



NEIA CONNECTIONS

Volume 4 , 2013



2013 IN REVIEW

As we move towards the end of the year with our last newsletter, I wonder how much needs to be told. More important, how much value is it worth? The sequester and the resultant Government shut down probably surface different opinions as to its damage to government operations. For our organization, it has put a kink in our operations. Are we functioning? Yes, we are. Our conference with the Major Cities Chiefs was well received. One individual, who I hold in high respect, was telling folks that it was the best training session in his 25 plus years of attending FBI NEIA conferences. So, it appears that we are doing good things, but there are financial clouds, particularly as it relates to the Bureau's fiscal assistance, that are now threatened by government cutbacks. For now, let's think positive.

FBI Director James Comey is now in charge having replaced Robert Mueller who steered his organization through what many may call the stormiest period in the Bureau's history. Director Mueller's appointment began about three weeks prior to the 9/11 attack. His task was to conduct one of the most extensive investigations in history when the president mandated a new role for that Bureau. A role that generally is not identified with the investigative phase, prevention, was thrust upon the Bureau. Obviously, he fulfilled that responsibility. Incoming Director Comey appears to be well equipped to assume his new responsibilities. At a recent luncheon, Dick Ayres (NEIA Executive Director), along with Executive Directors of other law enforcement associations (FBINAA, FBI-LEEDA, MCCA, MCSA, NSA, IACP, PERF NOBLE) were invited to have lunch at FBI Headquarters, Washington, D.C. with FBI Director James Comey. The purpose of the working lunch was to provide an opportunity to get acquainted and to have an open forum on topics of interest to the Executive Directors and their organizations. Director Comey was most gracious and opened his remarks including a worthwhile exchange of ideas and a pledge for continued cooperation and collaboration. Scheduling permitting, we hope to have Director Comey attend and make a presentation at our May 2014 joint Conference with MCC and PERF in San Francisco. At the luncheon, Associate director Sean Joyce announced his retirement. We wish him well in his new endeavours.

Speaking of the San Francisco 2014 conference, it will be held at the International Mark Hopkins on May 27 to the 30th (May 27 travel day). We should have more to say in future newsletter and monthly blast notices. For now save the date and put it on "your to do list."

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QUANTICO VA. – FBI ACADEMY

As I indicated, there is not much to report other than our latest NEI class XXXVI Session. Given the fiscal restraints imposed on the Bureau, the traditional three week session was reduced to two weeks. The class roster can be found in this newsletter. At our NEIA Board meeting held during the annual IACP conference, Angela E. Konik, Chief of the Law Enforcement Development Unit was a welcomed guest and her remarks of support for our future training initiatives was appreciated. We have a new NEI Program Manager, SSA Jerry Granderson who replaces Rich Kolko who is returning to FBI Headquarters.

FBI NEI CLASS 36 SESSION



**National Executive Institute
Session XXXVI
July 19, 2013**



<u>2013 NEI GRADUATES</u>		<u>POSITION/TITLE</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>
TARIQ HASAN ISA	AL-HASAN	MAJOR GENERAL / CHIEF OF PUBLIC SAFETY	BAHRAIN MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
GREGORY K.	ALLEN	CHIEF	EL PASO POLICE DEPARTMENT
STEPHEN D.	ANTHONY	FBI SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	FBI CLEVELAND DIVISION
JOHN F.	AWTREY, JR.	DIRECTOR	DOD, OFFICE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICY AND SUPPORT, OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS
JOE	BANALES	ASSISTANT CHIEF	SAN ANTONIO POLICE DEPARTMENT, OPERATIONAL SUPPORT BUREAU
*ROSS	BARNETT	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER	QUEENSLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA
RODNEY G. KENTON	BENSON BUCKNER	CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE ASSISTANT CHIEF	DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION LOUISVILLE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
DEREK P.	BYRNE	ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER	AN GARDA SIOCHANA, NATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES (IRELAND'S NATIONAL POLICE SERVICE)
PETER TIMOTHY	CAREY	CHIEF	COLORADO SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHARLES M.	CATO	FIRST ASSISTANT CHIEF	DALLAS POLICE DEPARTMENT
MICHAEL L.	CHAPMAN	SHERIFF	LOUDOUN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, VIRGINIA
SAMUEL ANTHONY	DEMAIO	DIRECTOR	NEWARK POLICE DEPARTMENT
RAMONA L.	DOHMAN	COMMISSIONER	MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
WILLIAM THOMAS	FALLON	ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE, TRAINING
DARRYL LEE	FORTE	CHIEF	KANSAS CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, MISSOURI
RAIGO	HAABU	COLONEL / DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL	ESTONIAN CENTRAL CRIMINAL POLICE
KIMBERLEY KAY	JACOBS	CHIEF	COLUMBUS DIVISION OF POLICE, OHIO
JEFFREY ROBERT	JOHNSON	INSTALLATION LAW ENFORCEMENT BRANCH HEAD	U.S. MARINE CORPS, SECURITY DIVISION, PP&O
CHARLES W. RODERICK ROBERT	JORDAN KNECHT	CHIEF CHIEF	TULSA POLICE DEPARTMENT EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE, CANADA
RICHARD J.	KOLKO	SUPERVISORY SPECIAL AGENT/STAFF ATTENDEE	FBI ACADEMY, QUANTICO, VIRGINIA
JOHNNY L.	KUHLMAN	DEPUTY CHIEF	OKLAHOMA CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU
ROBERT G.	LUNA	DEPUTY CHIEF	LONG BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT, PATROL BUREAU
DAVID JAMES	MAHONEY	SHERIFF	DANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, WISCONSIN

<u>2013 NEI GRADUATES</u>		<u>POSITION/TITLE</u>	<u>AGENCY</u>
MARK A.	MAGAW	CHIEF	PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT, MARYLAND
HAROLD	MEDLOCK	CHIEF	FAYETTEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT, NORTH CAROLINA
MARK ALAN	MORGAN	FBI SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	FBI EL PASO DIVISION
KEVIN J.	MURPHY	CHIEF	MONTGOMERY POLICE DEPARTMENT, ALABAMA
CHRISTOPHER ANTHONY ADAM	NOCCO PALMER	SHERIFF DEPUTY CHIEF	PASCO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, FLORIDA VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA
DAVID	QUINONES	DEPUTY CHIEF	DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT
SUSAN C.	RASER	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE, CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIRECTORATE
DAVID BRIAN CHEIKH	RAUSCH SENE	CHIEF GENERAL DE BRIGADE / CHIEF OF OPERATIONS	KNOXVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT SENEGALESE GENDARMERIE NATIONALE
EMRICK KEVIN	SEYMOUR	ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF POLICE	ROYAL BAHAMAS POLICE FORCE
FLOYD DEWITT BENJAMIN FRANKLIN	SIMPSON THOMAS III	CHIEF ASSISTANT CHIEF	CORPUS CHRISTI POLICE DEPARTMENT SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION
TRACY	TROTT	COLONEL	TENNESSEE HIGHWAY PATROL
*ROBERTO "TAZ"	VILLASENOR	CHIEF	TUCSON POLICE DEPARTMENT
THOMAS HENRY	WRIGHT	DEPUTY COMMISSIONER	PHILADELPHIA POLICE DEPARTMENT, REGIONAL OPERATIONS COMMAND-NORTH
KEVIN	ZUCCATO	ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER	AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE, SERIOUS & ORGANIZED CRIME

* CHIEF VILLASENOR (NEI 34) AND DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BARNETT (NEI 35) WERE UNABLE TO GRADUATE WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE CLASSES AND OFFICIALLY GRADUATED WITH NEI 36 IN JULY 2013.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT DEVELOPMENT UNIT (LEDU)
NEI 36 PROGRAM TEAM**

LEDU UNIT CHIEF,
ANGELA KONIK

NEI PROGRAM MANAGER,
SSA RICHARD J. KOLKO

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM SPECIALIST,
ANNA M. GRIFFIN

EDUCATION/TRAINING/RESEARCH – THAT’S WHAT WE SHOULD BE ABOUT!

At our last board meeting, we were asked to participate in 2015 with the Major County Sheriffs Association (MCSA) in a joint training conference at Mackinaw Island, Michigan. Their president, Rich Stanek, and Executive Director, Mike Ferrance made a proposal that we feel honored to receive, which reinforced what the FBI NEIA should be about. Speaking somewhat plainly, we want to be about helping busy people active in law enforcement by assisting them in managing risk and uncertainty, while creating further opportunities for executive leadership growth through continuous education, training, and research. It’s not our intention to be the sole source in identifying issues and best practices that are available. Though aligned with the best professionals in law enforcement our goal is not to dominate, but be a key player in contributing to the enhancement of the law enforcement profession. This month, FBI NEIA and LEEDA co sponsored a conference on “combating mobile phone theft” in San Diego. Such training projects enable us to assist the law enforcement mission by engaging and sharing in some strategic and future thinking that is necessary in a world of emerging and changing threats and priorities.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION – 2014 SAN FRANCISCO

As we have indicated in our previous newsletter, consistent with our bylaws, board elections take place every two years. In 2014, there will be four board positions up for election. Obviously, there will be further notices about the election but we would like those who might have an interest to start considering an opportunity to serve. Board member, Buddy McKinney will be handling the actual implementation details. Any questions feel free to contact Charlie Connolly or Dick Ayres.



