



BROOKS BAWDEN MOORE
LLC



Photo of the week: Congressional staff bring boxes of pizza into the U.S. Capitol ahead of a Senate "vote-a-rama".

Weekly Update and Analysis

February 21, 2025

Brooks Bawden Moore's Weekly Update and Analysis highlights congressional, administrative, and regulatory activity related to justice, public safety, and homeland security. Feel free to reach out to us if you would like to discuss any items described in the update. Additionally, please feel free to distribute this product as you see fit.

What Happened This Week?

This week, the House of Representatives was in recess, while the United States Senate continued its work advancing President Trump's administration nominees. Notably, the Senate confirmed [Kash Patel](#) to a ten-year term as the next Director of the FBI.

The Senate Judiciary Committee conducted a legislative markup to consider the HALT Fentanyl Act, which would permanently classify fentanyl-related substances as Schedule I drugs. The Committee is expected to finalize its consideration of the bill next week. Additionally, the Committee held a substantive hearing on children's safety in the digital era, reviewing legislative proposals aimed at combating child sexual abuse materials online.

Senate Commerce Committee Chair Ted Cruz convened a [hearing to examine federal spectrum policy](#), underscoring his commitment to advancing legislation that would grant the Department of Commerce authority to auction spectrum and expand commercial access to additional airwaves.

Meanwhile, Senate Republicans adopted a budget resolution following over 10 hours of debate and 25 roll-call votes on amendments. The resolution includes a legislative package allocating up to \$175 billion for border security and \$150 billion for new defense spending. Notably, it does not include a framework for the tax cuts the President has prioritized. House Republicans plan to introduce a budget resolution next week that consolidates all of the President's priorities into a single comprehensive bill. Senate Republicans, however, view their two-bill approach as a contingency plan should the House fail to advance its resolution. We will continue to monitor these developments closely and provide updates as they unfold.

Finally, we want to highlight a key development from earlier this month. Upon taking office, Attorney General Pam Bondi issued 14 directives aimed at aligning the Department of Justice with President Trump's policy priorities. Melissa has prepared an excellent summary of these orders, and we encourage you to review it [\[here\]](#).

Upcoming Congressional Briefing



Upcoming Congressional Briefing
Drone Threats
How the Malicious Use of Drones Threatens Public Safety
How Congress Can Help

Tuesday, March 4, 2025
2:30pm-3:30pm
106 Dirksen Senate Office Building

[REGISTER HERE](#)
Refreshments Provided!

Please join the American Correctional Association (ACA) together with partners from the Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA), and Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies (ASCIA) for a briefing on the alarming rise in threats from the malicious use of drones.

Expert panelists will present footage of drones delivering narcotics and weapons into prisons and violating sensitive airspace. They will discuss law enforcement investigations that have uncovered links between organized drone operators and drug cartels.

Panelists will explain why state and local governments are struggling to address these threats and discuss the actions Congress must take to enhance public safety in the age of drones.

Panelists:

- Tyrone Oliver, Secretary, Georgia Department of Corrections (ACA)
- Bryan Collier, Director, Texas Department of Criminal Justice (ACA)
- Shannon Dicus, Sheriff, San Bernardino County, California (MCSA)
- DJ Smith, High Tech Crimes Division, Virginia State Police (ASCIA)
- Moderated by Rob Green, Executive Director, ACA

[Download the Event Flyer Here](#)

BBM Blog Posts of the Week

BBM posts timely updates on topics of interest to the public safety community. Please explore this week's blog posts below and click on any topic that interests you to stay updated. Email a member of the BBM team today to get our blog content delivered directly to your inbox.

