Enforcement Division. The
16 Regional Drug Strike Forces conduct in-depth drug
17 investigations. During 1989 they made 1,726 drug
18 arrests and confiscated over \$5,300,000 in cash and
19 assets as well as 188 vehicles. The execution of
20 search warrants also resulted in eight clandestine
21 laboratories being seized.

22 Tactical Narcotics Teams became
23 operational in 1990 and are deployed throughout the
24 State to assist municipal, State, and Federal agencies
25 and undercover operations. The teams also perform drug

1 interdiction investigations at airports, hotels,
2 motels, bus and train stations.

3 The Violent Traffickers Project assigns
4 Troopers to work exclusively in drug law enforcement in
5 the city of Philadelphia. This contingent of Troopers
6 works in conjunction with a task force of Federal,
7 State, and local officers targeting violent drug
8 traffickers in Philadelphia. Another contingent of
9 Troopers is assigned to work exclusively in drug law
10 enforcement with the Philadelphia City Police. During
11 1980, these Troopers made 119 drug-related arrests and
12 seized \$376,000 in cash, \$87,500 in assets, 15
13 vehicles, 75 pounds of cocaine, 4 pounds of
14 Crack/cocaine, 16 pounds of marijuana, and 2 pounds of
15 heroin.

16 The Drug Law Enforcement Division was
17 instrumental in establishing the first Pennsylvania
18 Narcotics Officers Association. This organization was
19 formed to expedite the exchange and dissemination of
20 drug-related information. This division is in the
21 process of obtaining an aircraft with funds from the
22 Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. It
23 will be used exclusively for drug enforcement
24 surveillance and will be available to provide related
25 assistance to all Pennsylvania law enforcement

1 agencies, and I might add, also Federal authorities.

2 We continue to emphasize the enforcement
3 of drug laws and are greatly assisted in this endeavor
4 by PennFree funds. These moneys were the most
5 significant factor contributing to the increased
6 success of our drug enforcement efforts. Our
7 department works closely with the Governor's Drug
8 Policy Council to formulate, implement and evaluate
9 statewide strategies combating illegal drug use.

10 General Investigation Division. The
11 General Investigation Division provides assistance to
12 Troop investigators as well as responding to requests
13 from Federal, State and local law enforcement agencies
14 in the areas of auto theft, criminal investigative
15 assessment, which is psychological profiling, criminal
16 intelligence, technical operations, which is electronic
17 surveillance or wiretapping, missing persons, and child
18 abuse.

19 The Auto Theft Unit, with eight enlisted
20 members, provides investigative assistance to the
21 various agencies involved in combating auto theft. The
22 unit coordinates information and initiates major
23 investigation throughout the State.

24 The Criminal Investigative Assessment
25 Unit, with one full-time coordinator and 22 part-time

1 criminal investigative assessors, involves identifying
2 the personality characteristics of individuals
3 committing violent crimes. In 1989, the unit assessed
4 72 homicides, 24 sex crimes, and 14 arsons. Of the 72
5 previously unsolved murder investigations, more than 25
6 have been resolved and an additional 15 are awaiting
7 trial. An example of this program's effectiveness was
8 recently demonstrated with the arrest of a suspect in
9 the Appalachian Trail murders. Criminal assessors
10 provided vital information in this investigation.

11 The Intelligence Unit, with 2 enlisted
12 members in Headquarters and 15 intelligence officers
13 throughout the State, responded to over 490
14 intelligence inquiries from Federal, State and local
15 law enforcement agencies in 1989. The unit prepares
16 and distributes an intelligence newsletter in the State
17 Police Law Enforcement Information Bulletin. The
18 bulletin is disseminated quarterly to over 3,000
19 Commonwealth and local law enforcement agencies and the
20 State Police agencies of all 50 States.

21 The Technical Operations Unit provides
22 technical and sophisticated electronic surveillance
23 support to all Commonwealth law enforcement agencies.
24 The unit provides the electronics expertise to install
25 and service court-authorized non-consensual

1 interception and technical surveillance equipment. The
2 unit conducts training and certifies Pennsylvania Law
3 Enforcement Officers in electronic surveillance and is
4 recognized as the premier electronic surveillance
5 school in the United States.

6 The Missing Persons Unit, comprised of
7 two enlisted members, is Pennsylvania's clearinghouse
8 for missing children information and investigation.
9 The unit provides investigative support to all law
10 enforcement agencies within the Commonwealth.

11 Reports of child sexual abuse in
12 Pennsylvania have increased over the past decade. In
13 1989, there were 3,917 substantiated reports of sexual
14 abuse. Of that amount, 78.1 percent were girls and
15 21.9 percent were boys. Acknowledging that every
16 important problem brings with it demands for improved
17 training and education, the Pennsylvania State Police
18 initiated the Criminal Investigative Analysis Program.
19 Twenty-five members were trained to conduct criminal
20 investigative assessments on child sexual abuse
21 offenders.

22 Organized Crime Division. The Organized
23 Crime Division consists of eastern and western task
24 forces. Investigative responsibilities include fraud,
25 organized crime, white collar crime, public corruption,

1 and gambling. Targets of investigations are members of
2 organized drug gangs, corrupt organizations, loan
3 sharks, and extortionists.

4 Fire Marshal Division. The Fire Marshal
5 Division has 42 Fire Marshals and 68 alternates
6 assigned to 15 Troops throughout the State. The
7 division is responsible for the investigation of all
8 fires of suspicious origin, the promulgation and
9 enforcement of regulations governing the storage and
10 handling of flammable liquids and coordination of
11 activities with other authorities in fire safety and
12 investigation. In 1989, the division investigated
13 1,416 incendiary fires, 853 fires of undetermined
14 origin, and 717 accidental fires involving 111
15 fatalities.

16 The division, in coordination with the
17 Department of Environmental Resources and the Federal
18 Environmental Protection Agency, is also working to
19 enforced the Spill Protection Act. This law involves
20 the investigation of storage tanks holding flammable
21 and combustible liquids.

22 Troop Criminal Investigations. Statewide
23 the department has approximately 435 full-time criminal
24 investigators that are assigned to all stations except
25 those in Troops S, Interstate Patrol and T, Turnpike

1 Patrol. These members routinely conduct investigations
2 of serious crimes including murder, kidnapping,
3 robbery, and similar type incidents. Criminal
4 investigators work in conjunction with and assist
5 Federal, State, and local criminal justice agencies.
6 Assistance is frequently provided to local police
7 agencies who are often faced with complex criminal
8 investigations that extend beyond their resources or
9 jurisdiction. Data regarding criminal investigations
10 and arrests is provided in Appendage A. Since 1985,
11 criminal investigations have increased 24 percent and
12 criminal arrests have increased 71 percent.

13 Riot control. The department responded
14 to numerous riot and crowd control incidents in 1989.
15 Some of these incidents included: Camp Hill Prison
16 disturbance, total hours, 171,946. Anticipated
17 Graterford disturbance, with the indicated hours. SCI
18 Huntingdon disturbance, three Klu Klux Klan rallies,
19 four major labor strikes, the pigeon shoot in
20 Schuylkill County, and the deer hunt protest in Bucks
21 County, totaling 177,358 hours.

22 Crime-related programs. Numerous special
23 programs have been developed to address a variety of
24 criminal activities. The State Police established the
25 first statewide Narcotics Analysis Referral Center.

1 The center enables Federal, State and local drug
2 investigators to cross-index intelligence information,
3 thus facilitating a coordinated effort in our war on
4 drugs.

5 As a result of the December passage of
6 House Bill 1141, which is the CHRIA Act, our
7 department, in conjunction with the Office of Attorney
8 General, is now permitted to computerize law
9 enforcement intelligence information in a central
10 repository. This will greatly assist criminal
11 investigators in quickly obtaining vital information
12 concerning perpetrators of serious crimes. Law
13 enforcement agencies, district attorneys, and the
14 Attorney General are now permitted access to this
15 information.

16 The Clandestine Laboratory Enforcement
17 Program provides specially trained and certified
18 chemists and Troopers to investigate, dismantle, and
19 dispose of clandestine drug manufacturing laboratories.
20 Eight of these sophisticated labs, each capable of
21 producing large quantities of legal drugs, were seized
22 in 1989.

23 The Marijuana Eradication Program allows
24 specially trained Troopers, flying with Aviation
25 Division pilots, to identify and eradicate marijuana

1 fields. The Drug Enforcement Administration has
2 designated the Pennsylvania State Police as a statewide
3 program coordinator. The program incorporates the U.S.
4 Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Agriculture
5 Stabilization and Conservation Service, U.S. Forest
6 Service, Department of Environmental Resources,
7 National Guard, Civil Air Patrol, Game Commission and
8 Fish Commission into a comprehensive statewide program.
9 The Aviation Division devoted 310 flight hours to the
10 Marijuana Eradication Program in 1989, resulting in the
11 location of 140 plots of marijuana situated in 29
12 counties. A total of 14,683 plants were destroyed with
13 an estimated value in excess of \$16 million.