THE NATIONAL SCENE

ACTIVE SHOOTER RESOURCES FOR THE PUBLIC AND FIRST RESPONDERS

Active shooters appears to be an increasing concern to public safety and policing. The resources listed may be of interest to not only policing but public interest groups.

Web-based Training Video - Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

Independent Study Course Active Shooter: What You Can Do (IS-907)

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) provides an Independent Study Course titled, **Active Shooter: What You Can Do** (IS-907), a no-cost training course developed to provide the public with guidance on how to prepare for and respond to active shooter crisis situations. An active shooter is defined in the course as an individual “engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area. In most cases, there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims.”

The Active Shooter training was developed in consultation with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and the self-paced course takes about 45 minutes to complete. Upon completion of Active Shooter, What You Can Do, employees and managers will be able to: Describe the actions to take when confronted with an active shooter and responding law enforcement officials; Recognize potential workplace violence indicators; Describe actions to take to prevent and prepare for potential active shooter incidents; Describe how to manage the consequences of an active shooter incident.

A certificate from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is awarded to participants who complete the course and pass a short final exam. This online training is available through the FEMA Emergency Management Institute (EMI) at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS907.asp>

Active Shooter – How to Respond” Resources

“*Active Shooter – How to Respond*” written materials were developed by the Department of Homeland Security and law enforcement professionals, including the National Tactical Officers Association (NTOA). All of these materials are available at <http://www.dhs.gov/commercial-facilities-sector-training> under the “Retail Subsector” heading.

Commercial Facilities Sector Training and Resources

The Department of Homeland Security Office of Infrastructure Protection’s Sector-Specific Agency Executive Management Office (SSA EMO) coordinates preparedness and infrastructure protection for a wide range of facilities, from commercial buildings to stadiums, theme parks and shopping centers. Extremely diverse, the Commercial Facilities Sector has eight major components: Entertainment and Media, Gaming, Lodging, Outdoor Events, Public Assembly, Real Estate, Retail, and Sports Leagues. In order to increase security and enhance resilience across the sector, the SSA EMO has developed a series of tools, several of which are available at the website below, so owners and operators can strike an appropriate balance between open public access and security. Several training videos are available including sector specific suspicious activity reporting videos and “Check It – How to Check a Bag.” <http://www.dhs.gov/commercial-facilities-sector-training-and-resources>

ACTIVE SHOOTER Resource 1:

Thinking Differently About Active Shooters

Special Video Presentation: Active Shooter 2.1 - And the Need for Full Spectrum Police Officers

Threat Matrix (2010) from Homeland Security Television, the video explores law enforcement's preparedness for the Next Generation of active shooter threats. Featuring law enforcement training expert, Fred Leland of Law Enforcement Security Consulting Inc.

[http://www.hstoday.us/index.php?id=483&cHash=081010&tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=24938](http://www.hstoday.us/index.php?id=483&cHash=081010&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=24938)

The Latest on New York's "Stop, Question, and Frisk" Issue

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals stayed Judge Shira Scheindlin's ruling pending the outcome of city appeal. Scheindlin had ruled in August that the city applied stop-and-frisk in a discriminatory manner. The special monitor to reform the policy, appointed by Scheindlin, will be put on hold.

A federal appeals court in a stunning ruling blocked reforms to the NYPD's controversial stop-and-frisk program and booted the judge who ordered the changes off the case. The 2nd Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals unexpectedly yanked Judge Shira Scheindlin, saying she "ran afoul" of the judicial code of conduct because of remarks she made in court in 2007, and to the media while the case was being heard earlier this year. Scheindlin determined in August after a 10-week trial that aspects of stop-and-frisk were unconstitutional. The panel's decision means the reforms and the independent monitor Scheindlin appointed to oversee the changes will be put on hold at least until next year, pending the outcome of an appeal by the city.

The appeals judges — John Walker, Jose Cabranes, and Barrington Parker — said Scheindlin erred in 2007 when lawyers were trying to sanction the city over stop-and-frisk based on an old case. She suggested the lawyers open a new lawsuit instead. They agreed, and Scheindlin took the new case, *Floyd et al. vs. New York City et al.*, and ruled on it six years later.

The appeals judges Thursday cited three media reports Scheindlin cooperated with in May as evidence of her lack of impartiality. But she insisted Thursday that she did nothing wrong in her interviews. "The interviews . . . were conducted under the express condition that I would not comment on the Floyd case," Scheindlin said. "I did not. Some of the reporters used quotes from written opinions in *Floyd* that gave the appearance that I had commented on the case. However, a careful reading of each interview will reveal that no such comments were made." The ruling stands until the city's appeal is resolved. Mr. de Blasio, the newly elected mayor, has said he would drop the appeal after taking office in January.

On December 5, 2013 de Blasio announced that he was appointing Bill Bratton to be his Police Commissioner. I am not sure how the city will fare given all the promises that the newly elected mayor has made. New York City has an interesting dilemma. Ray Kelly has done a remarkable job in bringing crime down to almost unimaginable lows the past 12 years. Bill Bratton is once again Kelly's successor. The new commissioner is not taking over a damaged department other than a year long political campaign and attack on its ability to relate to some segments of the community. Kelly and Bratton, in my opinion, are giants in the law enforcement profession. They have enjoyed great careers in meeting the challenges thrust upon them. Many observers suggest they were in competition with each other. Yes, I recognize that their leadership and managerial, and to some extent, personality styles are different. Based on my thirty year observation, they competed with themselves: Each, in his own way, didn't hesitate to take on challenges that others would avoid. Challenges to them were opportunities and not obstacles to tenure. Their successes to some extent are related. Kelly, in his first term was part of the effort to increase the department by five thousand more officers. The increase in police personnel allowed Bratton to be the principal architect of aggressive broken-windows policing via the CompStat era. Kelly upon his return refined the technique to a public policy art form. Unfortunately, aggressive policing is not friction free. It is somewhat like a contact sport, except the goal lines are somewhat blurred by critics who don't understand the rules of the game. The outgoing and incoming police commissioners were able to articulate the appropriate message during a period where some prefer to simply kill the messenger.

TSA weighs in about allowing passengers to fly with marijuana – Now Who Is Flying High

Now that 20 states have legalized medical marijuana, and two have given recreational use of the drug the green light, the TSA seems disinclined to enforce federal pot statutes for passengers boarding planes. The TSA says on its website that its officers “do not search for marijuana or other drugs,” but warns that its agents do turn over those found with pot to police. With state laws rapidly being re-written as to the legality of marijuana use, the Transportation Safety Administration is struggling to present a clear message on whether it permits airline passengers to fly with pot.

As a federal agency, the TSA remains bound to enforce federal law. While medical marijuana has been legalized in 20 states, and recreational use of the drug has been OK'd in two, pot remains outlawed on a federal level. On its website, however, the TSA makes clear that its agents are not searching out the drug. “The discovery of marijuana in a carry-on or checked bag does not automatically mean that a passenger will be turned over to local police, and the agency adds that “the final decision rests with TSA on whether to allow any items on the plane.”. It's clear we need to let the “smoke” clear somewhat.

COPS has a new Director

Ronald L. Davis was appointed Director of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) in November 2013. His appointment to the Justice Department follows 8 years of serving the City of East Palo Alto as Chief of Police. Before becoming Chief, Mr. Davis served 20 years with the Oakland Police Department where he rose to the rank of Captain and served in assignments including Police Academy Director, Criminal Investigations Commander, Patrol Commander, and Inspector General. Mr. Davis has worked closely with the Justice Department in the past, serving as a policing expert for the Department's Civil Rights Division. In this capacity, Mr. Davis participated in several constitutional “patterns and practice” investigations of police departments throughout the United States and served on two federal monitoring teams with oversight of police-reform consent decrees between the United States Department of Justice and the Washington, D.C. and Detroit Police Departments.

Mr. Davis is the co-author of the Harvard University and National Institute of Justice (NIJ) publication, “Exploring the Role of the Police in Prisoner Reentry”, and the United States Department of Justice publication, “How to Correctly Collect and Analyse Racial Profiling Data: Your Reputation Depends on It”. He is a contributing author to the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) publications

It takes a Village...

The District's newest town doesn't have a snazzy name. It has just a handful of streets. There's Woodland School and Manhattan Union Bank, a generic office building, and an empty convenience store. It's got three newspaper boxes, a mailbox and a fire hydrant.

Tactical Village is the newest addition to the D.C. police department's training academy in Southwest Washington. The Village is a mini, self-contained — and air-conditioned — town built inside a structure that resembles a small aircraft hangar. It's designed to help officers and recruits prepare for real-life scenarios, from active shooters to routine traffic stops.

Mayor Vincent C. Gray (D) and Police Chief Cathy L. Lanier opened the “city” Wednesday by strolling down Main Street and watching demonstrations that included tactical officers storming the school with automatic weapons drawn.