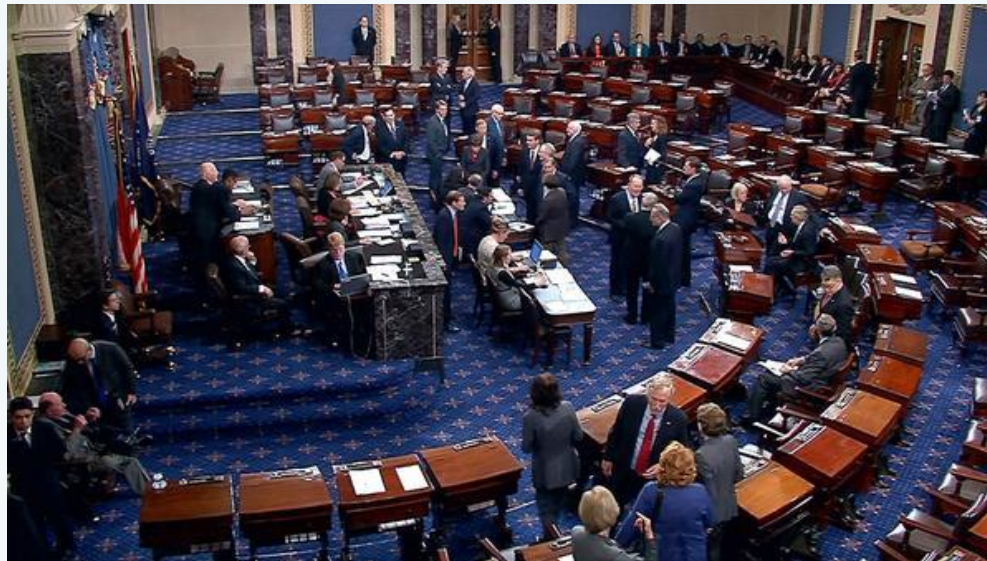
- [Senator Cornyn Press Release “Cornyn, GOP Colleagues Urge ATF to Rescind Unconstitutional Biden Rules, Align with Trump 2A Agenda”](#)
- [ICYMI: POLITICO – “Senate confirms Kash Patel to lead FBI”](#)
- [National Law Review: DEA Delays Final Buprenorphine Rule](#)

- [GOP Senators Weigh Selling Radio Spectrum](#)
- [New CRS Resource: Recent White House Actions on Immigration](#)
- [Combatting Illicit Xylazine Act Reintroduced in House and Senate](#)

- Roll Call: “Senate GOP ready to advance slimmer budget blueprint”
- ICYMI: The Hill – “Senate confirms Howard Lutnick as Commerce secretary”

- House and Senate Republicans Reintroduce Veterans’ Second Amendment Protection Act

Floor Activity



Senate

Confirmation of Howard Lutnick to be Secretary of Commerce- Confirmed (51-45)

Confirmation of Kelly Loeffler to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration- Confirmed (52-46)

Confirmation of Kashyap Patel to be Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation- Confirmed (51-49)

S. Con. Res. 7 - Budget Resolution- Approved (52-48)

House of Representatives

The House was out on recess.

Congressional Hearings



Hearings This Past Week

Wednesday, February 19

Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee – [Hearing to Examine the Nomination of Lori Chavez-DeRemer to be Secretary of Labor](#)

Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Meeting- [Spectrum Auction Delays](#)

Hearings Next Week

Tuesday, February 25th

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee – [Hearing to Examine the Nominations of Troy Edgar to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security, and James Bishop to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget](#)

Courts, Intellectual Property, Artificial Intelligence, and the Internet Subcommittee, House Judiciary

Senate Judiciary Committee- [*Hearing to Examine Children's Safety in the Digital Era*](#)

Thursday, February 20

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee – [*Hearing to Examine the Nominations of Troy Edgar to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security, and James Bishop to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget*](#)

Senate Judiciary Committee- [*Business Meeting- HALT Fentanyl Act*](#)

Committee – [*Justice Delayed: The Crisis of Undermanned Federal Courts*](#)

Military and Foreign Affairs Subcommittee, House Oversight and Government Reform Committee – [*Emerging Global Threats: Putting America's National Security First*](#)

Constitution and Limited Government Subcommittee, House Judiciary Committee – [*'Subject to the Jurisdiction Thereof': Birthright Citizenship and the Fourteenth Amendment*](#)

Oversight Subcommittee, House Judiciary Committee – [*Entering the Golden Age: Ending the Weaponization of the Justice Department*](#)