14 Operation Whiteline is an aggressive drug
15 interdiction program utilizing uniform patrol Troopers
16 and the Department's canine units to identify drug
17 couriers using the highways to transport drugs. The
18 program is often coordinated with other eastern
19 Seaboard states. In the last six months of 1989, 294
20 vehicles were stopped, resulting in 237 arrests and the
21 confiscation of 7 vehicles, \$35,200 in cash, and drugs
22 valued over \$72,000.

23 The Analytical Technique for the
24 Apprehension of Criminals, ATAC Program, determines
25 relationship between certain violent crimes and

1 initiates communications between investigating
2 agencies. ATAC works in conjunction with the FBI's
3 Violent Criminal Apprehension Program, which provides
4 the added benefit of national analysis of crimes
5 submitted by Pennsylvania Police agencies. Over 150
6 cases have been entered into the program. Recently,
7 patterns have been discovered linking the number of
8 prostitutes as well as organized crime homicides. And
9 this is on an interstate basis.

10 Troop Identification Units, with 49
11 enlisted members, process crime scenes, preserve
12 evidence, and provide expert testimony at court
13 proceedings. Thirteen polygraph operators verify the
14 truthfulness of suspects and victims. Various Troop
15 Auto Theft Units specialize in investigating the
16 growing problem of stolen vehicles and chop-shop
17 operations. Fifteen Troop vice details conduct drug,
18 prostitution, gambling and related investigations.
19 These investigations are complex and require a variety
20 of investigative techniques, including undercover
21 Troopers, electronic surveillance and monitoring, et
22 cetera. Because these techniques exceed the resources
23 of many local police departments, these services are
24 frequently provided by our department.

25 The Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement.

1 The Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement, with a
2 complement of 143 enforcement officers, 15 enlisted
3 members, 75 civilian employees and 8 attorneys, works
4 in conjunction with other Commonwealth agencies to
5 enforce the Pennsylvania Liquor Code and related Crimes
6 Code statutes. This bureau has developed close working
7 relationships with law enforcement agencies throughout
8 the Commonwealth. In addition to investigating liquor
9 violations, agents routinely uncover many other
10 criminal violations such as gambling, drugs, and
11 prostitution that are turned over to the police agency
12 having jurisdiction. The bureau has formed a special
13 investigation section to address complex financial
14 related investigations. Detailed auditing of licensed
15 establishments is being initiated to determine the
16 level of compliance with the Liquor Code. A summary of
17 the bureau's activities are provided in Appendage B.

18 The Bureau of Patrol. The Bureau of
19 Patrol consists of three divisions - the Aviation
20 Division, the Patrol Service Division, and Safety
21 Program Division. The major responsibilities of the
22 bureau are to aid in minimizing highway traffic
23 accidents and related injuries and deaths by the
24 establishment of uniform traffic law enforcement and
25 patrol activity programs. The bureau provides aircraft

1 support and field patrol operations, directs the
2 operations of driver examinations and testing
3 facilities, vehicle inspection station programs, and
4 safety programs.

5 The Aviation Division, with a complement
6 of 26 enlisted members, provides a variety of services
7 from 7 locations utilizing 7 helicopters and 3
8 fixed-wing aircraft. During 1989, these aircraft flew
9 6,176 hours to complete 4,075 missions. Among these
10 were 22 emergency transportation missions, 54 reported
11 fires, 124 motorist assists, 381 surveillances, 383
12 photography missions, and 778 searches. In addition,
13 another airplane is dedicated to the Pennsylvania
14 Turnpike for enforcement of the 55 mile per hour speed
15 limit.

16 The State Police Aerial Reconnaissance
17 Enforcement Program logged 1,796 hours with 424
18 missions, resulting in the issuance of 4,704 citations.
19 Airplanes accounted for 96 percent of this activity.

20 The Patrol Services Division develops,
21 coordinates, and directs traffic and special
22 enforcement programs for improved highway safety with
23 State and Federal agencies. The division also prepares
24 and reviews proposed changes to the Vehicle Code,
25 coordinates department participation in the MCSAP and

1 weight enforcement programs, and supervises the serving
2 of traffic related warrants and O.R.'s.

3 During 1989, the Pennsylvania State
4 Police made 418,737 traffic arrests for violations of
5 the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code. A breakdown of the
6 major violations is as follows. I will not read them.
7 They are as indicated on page 14.

8 Since 1980, the Pennsylvania State Police
9 have steadily increased enforcement of DUI-related
10 offenses. In 1989 there were 7,540 arrests for DUI, a
11 20-percent increase over 1988. In the 10 years from
12 1980 through and including 1989, the department has
13 increased its DUI arrests from 1,669 to 7,541, a
14 350-percent increase.

15 Operation S.T.E.A.D.-D. was initiated in
16 August of 1988 to combat drunken driving. For the
17 one-year period from August '88 until July '89, the
18 S.T.E.A.D.-D. teams made up 3,142 traffic arrests. Of
19 this total, 504 were for DUI, 1,687 were speeding
20 citations. Additionally, all categories of accidents
21 were reduced from the previous year. DUI-related
22 accidents were down 30 percent, DUI fatal accidents
23 were down 29 percent, and, DUI injury accidents were
24 down 22 percent.

25 The Combined Accident Reduction Effort is

1 a national program of highway patrol and enforcement
2 committed to the goal of accident reduction. This goal
3 is accomplished by strict enforcement of
4 alcohol-related and speeding offenses. Emphasis is
5 also placed on seatbelt use and enforcement of other
6 accident causing violations.

7 Initiated and coordinated by the
8 Pennsylvania State Police, Eight STEPS involves
9 participation with the State Police agencies and the
10 highway patrol agency that borders Pennsylvania. The
11 program is designed to provide saturation patrol
12 coverage along specified interstate highways of the
13 eight participating State borders. Radar teams, marked
14 and unmarked patrol vehicles, aerial observation, and
15 officers in civilian attire were utilized in traffic
16 safety efforts aimed at accident reductions.

17 The Pennsylvania State Police
18 participation in the Motor Carrier Safety Assistance
19 Program, MCSAP, has grown since its inception in 1985.
20 Currently, the department has over 356 certified Motor
21 Carrier Inspectors. In 1989, the department's MCI's
22 performed over 34,000 of the 48,929 inspections
23 completed along Pennsylvania highways. As a result of
24 those inspections, 27,544 traffic citations and 93,604
25 police warning notices were issued.

1 The Commercial Vehicle Weight Enforcement
2 Program is comprised of 29 mobile teams and one
3 permanent detail. The teams work throughout the State
4 weighing commercial vehicles. In 1989, 509,663
5 commercial vehicles were stopped and check. Of that
6 number, 432,857 were weighed and 5,997 were cited.

7 In 1989, approximately 67,533 hours were
8 devoted to PennDOT related warrant and O.R. activities.
9 These included the seizing of expired or suspended
10 drivers' licenses and registrations, as well as
11 verifying that motorists had vehicle insurance.
12 Approximately 51,000 hours were spent on the service of
13 warrants. A large percentage of these warrants involve
14 members collecting fines for outstanding traffic
15 violations.

16 The Motorcycle Program was placed in
17 operation on August 17, 1989. The motorcycles were
18 assigned within densely traveled highway systems to
19 augment the existing patrol units in these high volume
20 traffic areas. There are 21 trained motorcycle
21 operators using 12 Harley Davidson motorcycles.

22 The Safety Program Division is
23 responsible for coordinating the regulatory aspects of
24 department participation in the State Traffic Safety
25 Program. The division also oversees the vehicle

1 inspection station program, the school bus safety
2 program, and the operation of driver examination and
3 facilities.

4 The Driver Licensing Program maintains
5 responsibility for the testing of all operators of
6 motor vehicles for the Commonwealth. This includes
7 both knowledge tests of the related Vehicle Code laws
8 and a demonstration of driving skills. In 1989, over
9 1,446,000 tests, involving 86,245 hours, were
10 administered. A Federally mandated Commercial Driver
11 License Testing Program is presently administered by
12 the department. Through the program, the 1.2 million
13 commercially licensed operators in Pennsylvania will
14 have to be recertified prior to April of 1992. The
15 program required the hiring of 25 additional Driver
16 License Examiners and more will be needed in the near
17 future.

18 The Safety Program Division supervises
19 the Inspection Station Supervisor Program activities.
20 Approximately 72 enlisted members are involved in this
21 function full-time. During 1989, Inspection Station
22 Supervisors routinely visited and audited 18,500
23 inspection stations. A total of 792 reports of
24 violations were submitted, which resulted in 190
25 mechanics and 124 inspection stations being suspended.