Tactical Village cost taxpayers \$5 million and took six years to build, along with a new 40,000-square-foot building, on an old police firing range at the academy off Blue Plains Drive, south of Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling. The D.C. Police Foundation, a nonprofit support group, helped shepherd the project along. “We owe it to the city to save lives and interrupt terrorism,” said Terrence D. Straub, the foundation's co-chairman. “We owe it to the police to keep them safe, so they go home every night. And we owe it to people to prevent another Columbine, Aurora and Navy Yard.” “The threats constantly change,” Lanier said. “We have to adapt.”

She noted the complexities of hunting down the gunman in the Navy Yard's Building 197, which she described as a "tactical nightmare" — a 630,000-square-foot, multi-level building filled with six-foot-high cubicles. Lanier said situations like that can now be replicated inside Tactical Village. Other law enforcement agencies that have similar facilities include the Los Angeles Police Department, which has had one for decades that includes a gas station, a bank, a bar and a coffee shop. The New York Police Department is scheduled to open a new \$1 billion training center in December that includes a 25,800-square-foot tactical village with two four-story apartment buildings. Federal authorities have a simulation village in Georgia. The FBI's Hogan's Alley, which has several full-size townhouses, is on 10 acres in Quantico. The agency calls it the "Baddest Town in America."

Speaking about the Shooting at Navy Yard – Report in Haste – Retract Continually

So much was misreported within the first few hours after the shooting rampage at Washington's Navy Yard. Initial reports said that as many as three gunmen were involved. Then two. Then one. Then back to three. That four people were dead. But maybe six were. By midday, CNN had settled for "multiple." A picture emerges as eyewitnesses tell what they saw and heard amid the chaos. NBC and CBS identified a suspect by name. Except, as it turned out, he wasn't a suspect. Others reported that police were responding to a second shooting at Bolling Air Force Base. But then they weren't — there was no shooting there. The erroneous reports weren't concocted. In most cases, they came directly from police sources, and quickly bubbled up through the modern media ecosystem, hopping from law enforcement scanners to Twitter to traditional media reports, all within minutes. Reporters are no better than their sources, and as sources, police scanners aren't very reliable. Although they are often the first public reports of a police or other public safety agency's response, scanner conversations usually contain numerous uncertainties in the fog of breaking events. "People on Twitter take it for granted that scanner chatter is real and confirmed," said Mark E. Brady, public information officer for the Prince George's County Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department. It's not, he says. Reporting on such preliminary data, without official confirmation, is asking for trouble."

Mistaken reporting on big, breaking events has become almost standard in the social-media age. Immediately after the school shooting in Newtown, Conn., in December, for example, reporters picked up scanner transmissions of a police raid on a suspect in a Hoboken, N.J., apartment. The raid prompted two widely reported, but mistaken, stories: that "the shooter" had barricaded himself inside the apartment and that his name was Ryan Lanza. In fact, Ryan Lanza wasn't inside and wasn't the suspect. The real shooter was his younger brother, Adam, dead at the scene in Connecticut.

Multiple news outlets that were tuned in to scanners reported a "third" explosion during the Boston Marathon bombing this past April. As it happened, the episode at the John F. Kennedy Library turned out to be a fire that was unrelated to the two blasts along the marathon route. In 2009, CNN, Fox News and other TV stations caused a few moments of panic and a temporary shutdown of flights from Reagan National Airport when they reported that a Coast Guard patrol boat had fired on another vessel on the Potomac River just as President Obama was commemorating the anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks at the Pentagon. The report of gunfire, based on Coast Guard scanner transmissions, turned out to be false. The Coast Guard had merely been conducting a drill.

The Newtown and Boston episodes had a key element in common with Monday's Navy Yard shooting: In each, multiple law enforcement agencies responded, maximizing the number of "official" sources and hence the potential confusion. The agencies responding to Navy Yard included the U.S. Park Police, the Naval Protective Service, D.C. police, and the FBI. The confusion is amplified by a hypercompetitive news environment and social media tools that turn anyone with a Twitter or Vine account into a reporter. "We've gotten into a situation where the media's standard operating procedure has become report first, confirm second and correct third," said Dave Statter, a veteran TV news reporter who maintains Statter911.com, a Web site that reports on police and emergency services. He notes that scanner information is more available than ever through Smartphone apps and professional "alert" services that tip the news media. But he says, "Anyone can listen to a scanner and tweet. I'm afraid that in our haste to compete with social media to cover breaking news, we've forgotten that what makes us special is our skill in confirming information, not just reporting it."

Police Take Different Approaches To ‘The Tyranny Of 911’

When the 911 phone system was established, it gave citizens a fast, easy way to reach police in an emergency. But it also created a logistical challenge for law enforcement: Police departments get so many calls, 911 can be as much a burden as a boon. Many calls are non-emergencies, and responding can take police away from situations where they're really needed.

Some call this “the tyranny of 911,” says Chuck Wexler, who runs the Police Executive Research Forum, a Washington-based think tank. 911 promises a prompt response to an emergency call, Wexler says, but research has shown that rapid response doesn't make for more arrests or more citizen satisfaction. “But ... there was a tremendous push to get people to call 911, and the system really overloaded,” Wexler says. To deal with the overload, some cities have adopted 311, a non-emergency, easy-to remember number for police assistance and other public services.

Other cities, like Milwaukee, use what they call “differential response”: On some calls, you dispatch an officer; on others you take a report by phone. The City of Miami has devised a different system to help manage the 911 workload. It dispatches what it calls Public Service Aides on non-emergencies, like accidents or crime scenes where the offender is no longer present. PSA's drive marked cars, but they have no sirens. They're uniformed, but in light blue shirts — not the dark blue police officers wear. And they're unarmed. Many eventually go on to become police officers.

Today, the Miami Police Department has a 5,000-square-foot communications center, which houses the fire department dispatch center and the city's call-takers. They field thousands of calls daily and pose a set list of questions to the 911 callers. They enter the information in a computer, where it goes to the dispatchers. The dispatchers then send police officers or PSAs to the scene. Each dispatcher could be responsible for 50 police officers on a given day. The volume of 911 calls here, and all over the country, isn't just a measure of gross national mayhem; it's also a measure of how Americans use phones. Twenty five years ago very few people had cell phones. “Now, to one accident we may end up getting 10, 11, 12 calls,” as everyone who comes upon the scene phones in”.

And perhaps within the next two years, the Miami 911 call center hopes to begin accepting texts. Eventually, the police also anticipate being able to accept not just texts but also photographs taken with mobile phones. Of course, those features could mean many more terabytes of data, all in need of triage and review, pouring into 911 call centers. Wexler of PERF foresees those kinds of social media posing a challenge to police. “You're going to get people who want to text information in, and people who want to use emails to send information in, or Facebook to send information in, or Twitter to send information in,” he says. “We have so much information coming from so many different directions; you worry about losing something important.”

WHAT ARE OUR MEMBERS DOING?

Recently, I heard from one of our International members, Odd Berner Malme one of Norway's top police officials. Odd was for a number of years attached to the Norwegian Consulate in NYC assigned to the United Nations. Aside from being Second in command of the Norwegian National Police Services he provided police services in Thailand and Afghanistan. He was also a big supporter and presenter at our Conferences. Though he returned to Norway last year, he didn't stay there too long. He is now stationed in Belgrade, Serbia as head of the department and leading the reform of the Serbian Police. He is enjoying his job making short trips back to his homeland. In addition, to Odd and his lovely bride Brit exchanging trips back and forth, they rely on Skype to stay in touch. Brit had a recent bout with cancer but appears to have had a complete recovery – what a nice Christmas present!

With Bill Bratton returning to NYC as the new police commissioner, rumors were flying about John Miller possibly joining his old friend. In a recent conversation I told the former police and federal official that he has what I would term a "good problem." Obviously, he enjoys the broadcasting profession in which he excels as well as a successful career in law enforcement. Whether he chooses to take a "vow of poverty" and relinquish broadcasting for law enforcement or remains with CBS, either way he will prove to be an outstanding asset to either organization. John, few folks can make that claim. John has now announced his joining the Bratton team.

Ed Davis, who led the Boston Police Department during the April 15 Boston Marathon bombings and steered one of the biggest manhunts ever mounted on U.S. soil, has been selected by The Crime Report readers as our criminal justice "Person of the Year." Davis, 57, was catapulted into national attention following the explosion of two pressure-cooker bombs at the marathon finish line, which left 3 persons dead and 183 injured.

Over three tense days, as police fanned out into the city to look for the culprits, Davis helped calm worried and angry Bostonians, and conducted an investigation under a national spotlight that required skillful collaboration with federal and state police agencies—establishing a model of crisis management for law enforcement across the nation. In the process, he won the respect and admiration of his peers. As Brian A. Keyes, chief of police in the neighboring city of Chelsea, MA wrote to TCR, "Commissioner Davis provided exemplary leadership when the City of Boston needed it most. He was the epitome of the symbolic 'Boston Strong' during that time, when the community needed to stand up and pull together."