Wednesday, February 26th

Senate Judiciary Committee – [*Executive Business Meeting: Pending Nominations*](#)

Senate Commerce Committee – [*Hearings to examine interdicting illicit drug trafficking, focusing on a view from the front lines*](#)

Senate Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, House Appropriations Committee – [*Oversight Hearing – Federal Bureau of Prisons*](#)

Senate Aging Committee – [*Combating the Opioid Epidemic*](#)

Thursday, February 27th

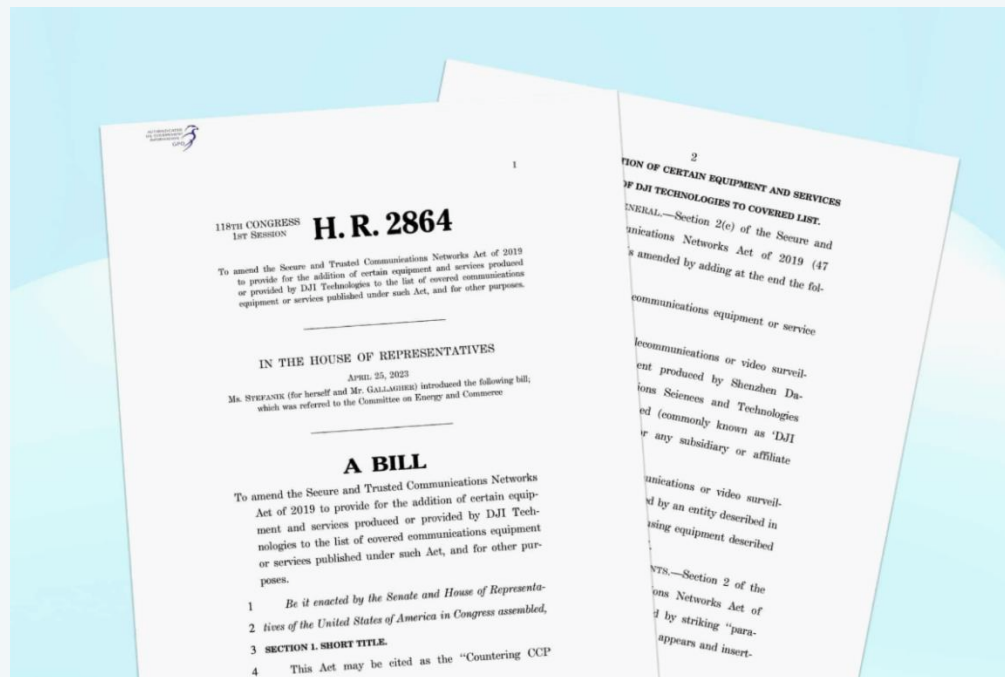
Crime and Federal Government Surveillance Subcommittee, House Judiciary Committee

– **Protecting Victims of Human Trafficking and Online Exploitation**

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee – **Business Meeting to consider nomination of Troy Edgar to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security, and James Bishop to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget**

Senate Judiciary Committee – **Executive Business Meeting: S.331 HALT Fentanyl Act, Nomination of Todd Blanche to be Deputy Attorney General**

New Bill Introductions



BBM has compiled a list of this week's newly introduced legislation relevant to Justice, Public Safety, and Homeland Security in the 119th Congress.

You can download the information as an Excel spreadsheet by clicking [below](#).

[Newly Introduced Legislation](#)

Congressional Calendar

FEBRUARY						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

 House and Senate
in Session

 Senate in Session
Only

 House in Session
Only

 Federal Holidays

Community and Client News



BJA

**Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice**

Bureau of Justice Assistance Office of Justice Programs Releases New Funding Opportunities for 2025

The Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance has announced recently released and additional funding opportunities for law enforcement. Visit the [Funding Webinars](#) page to learn about and register for upcoming webinars or to access materials from previously held funding webinars. See the [Training: Application Submission](#) section of the JustGrants Resources website to learn how to submit an application for funding. Included is a step-by-step breakdown of the application process, training videos, reference guides, and more.