1 In addition, 3,370 dealer related investigations were
2 conducted.

3 In 1989, the Pennsylvania State Police
4 inspected 20,500 school buses. Statewide training on
5 school bus regulations was also provided to the 175
6 members of the Pennsylvania State Police who are
7 involved in the annual inspection program.

8 The Bureau of Patrol also provides a
9 variety of other traffic related programs.

10 As part of the Governor's Highway Safety
11 Initiative, TRASHNET was established to enforce
12 overweight and illegal garbage hauling. This program
13 combines our Troopers and the Department of
14 Environmental Resources in targeting garbage hauling.
15 Backhauling enforcement has also been instituted with
16 DER. Trucks are inspected to uncover operators that
17 haul food products in vehicles that previously carried
18 garbage.

19 Operation Co-Flame involves the
20 participation of States along the east coast to enforce
21 drug enforcement on major highways between Florida and
22 Maine.

23 Other programs that include the
24 cooperation of other police agencies include
25 P.L.E.A.S.E., that combines our department and local

1 police for traffic safety, and SPIES, designed to
2 impact on speeding on interstate highways.

3 Our department has initiated a number of
4 programs designed to encourage the use of safety belts
5 for adults and children. A pilot program conducted in
6 Erie County involving public education and enforcement
7 resulted in increased seatbelt usage.

8 The Bureau of Patrol works closely with
9 the Governor's Highway Safety Representative at PennDOT
10 to acquire Federal funds. These moneys support special
11 projects allowing for increased enforcement and the
12 purpose of related equipment.

13 The Bureau of Community Services. The
14 Bureau of Community Services coordinates the
15 department's efforts in working with the community to
16 reduce crime. The bureau oversees the activities of
17 approximately 56 Community Relations/Youth Aid and
18 Safety Education Officers stationed throughout 15
19 Troops. These officers are responsible for providing
20 community relations, crime prevention, and
21 youth-related programs for the public. During 1989,
22 1,984 programs were presented to over 41,156 adults and
23 57,964 youths.

24 Approximately 230 enlisted members have
25 received training from the Pennsylvania Commission on

1 Crime and Delinquency as Crime Prevention Officers.
2 The Community Relations and Crime Prevention Officers
3 develop and maintain Neighborhood Watch and Utility
4 Watch Programs. As of December 1989, there were
5 approximately 130 programs in operation, with over
6 11,992 citizens participating.

7 The Pennsylvania Crime Stoppers Program,
8 with a staff of 3 enlisted members, combines the
9 public, media and police in a cooperative effort to
10 fight crime. Since the inception of the program, a
11 total of 705 serious crimes were solved, 205 criminals
12 were arrested, 154 fugitives were captured, over
13 \$2,309,837 in stolen property and illegal drugs were
14 recovered.

15 The Laboratory Division of the Bureau of
16 Laboratory and Communications Services operates a
17 system of six laboratories to provide forensic services
18 to State and local law enforcement agencies. These
19 services are provided by a staff of 79, consisting of
20 16 enlisted members and 63 civilian employees,
21 including analysts, laboratory technicians, clerical
22 and administrative personnel.

23 In 1989, the Laboratory Division
24 established a Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) laboratory.
25 This technology will provide advanced scientific

1 technology to support the investigative needs of law
2 enforcement. DNA analysis will link the perpetrators
3 of crimes to biological evidence and permit
4 investigators to identify a series of crimes committed
5 by the same person. It will also aid in the
6 identification of missing persons and the remains of
7 unidentified deceased individuals.

8 Scientific examinations and analysis of
9 physical evidence are conducted by Ballistics,
10 Chemistry, Documents, and Latent Print Sections of the
11 Laboratory Division. In 1989, this division completed
12 over 27,800 cases. This represents nearly a 19-percent
13 increase over the previous year. Of that amount,
14 approximately 19,600 cases were completed free of
15 charge for municipal law enforcement agencies.

16 The Bureau of Records and Information
17 Services, comprised of the Information Systems Division
18 and the Records and Identification Division, is a
19 support and service group for all criminal justice
20 agencies in the Commonwealth. The bureau has a
21 complement of 20 enlisted members and 204 civilian
22 employees.

23 An Automated Fingerprint Identification
24 System, AFIS, was initiated in 1989. This \$7.2 million
25 project involves 8 enlisted members and 18 civilian

1 employees. The computer-based system utilizes optical
2 disk technology to read, classify, match, and store
3 fingerprints. Without AFIS, a manual search to match a
4 latent fingerprint from among the 1.5 million
5 fingerprint cards on file in the Central Repository
6 would conceivably take 35 years to complete. AFIS can
7 accomplish the same search in approximately 30 minutes.

8 The Information Systems Division provides
9 automated communication technology for the department.
10 Data communications and informational resources extend
11 to law enforcement and criminal justice communities
12 nationwide, via the Commonwealth Law Enforcement
13 Assistance Network, CLEAN. The CLEAN Program provides
14 computer access to the National Crime Information
15 Center, the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications
16 System, the Philadelphia Police Department, and
17 PennDOT.

18 The Records and Identification Division
19 maintains traffic, criminal, and administrative records
20 of the department and functions as a central repository
21 for all State law enforcement agencies for the
22 classifying, identifying, and storing of arrest
23 fingerprint cards. The arrest fingerprints are the
24 basis for the generation of Computerized Criminal
25 Histories.

1 The Bureau of Training and Education,
2 with a staff of 56 enlisted members, provides a wide
3 variety of programs and initiatives relating to crime
4 reduction. During 1989, this bureau completed training
5 18 Canine Drug Enforcement teams. The teams responded
6 to over 1,600 incidents, resulting in the confiscation
7 of over \$9 million in drugs, cash, vehicles and other
8 property. The seized cash alone totaled \$1,836,965.

9 The Special Emergency Response Team,
10 SERT, is comprised of a total of 38 enlisted members,
11 24 tactical and 14 negotiators, who perform their
12 function on a part-time basis. SERT was activated 36
13 times during 1989 for hostage situations, barricaded
14 gunman incidents, and high-risk search and arrest
15 warrants. Members of SERT also saw extensive duty at
16 the Camp Hill Prison incident.

17 The Bureau is responsible for the initial
18 23 weeks of cadet training, basic municipal police
19 officer training, basic liquor control enforcement
20 training, in-service training for Pennsylvania State
21 Police personnel, and in-service training for municipal
22 police personnel. In 1989, the academy and the four
23 training centers provided basic training for 286
24 municipal police officers. Additionally, 1,374
25 municipal police officers and 981 State Police

1 personnel received in-service training. In-service
2 training for our members included a wide variety of
3 subjects, some of these included, and I won't
4 illustrate them, they are on page 24.

5 Starting on page 25, the Bureau of
6 Training and Education and the four regional training
7 centers also offer instruction in topics such as
8 management and decisionmaking, performance evaluations,
9 stress reduction, and first-line supervision.

10 The Pennsylvania State Police maintains
11 an Emergency Operations Officer to coordinate
12 activities with the Pennsylvania Emergency Management
13 Agency, PEMA. Regular meetings prepare emergency
14 operation plans for manmade or natural disasters. As a
15 result of this cooperation, an agreement has been made
16 with the Department of Corrections addressing future
17 prison emergencies.

18 The Commissioner of the Pennsylvania
19 State Police is the Chairman of the Municipal Police
20 Officers' Education and Training Commission. This
21 commission is mandated to establish requirements and
22 types of training utilized for municipal police
23 officers. All political subdivisions of the
24 Commonwealth maintaining local police agencies must
25 comply with these established provisions.

1 It is important for us to maintain a
2 position of leadership in the law enforcement
3 community. In the furtherance of this effort,
4 membership is maintained in professional organizations
5 such as Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association,
6 International Association of Chiefs of Police,
7 Pennsylvania Narcotics Officers Association, National
8 Air Smuggler's Association, Alliance of State Drug
9 Enforcement Agencies, and the Mid-Atlantic Compact on
10 Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

11 Administration of our department is
12 constantly upgraded by a number of initiatives
13 involving our personnel. Some of these include:

14 --Training by affirmative action officer
15 of field rank and field supervisory personnel in
16 elements of sexual harassment/ethnic intimidation.

17 --Executive development training of our
18 management personnel in management of human resources.

19 --Basic supervisory training for all
20 first-line supervisors in supervisory development,
21 performance evaluations, and grievance/discipline
22 handling.

23 --Development of a two-day in-service
24 stress management program for all personnel to begin in
25 1991.

1 --Improved labor/management relations
2 through labor/management meetings through the
3 Pennsylvania State Troopers Association and the
4 Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner of Administration and
5 Troop Commanders.

6 --Finalization of new grievance
7 procedures on contractual matters, including discipline
8 and subsequent training of department management
9 personnel.

10 --Continued progress towards validation
11 of promotional procedures for the ranks of corporal,
12 sergeant, and lieutenant.