But Davis, who retired as commissioner in September after leading the 2,015-member Boston force for seven years, was more than just a crisis manager. Arguably, his successful slick-handling of the bombing crisis owed in large part to the trust and confidence he had won from Bostonians during his tenure. He was superintendent of the Lowell, MA police force when he was tapped for the Boston post—only the second time Boston had looked outside its ranks for its top police executive. In his first three years as commissioner, serious crime in the city was reduced by 18 per cent. Shootings dropped by 40 per cent. Davis himself regards the crime drop, which he attributed to community policing and putting more cops on foot patrol, as one of his biggest accomplishments.

Smart policing continues to pay off**New York for years has celebrated downward homicide statistics, but they are not alone.**

Fewer people have been slain in Philadelphia this year than at any time in almost a half-century. With an extraordinary decline in homicide already posted so far this year, the city appears poised to end 2013 with about 250 slayings, the fewest since 1967.

Barring a burst of violence in the last days of the year, the final tally should see 80 fewer deaths compared with 2012 - an unprecedented 24 percent fall. Mayor Nutter, Police Commissioner Charles H. Ramsey, and District Attorney Seth Williams say the reduction reflects a sustained commitment to a crime-fighting plan that combined data-driven law enforcement and old-school, shoe-leather police work. The plan targets gun criminals and the most violent neighborhood "hot spots." Williams and other officials say the fall in deadly violence also reflects reforms in the Philadelphia courts. The state Supreme Court has shaken up the city system to make sure more cases go to trial. "Anyone who tells you it's one thing doesn't know what they're talking about," Nutter said in an interview last week. The key, he added, was "a consistent, regular focus" on a strategy.

Recently, the homicide total was 238 - vs. 319 at the same date last year. As of this report the final homicide tally hits 250, that would be the fewest since 1967, when 234 were killed. The drop this year is part of a downward trend in homicide in most big cities across the nation, statistics show. The overall decline in crime in Philadelphia has been across the board. Both violent and nonviolent offenses are down for the year. Shootings are down 15 percent. Nutter said the dramatic reduction in crime, coupled with the recent uptick in city population, "all helps to tell the resurgent story of the city." Nutter said the decline is a big step toward a pledge he made in his first inaugural address five years ago - a promise to cut the homicide rate by as much as half. He said he asked Ramsey, the police chief he appointed when he took office in 2008, to develop a multifaceted plan. Obviously he did.

But Superintendent Garry McCarthy must have been listening also. The national and local media have been reporting extensively about Chicago's problem with gun violence and homicides. Chicago police said they have seized more than 6,500 illegal guns this year. That's 130 illegal weapons each week. Police Superintendent Garry McCarthy says that's more than any major city and he says if you can reduce weapons you will reduce crime. "Carrying a loaded firearm is the gateway crime to committing a murder," McCarthy said. In addition to gun seizures, police have flooded high-crime areas and beefed up their street intelligence gathering.

Chicago police are seizing about 130 illegal weapons each week. Murders are down from 507 all last year to 407 so far this year. In addition to gun seizures, police have flooded high-crime areas and beefed up their street intelligence gathering. Now McCarthy wants Illinois to extend prison terms beyond one year for crimes committed with a firearm. "We can point to at least 150 examples of individuals who would not have been on the street to be a victim or an offender of gun violence if we had a three-year mandatory minimum for illegal possession of a firearm like New York state has."

Recently, Portland police officers will begin participating in an experiment designed to reveal whether their mere presence at the right place at the right time can discourage potential offenders from committing crimes. During the next three to four months, officers will make scheduled 15-minute visits to 40 crime hot spots, getting out of their cars, walking around, and casually striking up conversations with shop owners and pedestrians. Another 20 identified hot spots—the experiment's controls—will not see any additional policing. By spring, police strategists and their Portland State University consultants expect to have enough data to determine whether the proactive police visits are damping down crime, and whether that crime is moving to surrounding areas.

If what those officers are doing sounds like community policing in its most fundamental sense, it is, but in small increments. According to Sgt. Greg Stewart of the bureau's crime analysis unit, there is plenty of evidence that even 15-minute appearances can reduce overall crime and engender better police/community relations, which can lead to more help from the public after a crime has been committed.

Stewart and PSU researchers have analyzed the last three years of Portland crime data. They've discovered that 40 percent of the crimes in Portland occur in 3.5 percent of the city's geography. That's excluding crimes such as embezzlement and domestic violence, which generally take place behind closed doors. They've been able to identify hot spots as small as a single apartment complex parking lot or a drug dealing street corner.

Similar projects in other cities, Stewart says, have shown that an officer spending 15 minutes in a hot spot can have a damping effect on crime there for up to two hours. But less clear from other cities' experiences is exactly what officers should be doing in their 15 minute foot patrols to maximize their impact.

So Portland officers are being given a list of possible activities, and they will be required to report which actions they take during each stop. Walking and talking to pedestrians and striking up conversations with shop owners are basic. But in some high crime areas such as apartment complexes where gang members hang out, they could push the envelope of casual encounters to include stopping youths and patting them down for weapons. The key to getting officers out of their cars and meeting people face to face is a piece of the experiment that is moving Portland beyond what any other city has tried. In cities such as Sacramento, officers have been told what spots they should try to visit each day when they weren't responding to calls from dispatch.

The problem with that, experts say, is that officers will naturally put those 15 minute visits toward the bottom of their priority lists. But in Portland, officers in squad cars will be getting calls from dispatch to head over to particular hot spots—so the practice is built into their scheduling.

That's going to make a huge difference in officer acceptance of the new policy, says Brian Dale, a member of the bureau's gang enforcement team. Most officers, Dale insists, want to community police and solve problems, rather than react to crime calls. But, he says, they feel hamstrung by other demands on their time. Dale says when he worked patrol in Northeast Portland, taking time to walk and talk was nearly impossible. "You'd feel guilty if you got out there and got involved in stuff," he says. "Calls are coming in and your neighboring district officers have to take your calls and that creates tension."

Involving dispatch should eliminate that tension, according to Stewart. "What it basically says is we think it's just as important you spend some time out of your car in these areas as it would be responding to a theft that happened the day before," he says. "It moves from a reactive mode of just responding to cold calls to a proactive model where we're trying to prevent crime before it occurs."

Portland Police Chief Mike Reese says now that the city's dispatch system has been redesigned to accommodate the new policy, it can be used in a variety of ways to encourage community policing. When children are arriving at their schools the morning of the first school day of the year, officers can get dispatched to different schools for short visits, for instance. Reese says the move to hot spot policing by the police bureau is an effort to become more efficient with fewer officers. Portland police have fewer officers per capita than just about any similar sized city in the country, yet the city still retains a remarkably low violent crime rate.

Ironically, Reese points out, decades ago police officers in many cities stopped walking beats and started spending most of their time patrolling by car as a means to become more efficient. Now, criminologists believe that efficiency might be enhanced by feet on the sidewalk, if the location and timing are right.

Reese recognizes that not all officers are willing participants in, or oriented toward, out of the car policing, but he says the new policy is sending a message to all the bureau's officers about where he sees the bureau heading. He says in addition to reducing crime, he wants to improve relations between the community and his officers, and face to face will do that. "If you're not a person who likes to meet and greet and talk to folks, you're probably not a Portland police officer," says Reese.

Officers' attitudes important in crime-fighting walks

Two years ago in Sacramento, a three-month experiment had police officers making short visits to 21 high-crime hot spots throughout the day while 21 other high-crime spots received no extra attention. The visited spots had 105 serious crimes during the three months, while the spots with no extra patrols — the experiment's controls — had 121 serious crimes.

Sgt. Renee Mitchell of the Sacramento police headed up her department's experiment, and has consulted extensively with police here on a new Portland strategy being introduced this week. With serious crime at a 40-year low, Mitchell says, incremental crime reductions such as those made in Sacramento are significant and hard to come by. She likens hot-spot policing experiments such as Portland's to the controlled clinical trials used to guide treatments in health care. Policing, she says, needs to begin using data to guide policy, "instead of our normal approach to policing, which is following our gut or intuition or tradition or local practice."

Along those lines, the Portland experiment will study dosage in a more refined way than other cities have attempted. Twenty Portland hot spots will receive two 15-minute visits a day, 20 similar hot spots will receive four or five visits a day and 20 will receive no extra attention. "If you could show you can get a crime drop with a lower dose, that's good information for policing all around the world," Mitchell says. Experiments in other cities have shown that 15-minute stops might be optimal. Experts say longer stops yield diminishing returns and can begin to produce a negative effect. One of the goals of hot spotting is to encourage residents in high-crime areas to feel safer and more connected to police, but that can't happen if people begin to feel under siege from too much police presence. "If they start seeing cops around all the time, for them it's like, 'Oh gosh, my neighborhood maybe isn't as good as I think it is,'" Mitchell says. Some studies even suggest that too much police presence in an area can create resentments that lead to higher crime.

Ironically, Sacramento decided to discontinue hot-spot policing after its experiment ended in 2011. Mitchell cites two reasons: First, she says, were police bureau budget cuts. "When you're trying to stop the bleeding, you don't have time for anything new," she says.

But, the second reason hot spotting didn't stick in Sacramento had to do with police officer attitudes. Mitchell says some officers resented the new policy dictating how they would spend their discretionary time — when they weren't responding to calls. And some studies have shown that a significant number of police don't believe hot spotting works, but think that crime simply moves from one area to another. "It's not part of our culture yet," Mitchell says.