FY25 Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Training Curriculum for New Corrections Staff

- Grants.gov Deadline: February 24, 2025
- JustGrants Deadline: March 3, 2025

FY25 Advancing Data in Corrections Initiative

- Grants.gov Deadline: March 12, 2025
- JustGrants Deadline: March 19, 2025

FY25 Byrne State Crisis Intervention Training and Technical Assistance Program

- Grants.gov Deadline: March 12, 2025
- JustGrants Deadline: March 19, 2025

FY25 Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Training and Technical Assistance Program

- Grants.gov Deadline: March 18, 2025
- Application JustGrants Deadline: March 25, 2025

FY25 U.S. Department of Justice Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation

- Grants.gov Deadline - March 25, 2025
- Application JustGrants Deadline - March 18, 2025

[Learn More Here](#)



Homeland Security

DHS Office for State and Local Law Enforcement Launches Searchable Resource Library for State, Local, Tribal, Territorial, and Campus Law Enforcement

The DHS Office for State and Local Law Enforcement (OSLLE) launched the Law Enforcement Resource Library, a brand-new searchable library of resources available to state, local, tribal, territorial, and campus law enforcement. The revamped guide allows for users to quickly find targeted resources by browsing through categories or using the new search bar feature, which creates a more user-friendly experience and gives faster access to DHS resources.

OSLLE is committed to ensuring every law enforcement agency - regardless of size, funding, or resources - has the tools and support necessary to carry out the work that is essential to maintaining the nation's security. This searchable resource library highlights many of the Department's resources that are available to you, including

training, grant funding opportunities, task forces, and field support, among others. The Law Enforcement Resource Library is searchable through keywords, mission areas, topic, audience, and delivery method such as a grant funding opportunity or training.

Going forward, the resource library will be a living document and updated as necessary. To learn more about the resources, opportunities for collaboration, and support the Department can offer law enforcement, please contact the DHS Office for State and Local Law Enforcement at OSLLE@hq.dhs.gov.

[Learn More Here](#)



PODCAST: FirstNet and the 4.9 GHz Spectrum

This episode dives into the critical evolution of public safety communications, focusing on the recent FCC decision to establish a nationwide Band Manager framework for the 4.9 GHz spectrum, and discuss the evolution and deployment of the FirstNet System. Host Chris Tubbs interviews Chief Jeff Johnson, a leader in public safety technology and the development of FirstNet. Together, they explore the history, governance, and transformative potential of FirstNet and the 4.9 GHz spectrum in enhancing public safety operations with emerging technologies like AI, 5G, and augmented reality. The discussion emphasizes the importance of protecting and optimizing public safety spectrum, the lessons learned from past advocacy efforts, and a call to action for public safety leaders to remain engaged in ensuring the spectrum's effective use and governance.

[Listen Here](#)



PUBLIC SAFETY CONFERENCE

EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTERS OF THE FUTURE

Enhancing Interoperability and Data Sharing

Charlottesville, VA | April 2-4, 2025



SCHOOL of CONTINUING
and PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
Center for Public Safety and Justice



Conference organizers have just announced the agenda for this event, which will be held in Charlottesville, Va.

Sessions include the following:

- Emergency Management in Virginia: A Complex Adaptive System
- Pushing Public Safety Technology to Its Limits: The Future of Emergency Dispatch

- Innovations from the Nation's Capital: Leveraging AI for Emergency Operations and Communications
- Global Innovations in Emergency Operations Centers: Lessons from International Collaboration
- Reimagining Emergency Operations Centers: A Facilitated Workshop on Innovation and Strategy

[Learn More Here](#)

Articles We Read This Week



Justice Department deletes database tracking federal police misconduct

The first nationwide database tracking misconduct by federal police officers has been shut down by President Donald Trump, the Justice Department confirmed, deleting a resource that experts said improved public safety by helping to prevent bad officers from jumping to new agencies and starting over with clean records.

[Text Link](#)



US declares Tren de Aragua, other cartels are global terrorist organizations

The United States on Wednesday designated Tren de Aragua, the Sinaloa Cartel and other drug cartels as global terrorist organizations, according to a Federal Register notice, a move that comes as President Donald Trump steps up immigration enforcement against alleged gang members in the U.S.