13 --Validation of cadet selection
14 procedures.

15 --Reorganization of the executive and
16 administrative offices and the area commands.

17 There are additional economic factors
18 affecting the operation of the department. The
19 economic climate being experienced by various
20 municipalities has resulted in either a disbanding or
21 reduction in size of numerous municipal police
22 departments. The Pennsylvania State Police is mandated
23 by law to assist those municipalities in providing
24 police coverage. Since January 1, 1986, we have had to
25 assume full-time police responsibility for 58

1 municipalities and part-time police responsibility for
2 57 municipalities, involving in excess of 313,000
3 people.

4 The number of registered motor vehicles
5 in Pennsylvania has been steadily increasing as is the
6 number of miles driven on Commonwealth highways. This
7 has a significant impact on Pennsylvania State Police
8 operations as the department is mandated to supervise
9 motor vehicle inspections, administer driver
10 examinations, and enforce traffic laws. The
11 Pennsylvania State Police has this primary
12 responsibility for patrolling the Commonwealth's
13 interstate highway system and it is anticipating that
14 activity levels will increase as the volume of traffic
15 and the miles driven on the highway system increases.

16 The large increase in the number of
17 registered motor vehicles and miles traveled
18 corresponds with a substantial increase in the number
19 of motor vehicle accidents requiring investigation by
20 the Pennsylvania State Police. Projections of accident
21 rates indicate that the number of accidents
22 investigated by this department will continue to
23 steadily increase.

24 It should be mentioned that many of our
25 Troopers perform more than one function and are called

1 upon for a variety of tasks. Many of these functions
2 are completed by patrol Troopers, in addition to their
3 regular patrol duties. Some of these activities
4 include first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation
5 instruction, equitation officers, firearms instructors,
6 intoxilyzer operators, computer coordinators, and
7 communications specialists.

8 I would like to emphasize that the
9 Pennsylvania State Police dedicates substantial
10 resources to a wide spectrum of law enforcement
11 activities. The impressive results speak for
12 themselves. We are proud to provide these vital
13 services that are not available elsewhere to the
14 citizens of the Commonwealth.

15 My staff, and it turns out to be me
16 today, are prepared to answer any questions you have
17 regarding the duties I have described. Again, I thank
18 you for your invitation to address this committee. You
19 can be assured of the support of the Pennsylvania State
20 Police to assist you in any way possible.

21 CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: Commissioner, I
22 want to thank you very, very much for this very indepth
23 review of the activities of the Pennsylvania State
24 Police. In my 14 years here on the Hill, I think this
25 is the first time, to the best that I can recall, that

1 other than through the Appropriations Committee's
2 process did we have the Pennsylvania State Police or
3 any of the other agencies, bureaus that we're going to
4 be calling before the committee that we have oversight
5 function on. As part of our responsibility as the
6 House Judiciary Committee, I felt that it was important
7 for all the members of the committee to get an overview
8 of exactly what the various agencies do, in particular
9 today it's the Pennsylvania State Police.

10 What I would like to do with the members
11 that couldn't make it today for a number of reasons,
12 I'd like to be able to take those that you have left
13 over and send those to the members so that each one of
14 the members would have this information, because I
15 think it's very, very important information. I think
16 you really do tell a story that hasn't been told about
17 the depth of involvement that the Pennsylvania State
18 Police have in numerous areas. I was amazed. As much
19 as I've known about the State Police myself, I didn't
20 realize that you were involved in that many other
21 activities that you participate in.

22 But I want to thank you, number one. And
23 I would like to share that information with the other
24 members, and I'm sure there are probably some
25 questions, and I know I have some, but let's open it

1 up.

2 Kevin.

3 REPRESENTATIVE BLAUM: Thank you, Mr.
4 Chairman.

5 BY REPRESENTATIVE BLAUM: (Of Acting Comm. Walp)

6 Q. Once again, congratulations,
7 Commissioner.

8 A. Thank you, sir.

9 Q. I would echo, I think, the comments of
10 the Chairman in your testimony, 29 pages long, that I
11 think this is something that the members of the
12 committee can retain, and it seems to be a definitive
13 document on the activities of the State Police and it's
14 something we would all want to keep in our files and
15 from time to time refer to.

16 A. Yes, sir.

17 Q. It was quite complete, even though I'm
18 sure it was a little difficult to get through. I can
19 assure the members that when PCCD comes before this
20 committee that our testimony will be 28 pages shorter.
21 I'm not reading it, so I'm not concerned about it.

22 I think two of the most significant
23 things that the General Assembly has done over the
24 years is AFIS, the creation of AFIS, the fingerprint
25 system that you referred to, and CHRIA, which I think

1 are two weapons that law enforcement will be using
2 quite extensively over the years.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And I wonder if you can just tell the
5 members the progress that those two relatively new,
6 AFIS is now almost two years old, and CHRIA just a few
7 months in existence, what kind of progress the State
8 Police is making in conjunction with maybe other law
9 enforcement groups and agencies to implement these two
10 programs?

11 A. Yeah. I'll start with the AFIS system.
12 Currently, we are in what they call the
13 acceptance stage. The contract with a company, with
14 NEC, indicates that you must go 30 days without any
15 problems within the system. We began that in January
16 and have encountered problems, which is the norm. In
17 fact, in most areas around the United States it may
18 even take a year before you finally get through the
19 acceptance stage, and so it's a hit-and-go thing at
20 this point, but we theorized a few months before we'll
21 be finalized with that, where we accept as a department
22 that the system does work and therefore then we sign on
23 to the company, NEC Company, and accept their system
24 and then we go into what we call the operational stage.
25 We have already had numerous hits that

1 involved one case that was robberies, rapes, there are
2 some indications of some homicides also, auto theft.
3 It is an extremely effective system and at this point
4 we are just at the very beginning of the system. And
5 ultimately, when we get it totally on line we have the
6 system in the Philadelphia Police Department,
7 Pittsburgh Department, and here in Harrisburg. And
8 again, they're just putting a very minute amount into
9 the system just to test it to ensure that it is
10 operational. But it is by far one of the most highly
11 advanced technological advances in contemporary police
12 in the 20th century and will be so as you move into the
13 21st century.

14 As far as CHRIA, that's a combined effort
15 between the Attorney General's Office and the
16 Pennsylvania State Police, and I met with the Attorney
17 General about three weeks ago now and we have
18 established our system wherein we have invited the
19 intelligence staff from the Attorney General's Office
20 to come over to the Pennsylvania State Police where we
21 can begin to work on the system. As I read to you in
22 the report, we already have the NARC system, which we
23 implemented prior to CHRIA being passed with that
24 addition because we didn't know if it was going to fly
25 or not, so we realized how critical it was to establish

1 a system to exchange criminal intelligence regarding
2 especially drug law enforcement in Pennsylvania. So we
3 already had a system on line with the vast majority of
4 all police agencies in Pennsylvania where if they have
5 any drug suspect or an arrestee at any time they would
6 submit a card, and we simply used a 3 by 5 card and if
7 we saw a parallel, we'd immediately get a hold of the
8 two agencies and tell them, for example, Joe Smith is
9 working in Philadelphia, he's also working in Reading,
10 and then they could get together and begin to work a
11 combined effort so they would know where these people
12 are working.

13 And with the ultimate goal, with the
14 PennFree money, we were given \$875,000 for a computer
15 system with the assumption that if the CHRIA Act passed
16 that we would implement NARC right into the
17 computerized system. We are now right on line. I
18 signed, a few days ago, to send the guidelines over to
19 the Attorney General's Office. They must be filed by
20 February 15th, and assumingly by February 15th, which
21 is Friday, we'll begin to be able to computerize that
22 intelligence that we had on 3 by 5 cards now into a
23 criminal intelligence system that's computerized. So
24 again, that, likewise, is one of the, as you indicated,
25 one of the most advanced technological advancements in

1 the criminal justice system in the 20th century and
2 will be so as we move on.

3 Q. Thank you, Commissioner.

4 A. You're welcome.

5 CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: Karen.

6 REPRESENTATIVE RITTER: All right.

7 BY REPRESENTATIVE RITTER: (Of Acting Comm. Walp)

8 Q. I'm just wondering in terms of the
9 information you've presented as far as the number of
10 municipal police departments that have either been
11 disbanded or reduced, is there any contributions from
12 the municipalities towards the costs of providing that
13 service? If the State Police provide the police
14 service because the municipality doesn't have its own
15 police force, is there any--

16 A. No.

17 Q. So you provide that at no charge to the
18 municipality?

19 A. What it amounts to is we don't charge
20 them, but you have a multiplicity of structures out
21 there. For example, we can take Clariton in western
22 Pennsylvania that has no police agency whatsoever, and
23 we've been there for a few years, and we are the police
24 department in Clariton. We are attempting to get out
25 and we are working with the fathers of that community

1 as well as the Department of Community Affairs. We
2 meet with them to structure a system where they can
3 become self-sufficient and ultimately get out, and
4 they're theorizing maybe within the next three or four
5 years they will begin to slowly get back because they
6 are beginning to get a tax base out there to help them
7 out. We don't charge them anything and we don't get
8 anything from them.