**VISIT THE
NEIA WEBSITE**
www.neiassociates.org

I have been asking members to submit their comments, ideas, even policies, programs, or project that might have interest to our membership. In talking with Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd at our Grapevine, Texas conference, I asked Grady to put his thoughts on paper, which I am delighted to say that he did.

THE BENEFITS OF A POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MEDIA

I have been a law enforcement officer for 41 years. Back then, I would not have recognized how law enforcement works today. In just four decades, we have moved from being reactive, to proactive. Where we used to hide from the media and operate “in secret,” we are now engaging the public through the media to help us fight and solve crime. Today’s media, whether it is an online newspaper, a 24-hour-a-day news station, or a social media site, is a valuable partner in solving crime and improving the quality of life in your community.

When I was elected Sheriff, I set a precedent by personally meeting with the media representatives in our area during an annual “media roundtable.” During our meeting, we discuss ongoing trends that we see, such as the impact that the Internet and 24-hour-news has had on society and law enforcement. We also discuss any of their concerns and they suggest ways that we can help them report the news. This annual roundtable has resulted in a better understanding between us, and provides us with valuable feedback of what changes to expect in their newsrooms. The bottom line is that the media provides important and valuable information to the public – we have an obligation to provide them with accurate and timely information. I believe the public really does have a right to know what’s going on in their community.

At the Polk County Sheriff’s Office, we have developed such a positive, trusting relationship with the media, that they know if we release information very expeditiously, it is likely that information will change – and they understand that. And when we can’t provide information to them right away for various reasons, such as the fear it might jeopardize an investigation, we simply tell them, “We can’t give that to you right now, but we will just as soon as we can.” And they trust that because we have proven to them time and again that they can take us at our word.

We are also consistently transparent. In fact, when one of our agency members makes a mistake, if it’s the kind of mistake that results in an arrest, we send out a news release. We want the media and the public to know that when one of our agency members does the wrong thing, we will do the right thing. We proactively send out the information because, rest assured, that in this day and age of everyone with a smartphone, taking photos and videos of what law enforcement officers are doing, the story will get out one way or another. It’s in your agency’s best interest for you to be the one who disseminates the message.

As successful as we are in communicating with the media and utilizing the media to communicate with the public, however, we do recognize that with the media, the information we send out is always going to be filtered. Understanding this, our PIO’s proactively use social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and Nixle, to communicate directly with the public.

There are many benefits to an agency’s use of social media. With social networking sites, there are no deadlines. We don’t have to try to “get the word out by 4 o’clock” for the evening news, or later for the local newspaper deadlines. We know that people are online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. What better way to communicate with this worldwide audience, than to post information online for them to read?

We have said for years that the citizens are our eyes and ears to help us solve crime. When we have a suspect with a warrant that we are looking for – we post it on the Internet. It’s that easy. And nine times out of ten, we get the bad guy – thanks to the public’s help. When we have a traffic alert, such as a roadway being shut down – it gets sent out via Facebook, Twitter, and Nixle. The public truly appreciates knowing about road hazards, weather conditions, etc. We have received a tremendous amount of positive feedback and gratitude from our social networking fans and you simply cannot put a price on the rapid communication with the community.

As of November 2013, we had about 37,000 Facebook fans that are ready, willing, and able to help us solve crimes. They are reading our unfiltered, unbiased, messages every single day. We are now a source for news, just like the media. Oftentimes, the PIO's will post a public interest story on our Facebook page, such as a successful canine apprehension of a suspect. Our fans love these stories! The side benefit we have realized to posting these "feel good" stories that the media has the reputation of ignoring, is that now the media is also knocking on our door, wanting to know more about "that story that was so popular on your Facebook page today."

Social media and the Internet have transformed our ability to communicate our messages to the community. Now, we can tell our story, disseminate information immediately, and do it in our own way. Yes, we will always work professionally with the media and help them deliver the news, but we can also reach our citizens and give them timely and accurate information directly.

Please remember: the bad news will always find you. You can't run or hide from it. But what you can do in the meantime, before bad news breaks, is get the good news out all day long. Show your human side to the people you serve. And then when the bad news happens, you get out in front of that as well, and show the public that you are who you say you are. Their trust in you, once broken, is difficult to regain. And when they trust you, they will work with you to help solve crime. The simplest solution that we have found in Polk County to earning the public's trust, is being open and transparent, and communicating with them through the media and social media. It's really that simple, and it works.

By the way, I happened to have called Chief Jane Castor's Tampa PD recently and was impressed with the spot on public messages that her community receives while waiting to have their calls answered. Sheriff Grady Judd's media policy includes the same message format with his phone calls. It must be contagious in that part of Florida.

Another note was received from Mike Gambrell, a great guy and supporter of FBI NEIA and a good friend. Mike had two great careers, 35 years with Baltimore County Police retiring as its chief and 18 years with Dunbar Armored, Inc. I would like to share Mike's note: "I am very lucky man to have had two wonderful careers in both the public and private Sector. I have had a great time and enjoyed many friendships and fruitful work. I would like to thank Jim and Kevin Dunbar for giving me an opportunity to see the private sector part of work. It's been a great ride at Dunbar Armored where I had the absolute pleasure of working with some of the finest and most dedicated professionals in business. I hope to stay in touch as I start on my overdue (by 45 years) list of "Honey Do's" at home with my lovely wife Bernadette, our five children and 9 grandchildren. Like I said, I am a lucky man"

Mike, law enforcement, the NEIA and the private sector were lucky to have you. Please thank Jim Dunbar, a class act, for his generous sponsorship over the years. Mike can be reached at michaeldgambrell@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Why Did China Televisе ‘Nuclear War’ Against America?

China’s state-run media recently ran an in-depth report making the case that the country’s new ballistic missile submarines have greatly enhanced Beijing’s nuclear deterrent, and describing in detail how China could make nuclear strikes on U.S. cities that would kill millions of Americans. A short time later, a lengthy People’s Liberation Army documentary appeared, describing the United States as an enemy actively working to destroy China. This pair of bone-chilling reports reflects the unvarnished view of Beijing’s political-military leadership that the United States is an enemy against whom China must be prepared for all contingencies — including an all-out nuclear war. As if we don’t have enough to worry about!.

Al-Qaeda Power Struggle Enters New Phase – Analysis

In recent years, al-Qaeda has faced many challenges that have left it weak, disjointed, and with some of its most prominent leaders slain, including its founder, Osama bin Laden. In an attempt to compensate for these setbacks, the organisation has embarked on an expansion that includes the establishment of branches for the organisation in the Islamic world. However, this plan has been riddled with rivalries and unveiled a new phase in the rift within al-Qaeda.

While rifts between rival al-Qaeda leaders have emerged in the past, the on-going dispute between two al-Qaeda leaders in Syria appears to be vastly different from previous disputes within the organisation, as it openly pits a branch leader against the organisation’s senior leadership. For perhaps the first time, al-Qaeda is facing an internal “rebellion”, following the emergence of two groups operating in Syria on its behalf: Jabhat al-Nusra (JAN), led by Abu Mohammed al-Joulani, and the “Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant” (ISIL), led by Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. Al-Joulani in April chose to pledge allegiance to the leader of al-Qaeda’s central organisation, Ayman al-Zawahiri, and not to al-Baghdadi, the leader of al-Qaeda in Iraq (AQI) who had just announced his branch’s expansion to include Syria in an “Islamic state” under his leadership. The dispute between al-Joulani and al-Baghdadi, made public in online audio tapes in which each aired their differing positions, compelled al-Zawahiri to personally intervene to settle the dispute.

More recently, in an audio tape attributed to al-Zawahiri that was posted online on November 8th, al-Qaeda leadership clearly seemed to favour JAN at the expense of ISIL. In the recording, al-Zawahiri said JAN will operate independently in Syria for one year as an al-Qaeda branch, and ordered al-Baghdadi to revert ISIL’s name to the “Islamic State in Iraq,” confining his authority to Iraq and confirming him as leader of AQI for a one-year period. Al-Baghdadi publicly defied this order in an audio message, in which he said the ISIL would maintain its current status and would not consent to limiting its operations to Iraq.

Divisions in al-Qaeda’s ranks

Al-Baghdadi’s response appears to mark a new phase in the power struggle within al-Qaeda’s ranks. Al-Baghdadi has for months acted in a manner that relays his desire to commandeer as many areas outside the authority of the Syrian regime as possible and bring them under the authority of his “Islamic state.” To this end, ISIL fighters have not hesitated to clash with other factions of the Syrian opposition, at times succeeding in expelling rivals from the north and north-east of Syria. These hostilities have not only been directed at opposition factions accused of being secular or “insufficiently” Islamic, but also at JAN. The ISIL attacked some of JAN’s positions and expelled its fighters, as was the case in September in the town of al-Shaddadi in al-Hasakeh province following a dispute between the two sides over the ownership of an oil well. The ISIL even went as far as dividing Syria into “wilayas,” or Islamic governorates, each headed by an “emir” who implements a strict interpretation of Islamic sharia, which bans music and imposes other restrictions to which Syrians are not accustomed. It is not yet clear what repercussions will result from al-Baghdadi’s refusal to acquiesce to al-Zawahiri’s directives, but it is clear this is the first time al-Qaeda’s top leader has faced an open rebellion from within his organisation’s branch leadership. Al-Qaeda’s disagreement with al-Zarqawi was meant to be kept

secret, and would have remained so if it were not for the discovery of a letter he received from the leaders of the central organisation at the end of 2005, a few months before he was killed. In Syria, al-Baghdadi's rebellion against al-Zawahiri could conceivably bring him considerable problems. Foremost among these is that a number of foreign jihadists in Syria to fight the regime joined the ISIL by virtue of its affiliation with al-Qaeda. Now, some foreign jihadists face a quandary, as the branch they joined challenges the leadership of the central organisation and refuses to accept its directives.