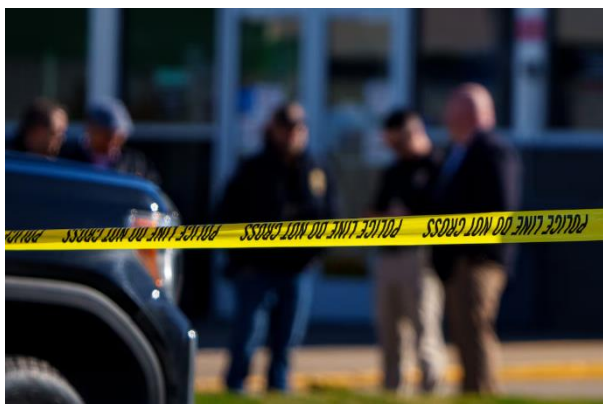
[Text Link](#)



Bill protects police who shoot down drones near Arizona-Mexico border

State lawmakers are looking to immunize police officers who disable drones they suspect are being used for drug smuggling. Or, as Attorney General Kris Mayes put it Monday, “blow them out of the sky.” Rep. David Marshall said his HB 2733 “will give law enforcement a critical tool that will help combat cartels and secure our southern border.

[Text Link](#)



Why police are divided on using AI to help write their reports

A new bill would limit the use of artificial intelligence for Utah law enforcement officials, revealing a rift between some departments in the state on the use of the technology. The legislation, SB180, introduced by Sen. Stephanie Pitcher, D-Salt Lake, would require that a human review any AI-generated police reports, and that any law enforcement agency using generative AI include a disclosure in the report. “We’re seeing more of a reliance on artificial intelligence,” Pitcher said in a Senate Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and Criminal Justice Committee hearing last week where she presented the bill.

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How Dirty Money From Fentanyl Sales Is Flowing Through China

The drop was part of what U.S. officials say is a new front in America's war on drugs: an emerging partnership that has made China a crucial pit stop for dirty money flowing from the U.S.'s fentanyl crisis, according to law-enforcement officials and court documents.

[Text Link](#)



How AI eases call load so St. Louis County dispatchers can focus on emergencies

In early 2023, the county rolled out an AI assistant, not for emergencies but for non-emergency calls like jail information, probation inquiries, and police reports. The goal? To free up human operators for life-or-death situations.

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'Complete failure': California pot industry hits another grim milestone

California's legal cannabis market has hit another grim milestone: There are now 10,828 inactive and surrendered pot licenses in the state and only 8,514 active ones, meaning dead pot licenses now outnumber active ones, according to the Department of Cannabis Control's data dashboard.

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Upcoming Events

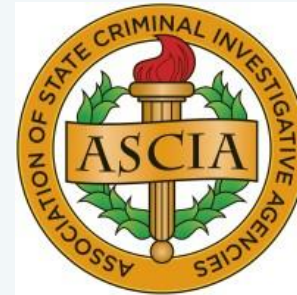


National Fusion Center Association Annual Training Event 2025

Washington, D.C.

April 22- April 24, 2025

[Learn More Here](#)



2025 Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies Spring Conference

Biloxi, Mississippi

April 27- April 30, 2025

[Learn More Here](#)



2025 William R. Bracey Symposium

Glendale, Arizona

February 27th - March 1st, 2025

[Learn More Here](#)



NAWLEE 2025 Annual Conference

Orlando Florida

April 14 - April 17, 2025

[Learn More Here](#)



International Association of Chiefs of Police Technology Conference

Indianapolis, Indiana

May 5th - 7th, 2025

[Learn More Here](#)

About BBM



Brooks Bawden Moore, LLC is a team of experienced professionals who serve as trusted advisors to law enforcement, homeland security, and intelligence practitioners and solution providers.

Our government relations practice helps clients advance critical policy priorities with Congress, federal agencies, and state legislatures. Our business strategy consulting practice enables companies to connect innovative products and services with market needs.

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