9 Now, there are other agencies that have
10 part-time policemen. They don't have enough to go
11 around the clock, so we fill in the gap. Braddock is
12 one where we work X amount of shifts a week but we're
13 not the full-time police department there. So it's a
14 combined effort. We work with them the best we can and
15 based upon what they have to work with. And basically,
16 that's what we're doing. Now, if it's a real small
17 community, all we simply do is put it in a patrol zone
18 where before they may have had a one- or two-man police
19 department and we'll patrol it as we patrol any area
20 and if they have any problems, we'll go in and
21 investigate them. So it's a multiplicity of situations
22 you get into.

23 Q. Well, I'm just thinking because the
24 cities and the larger municipalities that have their
25 own police forces are paying higher local taxes

1 generally in order to support that police force.

2 A. Right.

3 Q. And all of the citizens are still paying
4 State taxes, and so actually they're paying twice for,
5 you know, they're paying for their own police service
6 and then they're paying for the State Police to be
7 working somewhere else where they have a lower tax
8 base. I mean, I'm not faulting you, obviously.

9 A. Right. Right.

10 Q. It's something that we should be doing is
11 making sure that people are protected, but I'm just
12 wondering if there isn't some way there can be some
13 contribution made towards the cost of running your
14 department, because I would imagine those costs would
15 be -- you would be able to determine what those costs
16 would come to. There should be some way of--

17 A. The agency that probably has the most
18 extensive involvement would be the Department of Community
19 Affairs, and again, we have ongoing meetings with them
20 where they try to help out the communities. But one of
21 the areas you get into is there's probably about 15
22 municipality areas in Pennsylvania that, and I'm
23 shooting from the hip, but I would say are probably
24 wealthy and could support a police department but the
25 State Police are the agency there and so they get a

1 freebie, whereas then you have others who really are
2 deficient and they don't have anything, and of course
3 we go in there. So I guess there is an imbalance
4 there, but I certainly don't have the authority or the
5 power to resolve that issue, but it is a political
6 issue.

7 Q. No, I was just curious. And certainly
8 looking at the number of people who represent those
9 municipalities who are getting free police service
10 wouldn't be inclined to make contributions, I'm sure.

11 A. That's right.

12 Q. But representing the city of Allentown
13 who does have its own police force and who has had to
14 raise city taxes over the years.

15 A. Right.

16 Q. And certainly there's cooperation
17 between--

18 A. Right.

19 Q. --I mean, obviously there are things that
20 you do in Allentown as well, cooperating with our
21 officers.

22 A. Right.

23 Q. And so there is some of that, but it's
24 not the same as providing all of the police services
25 for the municipalities.

1 A. That's correct.

2 Q. Thank you.

3 A. You're welcome.

4 CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: Just to follow up
5 on that, in 1983 when I served as Subcommittee Chair on
6 Third-Class Cities, we had I think 14 or 19 extensive
7 hearings throughout the Commonwealth dealing basically
8 with third-class cities that were financially
9 distressed. Clariton, as a matter of fact, is
10 classified as one of those cities and it is a
11 third-class city. McKeesport, McKees Rocks, there were
12 other surrounding communities that were drawn into the
13 hearings that we conducted at that time as part of the
14 Urban Affairs Committee that we were taking testimony
15 on some legislation, and I do recall that the
16 Department of Community Affairs is in fact charged with
17 handling the functions of those communities, whether
18 they are boroughs, townships or cities, if they happen
19 to belly-up financially.

20 One of the concerns that I have, as a
21 follow-up to what you had mentioned, Karen, was the
22 number of communities in the Commonwealth that are more
23 and more getting to have financial problems because
24 they just can't meet the growing demands of the
25 population and because they may be single-industry

1 communities such Clairton, and unless their economic
2 base has expanded and they dissolved their police
3 department, I recall the city of Johnstown was another
4 one that was having some problems out there. There are
5 a number of others in the eastern part of the State
6 that were having some real serious problems. There was
7 just something in the newspaper in the last couple of
8 months about disbanding a local police department
9 simply because they didn't have the wherewithal
10 financially to continue to pay for those services. Do
11 you see that as an expanding role of the Pennsylvania
12 State Police? Do you think the legislature should
13 really start taking a closer look at what's going on in
14 that whole area?

15 ACTING COMMISSIONER WALP: I would say
16 this from my perception of it being a Field Commander
17 and also Deputy of Operations, that I would imagine
18 that will begin to escalate especially if the economic
19 situation continues as it is going, you are probably
20 going to see a lot more of that, and I know the
21 Department of Community Affairs definitely has a real
22 concern in that area, and I would -- you know, I can't
23 sit here and say, yeah, there's going to be that amount
24 in 1991, but I would say definitely will expand, yeah,
25 it would be my opinion. Each year it continues to

1 expand.

2 CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: Unless the
3 economic base in many of these communities develop to
4 some extent, they are going to have real tough choices
5 to make as far as what services they continue to
6 provide.

7 ACTING COMMISSIONER WALP: Yes.

8 BY REPRESENTATIVE DERMODY: (Of Acting Comm. Walp)

9 Q. Commissioner, there are six crime labs
10 throughout the Commonwealth that the State Police run?

11 A. That's correct, sir.

12 Q. You have one that does DNA testing?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. DNA analysis. Where is that?

15 A. Greensburg.

16 Q. Now, do you see counties also coming up
17 with DNA crime labs and that type of testing in
18 counties throughout the Commonwealth?

19 A. You mean different counties or counties
20 like--

21 Q. Yes. Like Allegheny County they at one
22 time proposed to have a DNA laboratory. Greensburg is
23 close.

24 A. Yeah. I don't know what Allegheny
25 County, per se, what their projection is, if they're

1 getting involved in it. I would say this, as it
2 becomes more popular and as more court cases are won
3 because of DNA, and the track record is already being
4 set, you will see a lot more of it. Now, it's a little
5 expensive and that's the problem. But we were just
6 beginning the inroads and we started DNA through
7 Federal funds and we would like to expand it and plan
8 to throughout the State and so it would be in all of
9 our crime labs. That's our goal.

10 Q. Your goal is to put it in all six?

11 A. Money is the problem right now.

12 Q. My experience is that it is an incredible
13 tool for both identifying and convicting suspects.

14 A. Absolutely.

15 Q. Have any of your technicians had to
16 testify in court?

17 A. We have had them testify in court, yes.
18 I don't know exactly how many, but they have been
19 testifying, yes.

20 Q. Because there was a problem at one point
21 with some of the commercial laboratories and their
22 results that had been taken into question. Have you
23 found any problem with your results being taken into
24 question?

25 A. No. That problem was resolved, but we

1 have not experienced any problems.

2 Q. Do you have any plan for the expansion or
3 is it based on what type of Federal moneys you can
4 obtain?

5 A. We're hoping maybe to get some Federal
6 money through the PCCD and possibly even through maybe
7 this year's budget, but we don't know, but that is
8 definitely a priority. It almost falls -- well, it
9 does, it falls in line with AFIS, the computerization
10 of intelligence, and these are the three top items as
11 we move into the '90's.

12 Q. Do you plan to coordinate that with other
13 counties or larger counties so you're not duplicating?
14 Because it is expensive.

15 A. Right. At this point it's too early in
16 the stage to do that, but obviously we will. As we go
17 along, wherever you can save money and get the job
18 done, that's what we would do.

19 Q. I worked with several of your Troopers
20 from Clariton and Braddock and they have done a very
21 fine job.

22 A. Very good. Thank you, sir. I'm glad to
23 hear that. Thank you.

24 Q. Thank you.

25 A. You're welcome.

1 CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: Representative
2 Reber.

3 REPRESENTATIVE REBER: Thank you, Mr.
4 Chairman.

5 BY REPRESENTATIVE REBER: (Of Acting Comm. Walp)

6 Q. Commissioner, on page 18 of your
7 testimony you characterize the Governor's Highway
8 Safety Initiative, the TRASHNET operations.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Your involvement in that, was that mostly
11 involved with interstate as opposed to intrastate
12 activities in garbage hauling, trash hauling?

13 A. It involved both, sir. It involved
14 interstate, and I'll be quite candid with you, because
15 we knew that would be a problem, as you do in anything,
16 as you do with police work, you don't want to single
17 out a certain group and truly do that, nor do you want
18 to even give that perception. So there are various
19 sites that were inspected that include interstate,
20 intrastate and arrests were made in both of those
21 areas. And normally when we held a TRASHNET we held it
22 statewide in all these different areas. Now, certain
23 ones got a little more publicity than others, but we
24 hit in all areas, yes, sir.