It is also possible the rift between the ISIL and JAN could turn bloodier, as both groups are increasingly diverting their attention to their struggle for power, influence and Syria's resources, which completely opposes the demands of the Syrian people and the revolution they started to achieve freedom, justice and democracy. Sometimes, "bad news" is good news for us!

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE UK

The UK government is taking a tougher approach to organized crime this week by unveiling an FBI-like National Crime Agency (NCA). At first glance it might look similar to the U.S.'s National Security Agency (NSA) name but Britain's new crime agency will focus on organized crime, cybercrime, and even border policing rather than monitoring and surveillance. The NCA naming effectively replaces the Serious and Organised Crime Agency (SOCA), and it will be backed by local police forces with a staff of 4,500 and a budget of £463 million. "Organized crime is a national security threat. "UK Home Secretary Theresa May told Reuters " that in the past organized crime hasn't been given sufficient focus," before noting that "organized crime is a national security threat." The increased focus means NCA officers will hold the power of a constable, immigration officer, and customs officer to tackle a host of crimes. Although there are clear comparisons to the FBI — officers will even wear black tunics with the NCA logo — the agency won't be involved in national security or terrorism issues like the FBI is in the US. While the UK is building up its own cyber army, the NCA will be tasked with preventing the increasing threat of cybercrime in the UK. Fraudsters are using sophisticated methods to attack banks remotely, and the UK government admits it needs to alter its response. "Organized crime is changing, it's becoming more diverse, it's becoming international, it's more online," says May. "As crime changes, we need to change our response too."

New Report: UK Crime Statistics Fudged to Justify Gun Ban

Note: I can't speak for the veracity of the article, but the tendency to want to control how we measure the impact of "what is the meaning of the statistical count" is probably on the rise.

How many times have we heard television's Piers Morgan rant and rave about crime rates in his home country? He claims gun violence is virtually nonexistent thanks to the Brits doing the "responsible" thing and taking everyone's guns away in 1997. Sure, there was an acknowledged, initial spike in crime shortly thereafter, but then it began to fall and has since plummeted. Or so they say. It turns out that they have an entire bureaucracy over there devoted not to fighting crime, but fighting crime statistics. Their job is to determine which crimes get recorded as crimes and which get categorized as something else, which ends up not affecting the overall crime rate.

In other words, if there is an attempted burglary, it might get reported initially by a victim or a witness, but it also might end up being categorized as "criminal damage" instead of burglary. Or if there's an instance of what they call "Grievous Bodily Harm," it might get categorized as "common assault." When they downgrade the category, it affects how crime statistics are eventually reported in the media, and those numbers are the ones that find their way to folks like Piers Morgan, who then trumpets them from his TV show so that everyone knows how effective gun control is.

According to the [report](#): ...[T]he Brits are vigorously and openly beating their statistics to a bloody pulp, as they have created a stunningly large bureaucracy to deal with crime figures. **The created bureaucracy helps make decisions about how a crime will ultimately be reported—or not reported.** The Home Office acknowledged the situation and the existence of crime reduction targets: "The police do an excellent job but the rise in bureaucracy, targets and paperwork under the last Government turned the police into form-writers instead of crime-fighters...Increasing government interference in recent years has changed the focus of the

police. They have become responsive to targets and bureaucracy rather than to people.”

Note here that the Home Office is admitting to the existence of “targets.” These targets are guides used to reduce the number of crimes reported, and the severity of those crimes. It is openly acknowledged that police are under pressure to reduce the crime statistics, and that they have goals that they must meet.

According to the report the data is so manipulated that no one really knows for sure what the truth is about UK violent crime. Those in positions of authority who might know about true crime statistics face disciplinary measures if they decide to blow the whistle. So everyone keeps quiet. And liberals in the US go on believing that UK gun control has been a resounding success.

Obviously there is a continual need to restrain Terrorism as well.

During testimony before the Intelligence and Security Committee of Parliament on Nov. 7, top British officials discussed the ongoing threat from al Qaeda and affiliated groups. Sir John Sawers, the chief of the Secret Intelligence Service, or MI6, said the “biggest” threat to the UK is from terrorism, namely “al Qaeda and its many, many branches.” Al Qaeda has been “emerging and forming and multiplying in a whole new range of countries, and of course that poses extra challenges, extra threats to us,” Sawers said. “There is no doubt that, especially over the last 12 months really, the threat has emerged.” Sawers noted that more “British citizens have been killed overseas in 2013 than in the previous seven years combined.” He cited the January siege of the In Amenas natural gas facility in Algeria, as well as the attack on the Westgate Mall in Nairobi, Kenya in September, as evidence of the increasing threat. British citizens were killed in both incidents. “There is no doubt at all that the threat is rising,” Sawers said.

“We do what we can to disrupt terrorist attacks overseas,” Sawers explained. “We foil a good number, but some of them get through and the threat overseas is getting greater.” Andrew Parker, the Director General of the Security Service, or MI5, described how the threat from al Qaeda has evolved over time. After 9/11, Parker explained, there was an almost “monolithic” terrorist threat emanating from South Asia. In the years that followed, the threat has “spread out.” “I want to be clear,” Parker said, “this diversification of threat is not a shift or a displacement from one area to another.” Instead, according to Parker, it is “the growth of the al Qaeda phenomenon” across Africa, Yemen, and Syria. Parker said that there have been 34 terrorist plots in Britain since the July 7, 2005 bombings in London and “the vast majority” of them “have been disrupted by active detection and intervention by the Agencies and the police.” One or two failed on their own, the MI5 head added. The 34 plots, Parker said, include one or two “major plots aimed at mass casualty that have been attempted each year.” The “vast majority of the plots come from people who live in the UK,” Parker said. “There are several thousand individuals in this country who I would describe as supporting violent extremism or engaged in it in some way, that we are aware of,” Parker elaborated. “The terrorist plots that we have dealt with, over the years, have almost all come from amongst those people.” Source: The Long War Journal, 12 November 2013

Full Article: http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2013/11/uk_officials_discuss.php?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=longwarjournal

UK Politicians Collaborate with Muslim Brotherhood Islamists?

by Samuel Westrop

November 7, 2013

<http://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/4047/global-peace-and-unity-conference-uk>

Apparently the political and police mindset are not always in synch. Despite Intelligence and investigative efforts, the various parts of government are not always on the same page. For instance, speakers at the upcoming Global Peace and Unity conference were categorized as follows: 65% are anti-Semitic, misogynist, homophobic and pro-terror preachers, 20% are public servants offering political legitimacy and moral credibility to the other speakers, while the remaining 15% could perhaps claim to be part of the conference’s “project dedicated to creating a more harmonious world.” “Peace and unity...thanks be to Allah...a fantastic thing.” — Simon Hughes MP, speaking to the Conference in 2008.

At the end of this month, on November 23-24, UK politicians, in a crushing betrayal of Britain's moderate Muslims, are planning to join many of Britain's most outspoken Islamist groups and preachers at the sixth Global Peace and Unity conference, due to be held in London. Tens of thousands attend these conferences; journalists applaud the initiative, and cabinet ministers, political commentators and other policy-makers address its crowds. Mohamed Ali Harrath, a leading figure in the British Muslim community, founded and organized the Global Peace and Unity conferences in 2005. He claims the events are designed to "promote dialogue, exchange ideas and information, and work towards dispelling misunderstandings surrounding the multiculturalism and co-existence of faiths."

Speakers at this annual event, however, have included Ebrahim Rasool, a vocal supporter of the Palestinian terrorist group Hamas, who has described its founder, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, as an "inspiration;" as well as Zakir Naik, an Indian Islamist preacher recently banned from entering the UK, who has expressed support for suicide bombings and claims that Jews "as a whole" are the enemies of Muslims. In 2010, the Daily Telegraph reported that, "items glorifying terrorism were on open sale [at the conference] ... Also available were 'shahada headbands' as worn by many Palestinian suicide bombers... The headbands contain the personal testimony of the suicide bombers."

This year, Veritas Consultancy -- a company that also provides services to groups such as Interpal, a US-designated terrorist organization -- is handling the logistics of the conference. Veritas Consultancy, however, has just one director: Mohamed Ali Harrath. Harrath is a leading Muslim Brotherhood member; and the wealth of evidence that ties the conference, its affiliates and the proposed speakers to Islamist networks seems inescapable. Paul Goodman MP has described the conferences as the "Royal Ascot of the British Islamist calendar." Despite these warnings, however, a number of public officials and politicians from across the British political spectrum seem happy to share a platform with leading Islamists and, in doing so, legitimize the organizers of the conference as genuine representatives of British Islam.

Not everyone, however, has supported this involvement. A number of senior politicians from across the spectrum have, in fact, disagreed very publicly over the suitable response and degree of "engagement" with Islamist-run Muslim community events. In 2008, the then-Labour Government deemed another conference, IslamExpo, to be beyond the pale, and banned its MPs from attending. This policy did not, at the time, receive total support from senior politicians. One anonymous Labour Party minister, unhappy with the ban, decried the policy of boycott as "completely counterproductive," and added: "You have to engage with those with influence over those you want to influence."

In the same year, Policy Exchange, a think tank, circulated a briefing paper highlighting the extremist ideology behind the Global Peace and Unity conference. In response, Nick Clegg, leader of the Liberal Democrats and now the Deputy Prime Minister of Britain, condemned the Policy Exchange report as "offensive," demanded its retraction and, despite the wealth of evidence demonstrating the questionable company he would be keeping, chose to speak at the conference. Clegg, after praising the "diversity and unity" of modern Britain, said, "I say this with sadness. There were some people who didn't want me to come and speak to you today. A think tank here in London, Policy Exchange, has been distributing secret briefings against some speakers who you have heard, or will hear, this weekend. They suggested people like me should not come to an event like this. Let me be clear, of course I do not agree with the views of every speaker at this event. I do believe in free speech, I do believe in a free society where views are aired and expressed, not ignored and suppressed." Clegg seems to have been under the misapprehension that the extremist speakers were an aberration, when, in fact, their views were outspokenly emblematic of the organizers' ideological designs. The more extreme preachers were not accidental invitees -- they were presented as the conference's star speakers.

Dominic Grieve MP, despite attending the conference, markedly expressed his disappointment at the choice of fellow speakers, and named several whose views he regarded as abhorrent. By the time of the fifth Global Peace and Unity conference, there had been enough warning from counter-extremism activists for a few politicians to take note. In 2010, Prime Minister David Cameron decided to ban his party's chairwoman, Baroness Warsi, from addressing the conference. The upcoming Sixth Peace and Unity Conference announced speakers gathered from among the usual litany of Muslim Brotherhood supporters and apologists: Nineteen were identified as having anti-west sympathies.

Officials: Terrorism on the Rise in the UK

Friday, November 8, 2013

Prepared by MSA's Research and Intelligence Analysis Team

Information Cut-off: 3:00 PM

Overview

In a televised public hearing yesterday, the British Intelligence and Security Committee gave evidence to Parliament that the terrorist threat in the UK is on the rise. According to the Director General of The Security Service (MI5), the Chief of The Secret Intelligence Service (MI6) and the Director of Government Communications HQ (GCHQ), Britain has encountered 34 terror plots since the 7/7 bombings in 2005. Most of the plots were thwarted by British intelligence and security agencies, and no more than two fizzled on their own. According to the security panel, at least "one or two" terror plots a year were intended to cause mass casualties.

Though the UK has not experienced a large scale attack since 2005, the Security and Intelligence panel noted that there are currently thousands of individuals who support extremist ideology living in the UK. Additionally, more British citizens have been killed by terrorists overseas this year than in the previous seven years combined, according to the Chief of MI6. The increase in British deaths resulting from terrorism worldwide is likely due to the fact that plots have historically stemmed from al Qaeda core in Afghanistan and Pakistan; however, they have recently been emerging from areas in Africa and Yemen as well.

To further complicate matters, officials explained that intelligence leaks by Edward Snowden have hindered the UK intelligence community's ability to prevent, uncover and disrupt terrorist plots. Five months ago, Snowden released thousands of files from the U.S. National Security Agency (NSA) which were publicized by newspapers around the world. Officials claim the leaks provided terrorist operatives with "inside knowledge" of monitoring methods utilized by GCHQ and other intelligence agencies while also "endangering spies on the frontlines." Online chatter emanating from Afghanistan, South Asia and the Middle East was intercepted in which terrorists discussed plans to shift their plotting methods and tactics as a direct result of the NSA leaks. Additionally, terrorists have dropped certain means of communication which they now know to be "vulnerable" or susceptible to surveillance. Officials did not provide any specific proof during the hearing for security reasons.

Implications

While al-Qaeda core has been weakened in the years following the 9/11 attacks, its regional affiliates and linked groups present a growing security threat. Additionally, homegrown extremists aligning with the al-Qaeda ideology are a consistent threat in Western countries, specifically the UK and the U.S. Furthermore, conflict-ridden areas plagued by civil unrest have become susceptible to extremist activities and attract sympathizers from the West. These individuals who engage in fighting overseas could potentially return to their home countries with the ability and mindset to conduct attacks. Intelligence leaks have also made it much more difficult for Western intelligence agencies to intercept communications as terrorist operatives are adapting their tactics. The comments made by officials during the parliamentary hearing, though specific to the UK, echo the overall consensus of the international intelligence community.

Guest Column: Canada's Growing Islamic Radicalization a Warning Sign

by Abigail R. Esman

The man who calls himself Abu Muslim sits with his fellow fighters, members of the group Katiba al Muhajireen, and raises his rifle for the camera. He has come to Aleppo to fight, he tells the man who has come to interview him for Britain's Channel 4. A Muslim convert, he – like some 100 others joining the jihad in Syria's civil war – has left his family at home. In Canada.

The United States' neighbor to the north is experiencing a radicalization problem, according to a confidential report by the Canadian Security and Intelligence Service (CSIS). Made public earlier this year through a Freedom of Information Act request filed by Canada's National Post. The report confirms that "Islamist extremists are now radicalizing Canadians at a large number of venues," ranging from mosques to dinner parties and even the family home.

"Parents have radicalized children, husbands have radicalized wives (and some wives have radicalized or supported their husbands," the study's authors contend, "and siblings have radicalized each other." Indeed, according to one assessment cited by the Canadian Broadcasting Company (CBC), "with the exception of the United States, there are more terrorist groups active in Canada today than in any other country in the world." And while most of their activity is based abroad, a study published earlier this year by the International Institute for Counterterrorism (IIC) shows that 25 individuals have developed or been involved in four plots against Canadian targets since 2006. Of these, eight were Canadian born; three were converts to Islam; and 20 – nearly all – were between the ages of 18 and 35. Most were affiliated with al-Qaida; This does not include the hundreds more suspected of taking part in terrorist attacks abroad, including at least 100 of Canada's jihadists have headed off to join the fighting in Syria. While the Muslim population of Canada is smaller than that of the U.S., more Canadian than American Muslims are thought to have joined radical groups in the Syrian conflict.

But it isn't just in Syria: Canadian radicals have also been involved in attacks elsewhere: the suicide bombing of a courthouse in Mogodishu; the bombing, by members of Hizballah, of a bus in Bulgaria carrying a group of Israeli tourists; and the attack on a gas plant in January, which killed hundreds of refinery workers in Algeria. Not all of Canada's Islamic terrorist activity involves violence, however. Financing for foreign terror groups has a long history in the country, as terror expert Ilan Berman testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Homeland Security in 2011. Other Canadian investigations during the 1990s also revealed connections to Hizballah that "reportedly includes the procurement of funds, human smuggling, especially into the United States, and the provision of safe houses from which future attacks can be plotted." (Whether or not those connections still exist today is unclear.)

What does seem clear, however, is that the radicalization of Canadian Muslims is not only continuing, but growing, as the ICC report indicates. It is a problem moderate Muslims can sense as well; that they are careful not to say extremism, but certainly an orthodox view of Islam." Indeed, several high-profile honor killings in Canada, as the IIC report also notes, would seem to confirm the solid presence of orthodox radical Muslims within the Canadian Muslim community.

Yet much of the blame for this stems not only from the Muslim community (though several mosques in Canada are known to be connected to extremist groups) but "the lax codes, the accommodation, the multiculturalism charter." That would, for instance, partly explain the 2004 efforts to introduce Sharia tribunals in Ottawa – a move shockingly supported by former attorney general Marion Boyd. (And given that a 2011 survey by Leuprecht and Winn showed that as many as 88 percent of Canadian Muslims support the idea of integrating Sharia law into Canadian society. The subject is likely to come up again soon. The outcome is anyone's guess. That alone is an issue that other countries will probably confront as well in the near future; and it stems, in part, from the ease with which radicalization can take place. And it's not just in Canada; as the de-classified CSIS report states, since "radicalization involves the mutual confirmation of extreme views among a group of people, it can take place wherever these people gather" – or, in other words, just about anywhere. That

viewpoint is not foreign to the international counterterrorism community, of course: it accounts for such oft-debated security measures as the monitoring of mosques and tapping of telephones – actions many condemn as “undemocratic.” And yet, consider that the authors of the International Institute for Counterterrorism review have come to one very clear conclusion: that “stopping radicalization is an impossible task.” If they are right, then the challenges to world democracy may be greater than we think.