25 Q. Was that always initiated by DER and/or

1 the administration as opposed to being something that
2 was unilaterally determined and decided upon by the
3 State Police?

4 A. Okay, the background of that, sir, was
5 that we had already been doing, the State Police had
6 already been checking these dumps for quite some time.
7 It was the Governor's initiative, however, to make a
8 concerted effort regarding the interstate and in
9 certain areas. So what we did was just enhance and
10 intensify our program and certainly ended up with a lot
11 of significant arrests and warning and that type of
12 thing, and a combination of DER. So, yes, it was the
13 administration. It was the Governor's initiative to
14 initiate what turned out to be called TRASHNET, but we
15 were in the business before but not to the extent we
16 became involved until the Governor became involved.

17 Q. To the best of your knowledge, is there
18 going to be this continued stepped-up initiative?

19 A. Yes, sir.

20 Q. That is still being talked about, that is
21 still being planned?

22 A. It's ongoing right now. There isn't a
23 month goes by that we don't do some trashnetting.

24 Q. The reason I bring that topic up, the
25 Chairman's county, Berks County; my county, Montgomery

1 County; and specifically the western end of Montgomery
2 County where you have Route 100 is a tremendous conduit
3 for Delaware County trash coming up to be deposited in
4 Colebrookdale in Berks County where the Delaware
5 Authority has, in essence, taken that facility over.
6 Berks County was upset about that, of course now we're
7 as equally upset in Montgomery County that Berks County
8 has found fit to incorporate part of our Montgomery
9 County repository in their county plan, so we'll be
10 seeing a lot of traffic coming in a lot of different
11 directions.

12 A. Right.

13 Q. My concern is that there is an absolute
14 inordinate amount of hauling traffic on the Route 100
15 corridor coming into both Berks County and Montgomery
16 County. I know Representative Leh, Senator O'Pake,
17 myself, Representative Gallen, Representative Hershey
18 over in Chester County, you can't believe the amount of
19 problems and different types of problems that this is
20 making on a day-to-day basis.

21 A. Um-hum.

22 Q. Many of our local police forces in that
23 area are not equipped or maybe don't have the necessary
24 scales, expertise, whatever it might be, for what I
25 would consider and would like to see a highway safety

1 initiative program in the sense of TRASHNET, if you
2 will, or that type of stepped up concern.

3 A. Um-hum.

4 Q. And I just mention this to you so you
5 might be able to pass this along to the particular
6 barracks involved.

7 A. Okay.

8 Q. That it's an unbelievable amount, and I'm
9 a practicing attorney and have been for 20 years and
10 have represented most of the time defendant truck
11 drivers against local and State Police in years gone
12 by, so I appreciate as I'm driving and matriculating
13 through the area when I see what are statutory
14 violations that are bothersome, notwithstanding the
15 fact that there is a tremendous amount of traffic, a
16 tremendous amount of trucks being operated in not
17 necessarily all the time but on occasional bad safety
18 practices as far as netting and as far as cover, as far
19 as flaps, the quality of the rig, et cetera, et cetera,
20 not to mention the speed and the debris that blows out.

21 A. Okay.

22 Q. And on high-speed highways it becomes
23 exacerbated, Route 100 being a four-lane limited access
24 in many of the areas as well as the 422 corridor. It's
25 a real problem.

1 A. Okay.

2 Q. There's also a serious problem with the
3 lack of guardrailing in some of those areas, and when
4 these trucks are rolling into some of the curves you
5 get people who have a tendency to swerve and its just a
6 real, real, real bad situation, something that many of
7 the Representatives that I have referenced and myself
8 have on a weekly basis received communications in
9 various forms. So I don't know if this is the
10 opportunity or not to talk about it, but, you know, you
11 brought it up and touched on it and in my mind, this
12 area, very highly populated, is something that might be
13 looked into, and I would appreciate if maybe you could
14 trickle down this statement for the benefit of those
15 particular areas.

16 A. Yes, sir. I shall do that, sir, and I
17 appreciate you bringing that to my attention.

18 I should introduce Captain Paul Woodring
19 with me today, he's my Executive Assistant, and of
20 course Captain Dave Miller, the Legislative Liaison,
21 and they will record that and will definitely address
22 that.

23 Q. Thank you very much.

24 A. I appreciate you bringing it to my
25 attention.

1 REPRESENTATIVE REBER: Thank you, Mr.
2 Chairman.

3 CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: Paul Dunkleberger.

4 MR. DUNKLEBERGER: Thank you, Mr.
5 Chairman. Also, Commissioner, thank you for your
6 report.

7 ACTING COMMISSIONER WALP: You're
8 welcome.

9 MR. DUNKLEBERGER: Representative
10 Hagarty, who was unable to attend today, has a number
11 of questions involving domestic violence cases, which I
12 feel would be unfair to ask of you at this time. For
13 the record, Representative Hagarty will be submitting a
14 formal request to the Pennsylvania State Police through
15 Captain Miller to try to have these questions and
16 concerns answered.

17 ACTING COMMISSIONER WALP: Okay, sir.
18 Appreciate it. We shall do that. Thank you.

19 BY MS. MILAHOV: (Of Acting Comm. Walp)

20 Q. I noticed on your Appendage A that you
21 talk about the number of criminal investigations and
22 the number of arrests, and I was wondering, under drug
23 abuse, is this simply drug usage or are you also
24 talking about the manufacturers that are covered under
25 the clandestine laboratory enforcement and the

1 marijuana eradication program? And I was wondering
2 also if you could speak a little bit more on the
3 personnel that you have involved in the drug
4 enforcement programs, both for users and producers or
5 traffickers. And the final part of this question is
6 what do you do with all of the property and money and
7 drugs that you confiscate?

8 A. Okay. I'll try to remember them in that
9 order.

10 As far as the statistics indicate, the
11 drug abuse, to the best of my understanding, that does
12 include all of the arrests, however what I will do, I
13 will check that and get back to you through Captain
14 Miller as to the specifics on that so we're accurate on
15 that.

16 As far as the drug enforcement officers,
17 as indicated I clarified the various units we have out
18 there - the strike force, the TNT Program, BTP Program,
19 the White Line Operation, the drug investigators in the
20 Troops and so forth. We do not like to reveal numbers.
21 I know there was a specific number with the TNT Program
22 which was created through Governor Casey's PennFree
23 program and that was 50, so that's public record, and
24 of course it's also public record as a few weeks ago
25 we, along with the Attorney General, the State Police

1 have dumped 17 drug enforcement investigators down into
2 Region 9 office in Philadelphia, so those numbers are
3 for the record and publicly known, but other than that
4 I would not like to reveal exactly how many we have
5 other than to say that we have ongoing investigations
6 throughout the whole Commonwealth that deals in task
7 force, deals with Federal agencies, Game Commission,
8 Fish Commission, whatever agents you can think of we
9 work conjunctively with them and there is a very
10 effective program that is occurring in Pennsylvania.

11 Now, does that answer your question on
12 that or do you want something more specific?

13 Q. No, that's excellent. But the second
14 part of that is I know you can break out for me who the
15 traffickers were or producers and who the users were,
16 but I'm wondering, are you getting the big guys or are
17 you just getting the little guys?

18 A. Okay, right now we're getting both.
19 Prior to the PennFree program, and I've said this on
20 numerous occasions and I'll say it again, we're an army
21 and there's a war going on out there and if you don't
22 have money, you can't within that war, no more than
23 they can win the war in Desert Storm without money. It
24 takes money to drop the bombs and fight. Through the
25 Governor's program of PennFree, I've been on the job

1 nearly 25 years and it's always been a scrape of 5
2 bucks here, 10 bucks here, that type of operation, but
3 PennFree has made the Pennsylvania State Police an
4 extremely viable drug enforcement program on the big
5 dealers. And recently we had a large raid in Reading,
6 I don't know if you're familiar with that, a couple of
7 weeks ago and they were all large dealers, and what
8 made that productive was money. If we didn't have the
9 money, we couldn't do it.

10 So, yes, we are getting the large dealers
11 and of course that is ultimately the goal, and coming
12 in from other areas also, organized crime has a
13 tremendous amount of money that goes into the drug
14 area. And that sometimes is latent. So there is an
15 attack upon them that doesn't appear to be drugs on the
16 surface but in reality is. And that is, for example,
17 gambling, that is video poker. These types of
18 operations where you have organized crime involved, and
19 a lot of times you'll read in the paper, well, gee, I
20 wonder why they're doing that? Well, in most cases the
21 underlying reason is because we're going after the
22 organized crime which dumps the drugs into the areas
23 and therefore, yes, we're going after the big dealers.
24 And it is being effective and being more so effective
25 because of the money we have. Each year we are getting

1 more and more of the big dealers. And actually with
2 the VTP Program in Philadelphia, we wiped out with the
3 Philadelphia Police Department, in conjunction with the
4 Federal agencies, we knocked out about six of the
5 major, major drug organizations in Philadelphia. OK
6 Corral, the Junior Black Mafia, all their large
7 organization members are in jail right now. We just
8 took them right out of business. So they are doing it.