Australian National cybercrime plan unveiled

A comprehensive plan for a more collaborative national effort to tackle cybercrime has been unveiled. The National Plan to Combat Cybercrime commits Australian governments to taking concrete steps under six key priorities: educating the community to protect themselves; partnering with industry to tackle the shared problem of cybercrime; fostering an intelligence-led approach and better information sharing; improving the capacity and capability of agencies to address cybercrime; strengthening international engagement on cybercrime; and ensuring criminal justice framework keeps pace with technological change.

Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus said the plan would ensure Australia became a harder target for sophisticated cybercriminals.

“This plan represents a national commitment to work together to ensure a safer and more secure digital environment for all Australians,” Mr Dreyfus said. “While it brings tremendous benefits, the internet has created new opportunities for financially motivated cyber criminals and those who seek to target vulnerable members of our community. “Organised criminals are increasingly using the internet and legitimate communications tools to target Australians and to facilitate their illegal activities.”

Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney-General, Shayne Neumann said while no official figures were available, a number of estimates placed the cost of cybercrime to Australia in the billions of dollars per year. “As a key initiative under the National Plan to Combat Cybercrime, governments will implement a national online reporting facility for cybercrime,” Mr Neumann said. “This will be called the Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network or ACORN. “ACORN will make it easier for the public to report cybercrime, get the information they need to protect themselves and ensure that agencies can respond quickly.” He said it would also provide a clearer picture of the cybercrime affecting Australians, which would help ensure agencies’ responses were as effective as possible.



HUMOR AND A LITTLE PHILOSOPHY

Political correctness articles sometimes should be more comfortable in this portion of the newsletter.

Seattle Bans the Word “Citizen” and “Brown Bag” Because it Might Prove Offensive

When Seattle one day gets around to banning all words, because language is inherently offensive to the illiterate, and everyone is reduced to communicating with grunts and emphatic gestures, an era of true tolerance and nomadic lifestyles will be upon us.

Government workers in the city of Seattle have been advised that the terms “citizen” and “brown bag” are potentially offensive and may no longer be used in official documents and discussions. KOMO-TV reports that the city’s Office of Civil Rights instructed city workers in a recent internal memo to avoid using the words because some may find them offensive. “Luckily, we’ve got options,” Elliott Bronstein of the Office for Civil Rights wrote in the memo obtained by the station. “For ‘citizens,’ how about ‘residents?’” “We’ve got options”. In an interview with Seattle’s KIRO Radio, Bronstein said the term “brown bag” has been used historically as a way to judge skin color. “For a lot of particularly African-American community members, the phrase brown bag does bring up associations with the past when a brown bag was actually used, I understand, to determine if people’s skin color was light enough to allow admission to an event or to come into a party that was being held in a private home,” Bronstein said. It’s currently in use by black people as a color test. Banning people from using a word that is not in any way offensive because some black people use it as a color test is offensive. According to the memo, city employees should use the terms “lunch-and-learn” or “sack lunch” instead of “brown bag.” Or alternatively, they could use “Bronstein Sack” in place of the euphonious “lunch and learn.” Or “Sack of Bronstein” in commemoration of the man who taught us that brown bags are racist. Bronstein told KIRO Radio the word “citizen” should be avoided because many people who live in Seattle are residents, not citizens.”They are legal residents of the United States and they are residents of Seattle. They pay taxes and if we use a term like citizens in common use, then it doesn’t include a lot of folks,” Bronstein said.

IF THE ABOVE ISN’T FUNNY, LET’S TRY THIS.

The Funeral

An individual was leaving a convenience store with his espresso when he noticed a most unusual funeral procession approaching the nearby cemetery. A black hearse was followed by a second black hearse about 50 feet behind the first one. Behind the second hearse was a solitary man walking a dog on a leash. Behind him, a short distance back, were about 200 men walking single file.

The man couldn’t stand the curiosity. He respectfully approached the man walking the dog and said: “I am so sorry for your loss, and this may be a bad time to disturb you, but I’ve never seen an funeral like this. Whose funeral is it?”

“My wife’s.”

“What happened to her?”

“She yelled at me, so my dog attacked and killed her.”

He inquired, “But who is in the second hearse?”

The man answered, “My mother-in-law. She was trying to help my wife when the dog turned on her.”

A very poignant and touching moment of brotherhood and silence passed between the two men..

The observer then asked, “Can I borrow the dog?”

The other man replied, “Get in line.”

London Lawyer

A London lawyer runs a stop sign and gets pulled over by an Irish Garda (the national police force of Ireland). He thinks that he is smarter than the cop because he is a lawyer from London, and is certain that he has a better education than any IRISH cop. He decides to prove this to himself and have some fun at the Garda’s expense!!

Irish Garda says, ‘License and registration, please.’

London Lawyer says, ‘What for?’

Irish Garda replies, ‘You didn’t come to a complete stop at the Stop sign.’

London Lawyer says, ‘I slowed down, and no one was coming.’

Irish Garda says, ‘You still didn’t come to a complete stop. License and registration, please.’

London Lawyer says, ‘What’s the difference?’

Irish Garda says, ‘The difference is, you have to come to complete stop, that’s the law. License and registration, please!’

London Lawyer says, ‘If you can show me the legal difference between ‘slow down’ and ‘stop’, I’ll give you my license and registration and you give me the ticket. If not, you let me go and don’t give me the ticket.’

Irish Garda says, 'Sounds fair. Exit your vehicle, sir.' The London lawyer exits his vehicle. The Irish Garda takes out his baton and starts beating the lawyer. He says 'Do you want me to stop, or just slow down?'

Be Careful What You say

Jack decided to go skiing with his buddy, Bob. So they loaded up Jack's minivan and headed north.

After driving for a few hours, they got caught in a terrible blizzard. They pulled into a nearby farm and asked the attractive lady who answered the door if they could spend the night.

'I realize it's terrible weather out there and I have this huge house all to myself, but I'm recently widowed,' she explained. 'I'm afraid the neighbors will talk if I let you stay in my house.'

'Don't worry,' Jack said. 'We'll be happy to sleep in the barn, and if the weather breaks, we'll be gone at first light. The lady agreed, and the two men found their way to the barn and settled in for the night. Come morning, the weather had cleared, and they got on their way. They enjoyed a great weekend of skiing. But about nine months later, Jack got an unexpected letter from an attorney. It took him a few minutes to figure it out, but he finally determined that it was from the attorney of that attractive widow he had met on the ski weekend.

He dropped in on his friend Bob and asked, 'Bob, do you remember that good-looking widow from the farm we stayed at on our ski holiday up north about 9 months ago?'

'Yes, I do.' said Bob

'Did you, ER, happen to get up in the middle of the night, go up to the house and pay her a visit?'

'Well, um, yes!,' Bob said, a little embarrassed about being found out, 'I have to admit that I did.'

'And did you happen to give her my name instead of telling her your name?'

Bob's face turned beet red and he said, 'Yeah, look, I'm sorry, buddy. I'm afraid I did. Why do you ask?'

'She just died and left me everything.'

Let's Make a Deal

A golfer is in a competitive match with a friend, who is ahead by a couple of strokes. "Boy, I'd give anything to sink this putt," the golfer mumbles to himself. Just then, a stranger walks up beside him and whispers, "Would you be willing to give up one-fourth of your sex life?"

Thinking the man is crazy, and his answer will be meaningless, the golfer also feels that maybe this is a good omen, so he says, "Sure," and sinks the putt. Two holes later, he mumbles to himself again, "Gee, I sure would like to get an eagle on this one." The same stranger is at his side again and whispers, "Would it be worth giving up another fourth of your sex life?" Shrugging, the golfer replies, "Okay," and he makes an eagle.

On the final hole, the golfer needs another eagle to win. Without waiting for him to say anything, the stranger quickly moves to his side and says, "Would winning this match be worth giving up the rest of your sex life?"

"Definitely," the golfer replies, and he makes the eagle.

As the golfer is walking to the club house, the stranger walks alongside him and says, "I haven't really been fair with you because you don't know who I am. I'm Satan, and from this day forward you will have no sex life."

"Nice to meet you," the Golfer replies, "I'm Father O'Malley."

ENJOY LIFE NOW -- IT HAS AN EXPIRATION DATE!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Suggestions for newsletter or to improve communications and submissions of articles:

Charlie Connolly

President FBI NEIA, Editor NEIA Connections
3460 Frosty Way – Unit 4, Naples FL 34112
732.730.3471 (June to December)
239.774.7521 (January to May)
cpretnypd@aol.com

Dick Ayres

Executive Director
121 Hawks Nest Drive
Fredericksburg, VA 22405
540.226.1825, ayresclms@verizon.net

For change of address or payment of dues:

Aimee Baarz

FBI NEIA Archivist
475 South 300 East
P.O. Box 145497
Salt Lake City, UT 84114 – 5497
801. 799. 3801, aimee.baarz@slcgov.com

MCC - FBI NEIA Conference Dates

- **MCC Winter Meeting**
February 3-5, 2014
Houston, TX
Westin Galleria
- **MCC/FBI NEIA/PERF Conference**
May 28-30, 2014
San Francisco, CA
International Mark Hopkins Hotel



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Happy Holidays
and Healthy New Year**

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