9 Q. Good. The last part of that question
10 was--

11 A. Okay, yes.

12 Q. --and I do appreciate how thoroughly you
13 explained this, is what do you do with all of the
14 property, the drugs and the money that you confiscate
15 in these operations?

16 A. Okay. That has a two-pronged approach.
17 The law says that anything that you may get through the
18 Federal government, if we work with the Federal
19 government and we confiscate money, cars or whatever,
20 whatever the Federal government may give back to the
21 State Police, per se, and most of the times you can't
22 -- now and then you'll get a car, but most of them have
23 heavy encumbrances on that it just isn't worth paying
24 it off to use the car. But if you get cash, Federal
25 law says that you can use that for anything in the

1 police field. So we could take that money that is
2 forfeited and use it for traffic enforcement if we
3 wanted to. Normally, we don't do that, we put it back
4 into drug enforcement. If it goes -- anything else
5 forfeiture must go through your district attorneys and
6 then through the Attorney General of Pennsylvania, and
7 then the recent signing we had with the agreement with
8 the Attorney General now for the first time we have a
9 percentage. We never had a percentage before. So now
10 we should make out a little bit better.

11 But that money must all go back into drug
12 enforcement, and so that's where we, and we're just
13 beginning to get that now, and we -- one of the things,
14 I'll give you an example, that we spent a lot of money
15 on, a couple hundred thousand dollars, are DNRs,
16 digital number recorders, where before it would take a
17 Trooper, if he was listening to drug deals on the
18 telephone where we had authorized wiretaps and so
19 forth, or a pen register where you're not listening to
20 voices, it would just take literal days and weeks to
21 record the numbers and you had to do it all with a
22 paper and a pencil. The computer does that in a matter
23 of minutes and we save a tremendous amount of manpower
24 hours, and that's where that money is going back into,
25 as well as guns and protection for the officers,

1 controlled radio systems, and so it's being extremely
2 effectively used, and again, it's being dumped right
3 back into the system to fight the drug war.

4 Q. Thank you.

5 A. You're welcome.

6 CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: Representative
7 Veon.

8 REPRESENTATIVE VEON: Thank you, Mr.
9 Chairman.

10 BY REPRESENTATIVE VEON: (Of Acting Comm. Walp)

11 Q. Questions about two areas of interest to
12 me, Commissioner. Number one, the commercial driver's
13 license.

14 A. Yes, sir.

15 Q. You do mention in here that you have
16 hired 25 DLEs and that you will need more in the
17 future, so two questions: One, do you have the money
18 to hire those additional DLEs; and two, are you
19 confident of being able to license these 1.2 million
20 drivers by the deadline of April 1, 1992?

21 A. I guess some is speculation on our part,
22 but yes, we have 25 DLEs specifically for the CDL
23 Program. We have 15 more that will be going through in
24 April and graduating, and we have money for all of
25 them. We have in the budget for this year for some

1 more CDLs and if it is approved we will get the
2 sufficient amount that we will need. We also have
3 State Troopers also giving CDL tests. All our State
4 examiners statewide that we already had as State
5 Policemen involved, as well as the civilians, are all
6 trained in CDL. The major area we're dealing with are
7 those that are classed above 26,000 pounds. We have
8 right now 11 CDL sites in the State right now. By
9 early spring of '91 and about 2 of them by I'd say by
10 mid or late summer '91 we will have 12 more on line
11 that are strategically located throughout the State.

12 We feel that we will have enough
13 examiners at this point to handle the flow that's
14 coming in, but I must also say a lot of it is
15 speculation because right now there are over 1 million
16 commercial drivers licenses out there in the field. We
17 don't know how many of them really are for real.
18 Sometimes when the transition took place on the new
19 laws they just put down on their license, gee, well,
20 some day I may have to drive a truck, so they threw in
21 the restriction, but if it comes now time to take the
22 test, you know, they will say, gee, I have no need to
23 take the test. So we're not quite sure exactly how
24 many is going to be fed into the system.

25 Q. Specifically in this budget, the budget

1 that the Governor's presented, do you have a request in
2 there for additional driver's license examiners?

3 A. There is a request in there, but I'll be
4 candid, with the new budget, I haven't had time to
5 digest that yet. My staff is working on it and in fact
6 next Tuesday we're sitting down for the first time to
7 really go through it, but yes, we do have requests in
8 there and the Governor has indicated that we will be
9 getting X amount and we feel pretty comfortable with
10 that.

11 Q. And the other area of interest to me is
12 that I notice in your riot control numbers you have 785
13 hours for four major labor strikes. It seems to me, at
14 least in organized labor's opinion, there is an
15 increase in the use of strike breakers in the country
16 and including in the State. Does the State Police have
17 a specific policy about, for example, how you would be
18 called out to that kind of a strike or under what
19 conditions, for example, could a company call up and
20 say, we have a problem, we need State Police? And the
21 second specific part of that, with the use of permanent
22 replacement, strike breakers these days, increased use,
23 do the State Police have a policy about escorting
24 strike breakers into a particular plant, for example?

25 A. Basically, our rules and regulations

1 state this, that the sheriff is the chief law
2 enforcement officer of the county dealing with strikes.
3 Now, if, for example, and there's a couple of examples
4 here, but let's say strikers were blocking a
5 Pennsylvania highway, we would have nothing to do with
6 the strike per se, but if that roadway was being
7 blocked by people blocking with cars, we would go out
8 as a normal course of action from the station just to
9 clear the highway, nothing to do with the strike. We
10 won't go on land or anything like that, but we've got
11 to keep the arteries open for the safety of the people,
12 ambulance, or whatever it might be. So sometimes we
13 will get involved but it's just our normal thing we do.
14 If you had a car accident, you've got to go out there
15 and clear it off the highway. So sometimes we get
16 involved that way. But we do not go into a strike
17 unless we get a specific request from the sheriff.

18 Now, what the sheriff must do, he must
19 prepare a letter, he must send it to the Governor. The
20 Governor must then approve it and send it to us and
21 then and only then will we become involved in that
22 strike and only to that degree that we feel it's for
23 the safety and the protection of the people. We do not
24 take sides. It's just for the protection of the people
25 that are involved as well as the property that doesn't

1 get burned down or whatever.

2 Now, however, if you have a total
3 breakdown of authority, you can't wait for the
4 sheriff's letter, people are killing each other and
5 they are beating each other up, we'll do what we have
6 to do to assist them and then stabilize and then go
7 through the process, so basically, fundamentally,
8 that's it, but as we started in 1905, that was the
9 reason for the creation of the State Police to be that
10 mediator and not take sides, and that's exactly our
11 position today. We won't take sides, although at times
12 it may appear to people that we're taking sides, all
13 we're doing is enforcing the law based upon the
14 conditions that exist at that time. But we are not
15 security guards for that particular company nor for the
16 union.

17 Q. Could you have your staff follow up with
18 a letter to me--

19 A. Surely.

20 Q. --in writing stating that policy? And
21 number two, I also would be interested in where these
22 labor strikes were--

23 A. Sure.

24 Q. --that took this number of hours in this
25 report, if you could?

1 A. Absolutely, sir.

2 Q. Thank you. Appreciate it.

3 A. Glad to do that for you. Sure

4 CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: Chief Counsel

5 Andring.

6 MR. ANDRING: Just a couple of questions.

7 BY MR. ANDRING: (Of Acting Comm. Walp)

8 Q. First, it's unclear to me on your
9 Appendix A whether those figures are for all State
10 Police operations or whether they were just for the
11 General Investigative Division?

12 A. No, that's for all State Police
13 operations.

14 Q. Okay, so that would include the Drug Law
15 Enforcement Division within those figures?

16 A. Yes. It's the field as well as
17 department headquarters.

18 Q. Okay. My next question has to do with
19 newspaper stories that have run in this area on and off
20 over the last several years about these regional
21 information networks that different municipalities will
22 connect into. I think there's an East Shore network
23 and a West Shore network and municipalities join into
24 them and drop out of them and it just seems to be an
25 ongoing soap opera almost. How do these regional

1 networks fit into the entire concept of what we're
2 doing with CHRIA and statewide computerization?

3 A. Okay, I wouldn't know the specifics of
4 each of those particular ones--

5 Q. Right, I understand.

6 A. --but obviously, the State Police would
7 not have involvement in that which would be, you know,
8 that they would be working on. What specifically they
9 would have involved in CHRIA, the rules that will be
10 established by the Attorney General's Office in
11 conjunction with the State Police will specifically
12 state what they can and cannot do, and they will need
13 to comply very stringently with those rules, so.
14 However, in other words, if you create a system, a
15 computerized system, it must meet the mandates of what
16 those rules will be, and they'll be extremely
17 stringent. People will be signing their names to them
18 and they will be held responsible and before they can
19 do anything, they must have approval by the Attorney
20 General's Office as to specifically what that situation
21 will be. So they will be totally controlled.

22 As their communications would melt into a
23 statewide communications system, the only thing I can
24 say on that is the State Police has a statewide
25 communication system. Within our radio system, the

1 Sintar that we have, for example, in our cars and also
2 on our stations, we have channels that would be able to
3 pick up on their particular communications if there's a
4 mutual operation going on. So we have that capability
5 right now to do that. But the intricacy of what they
6 develop among themselves, we have no involvement in
7 that.

8 Q. Yeah, my concern in asking that question
9 is primarily as a citizen of one of these
10 municipalities, it can be somewhat disconcerting to
11 think that maybe my local police are tied into one
12 system and not another system so they might have
13 information on the criminals to the east of me but not
14 to the west of me, or vice versa.

15 A. Yeah, that's possible. I mean,
16 heretofore when I first came on the job it was phone
17 calls. You called from one agency to another. But
18 through the years the radio systems have become
19 sophisticated and extend a lot further, so we've come a
20 long way in that area. But again, how they do that on
21 a local level, obviously we would have nothing involved
22 in that. But I would say my involvement with the
23 Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association, they, as you
24 know, are an extremely advanced, contemporary,
25 professional agency and they certainly do what they can

1 within their agency to ensure that their communication
2 system is the proper one and the professional one.

3 Q. Okay. My other question has to do with
4 just the general law enforcement system we have in
5 Pennsylvania where we have a substantial State Police
6 contingent, very little, very few numbers of law
7 enforcement officers at the county levels, and then
8 primary reliance for law enforcement officers at the
9 city, township, and borough level. Is this common
10 throughout the country? Is Pennsylvania somewhat
11 unusual in this regard? And how does that promote or
12 hinder law enforcement efforts statewide?

13 A. The only thing I'd say different about
14 Pennsylvania, most all states have a State Police or a
15 highway patrol with a little different types of
16 responsibility. The Pennsylvania State Police, we do
17 everything, so to speak, where Florida would be a
18 highway patrol, California would be strictly highway
19 patrol. All States have, you know, usually a sheriff's
20 department and some have a lot more. Down south the
21 sheriff's department has a lot more power as opposed to
22 Pennsylvania, and all States, to the best of my
23 knowledge, have local PDs also. So the system is the
24 same. The only thing different in Pennsylvania is that
25 we have so many municipalities. To the best of my

1 recollection there's like 2,600 municipalities in
2 Pennsylvania, about 1,500 of them do not have a police
3 agency, but there are 1,200 police departments with
4 22,000 local PDs, so there's a lot of us, and I think
5 that's what's unique about Pennsylvania, that it's a
6 big State and it has a lot of different agencies in it,
7 and that's probably where you have maybe some
8 difficulties as far as communication and cooperation
9 and that type of thing, but basically, fundamentally,
10 it's the way it is nationwide and I don't see too much
11 different other than the responsibilities and powers
12 that each State may have, depending on who you are.

13 Q. Thank you.

14 A. You're welcome.

15 BY CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: (Of Acting Comm. Walp)

16 Q. Commissioner, the total complement of the
17 State Police stands at what right now?

18 A. The authorized complement is 4,157.

19 Q. And the actual complement that you have
20 working today?

21 A. Okay, right now we lost, as you are all
22 well aware, the lucrative retirement package that was
23 passed out, we lost in January 218. Right now we are
24 down from authorized complement approximately 300.
25 Now, we have projections up until July which indicates

1 32 more officers will retire to July, which that could
2 keep moving and we don't have, you know, all we know is
3 what we know daily, and we also have 40 people have
4 been called up to Desert Storm, and some them are
5 States, some of them are LCE officers, some of them
6 are, let me see, States, LCE, and cadets, some cadets.
7 So we have now, just to give you an indication about
8 the manpower, right now we have a class of
9 approximately 50, we also have a class of approximately
10 100. The 50 will be graduating in April, the hundred
11 in May. We are projecting another class in the latter
12 part of June of 150. So if all goes well and we're
13 able to graduate them and also until they get through
14 their coached pupil, we should begin to stabilize near
15 our authorized by October. And to be candid with you,
16 however, I would suspect by January of 1992 we'll have
17 another big mass of people retiring and we'll probably
18 go through this wheel for about two years because based
19 upon the amount of people we have in that job in that
20 age bracket which I think they'll be viable for
21 retirement probably will take two years and then I
22 think it will totally stabilize, but basically, that's
23 it.

24 Q. The reason why I ask is Camp Hill
25 certainly put a strain on the State Police with the

1 total number of manpower hours and total men that were
2 actually used over there.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. The concern that I was having with some
5 other things that I had heard that were going on in
6 let's say a couple county prisons which could very
7 easily create a problem as far as manpower and being
8 overwhelmed with lack of local resources where they
9 would have to fall on the State Police as backup, or
10 even primary use, in addition to having another State
11 prison kick up a fuss with some problems and how that
12 would tax the ability of the manpower with the State
13 Police to respond. That was one of the concerns that I
14 had that I know that these situations can develop at
15 any one of these institutions, especially with the
16 overcrowding. It's not to say it's right, of course
17 it's not right, it's destruction of State property and
18 causing a lot of problems for everyone, but it does
19 happen and until we can get some of these other
20 programs on line that can unclog the overburdened
21 system of our prisons, there's always that potential
22 that it could happen.

23 A. That's true.

24 Q. You're prepared to respond regardless of
25 what the situation were to occur?

1 A. Yeah. We're prepared to respond. I'm
2 not a penologist, but I feel I do have a grasp on the
3 penal system with my experience in the field. Prior to
4 Camp Hill there was unrest in the system, and I don't
5 know the reasons why, but the unrest was there. Right
6 now it doesn't appear to be that way, and I say that
7 with tongue-in-cheek because anything could happen.
8 But you do get a pulse for that community and for
9 whatever reason, right now it seems to be fine. But
10 you're right, I mean, theoretically you could have
11 Graterford, Western Penn and Huntingdon and Camp Hill
12 go all up at the same time and you'd have your hands
13 full.

14 I would say, and again, I'd be shooting
15 from the hip at this point, but if it got to the point
16 that it went beyond the capability, and by capability I
17 mean manpower wise, of the Pennsylvania State Police,
18 I'm sure the Governor would initiate appropriate action
19 to address that, and he has the power to do that, but
20 that would be last resort. But there is that extra
21 avenue you can take.

22 Q. You know, it's funny you mention that
23 because with the National Guard being called up for
24 Operation Desert Storm and with a number of units being
25 called for active service and many of them being taken

1 out of Pennsylvania, how much of a backup would we
2 really have if we really would need them?

3 A. Right now I don't know at the time
4 numbers, but it certainly would affect it, sure.

5 Q. I mean, how many would we have?

6 REPRESENTATIVE KOSINSKI: There's always
7 enough Troop complement to take care of most situations
8 that arise in the Commonwealth.

9 CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: I'd be curious.
10 You know, it's always good that we have backup plans if
11 in the event of something like that, but you never
12 know, you just never know, but it's good to be
13 prepared.

14 ACTING COMMISSIONER WALP: Right.

15 CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: As a matter of
16 fact, this committee is planning on touring Frackville,
17 Camp Hill again, I guess that's scheduled for the next
18 week or two, and then we have a couple of the county
19 prisons, Cumberland, we're going to be going up to
20 Erie, we had already visited Berks. I think it's good
21 for the committee to get around to the facilities to
22 see what really is going on in each of those facilities
23 in our local counties as well as the State just to get
24 a perspective of what we're dealing with and what the
25 potential is for these types of problems.

1 Were there any other questions by the
2 committee?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: Commissioner, I
5 want to thank you very much and welcome you on board.

6 ACTING COMMISSIONER WALP: Thank you,
7 sir.

8 CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: This has been one
9 of the most comprehensive reviews that I have had
10 personally and I think for the benefit of the committee
11 on the State Police. I hope that we can start to do
12 this as a biennial event with every session so that the
13 Judiciary Committee can start to get a feel for what's
14 going on with the different agencies, and again, I want
15 to thank you very much.

16 ACTING COMMISSIONER WALP: Thank you,
17 sir. Thank you for inviting us.

18 CHAIRMAN CALTAGIRONE: We will adjourn.

19 (Whereupon, the proceedings were
20 concluded at 11:20 a.m.)

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I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me during the hearing of the within cause, and that this is a true and correct transcript of the same.

Ann-Marie P. Sweeney
ANN-MARIE P. SWEENEY

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