



Photo of the week: Senate Minority Leader Schumer answers questions regarding Democrats position on the House passed stopgap funding measure.

Weekly Update and Analysis

March 14, 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?

Facing a looming federal government funding deadline, the House narrowly passed a stopgap spending bill to extend government funding through September 30, 2025. By default, the measure maintains agency and program funding at fiscal year 2024 levels. However, Republicans added provisions to increase funding for select priorities, including a \$440 million boost for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) compared to previous levels.

The bill excludes any earmarked projects. It also includes a key extension of federal authority to protect critical facilities and assets from threats posed by uncrewed aircraft systems (UAS), pushing the expiration date from March 14, 2025, to September 30, 2025. Additionally, the measure extends the temporary classification of fentanyl-related substances as Schedule I drugs under the Controlled Substances Act through the same date.

You can read more about the stopgap spending measure, including access to the bill text and section-by-section committee reports, [here](#).

After passing the bill, the House adjourned and left Washington, putting considerable pressure on Senate Democrats to either accept the measure or risk a government shutdown.

Initially, Senate Democrats opposed the plan and called for a 30-day continuing resolution to allow more time for FY25 budget negotiations. However, on Thursday, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer announced that he would support advancing the stopgap measure to avert a shutdown. You can read more about this development [here](#).

We will be closely monitoring the Senate floor today and will keep you posted on any developments. We also anticipate Senate passage of the [HALT Fentanyl Act](#) today. This bill would permanently classify fentanyl analogues as Schedule I substances, reinforcing the temporary scheduling order that has been in place since 2018. The House passed the legislation in February.

Earlier this week, the Senate unanimously passed the [Justice for Murder Victims Act](#), a bipartisan bill that would eliminate the “year-and-a-day” rule, which currently bars murder prosecutions if the victim dies more than a year and a day after the assault. The bill now moves to the House, where Reps. Tom Tiffany (R-WI) and Lucy McBath (D-GA) are leading companion legislation.

The House also approved a series of homeland security-related bills. These include the [SHIELD Against CCP Act](#), which would require the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to form a working group to address terrorism, cybersecurity, transportation, and border security threats linked to the Chinese Communist Party; and the [Emerging Innovative Border Technologies Act](#), which mandates DHS to submit a plan to Congress for integrating advanced technologies, including artificial intelligence, machine learning, and nanotechnology, at the border. You can find the full list of passed legislation under the Floor Activity section below.

Lastly, former President Trump is scheduled to deliver a speech later today at the Justice Department, outlining his plan to combat crime. We’ll be monitoring closely and will provide an update next week.

Highlights from Congressional Hearing on Local Law Enforcement's Role in Immigration Enforcement

MCSA Vice President, Pinellas County Sheriff Bob Gualtieri Testifies before the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Federal Law Enforcement



This week, Major County Sheriffs of America Vice President and Pinellas County Sheriff Bob Gualtieri testified before the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform's Subcommittee on Federal Law Enforcement regarding the role of local law enforcement in immigration enforcement.

You can watch the hearing [here](#).

Major Public Safety Associations Participate in Congressional Briefing on Drone Threats (Briefing Recording)



On March 4, 2025, the American Correctional Association (ACA), Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA), and the Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies (ASCIA) participated in a Congressional briefing to discuss the growing threat posed by the malicious use of drones.

Drones are being used to deliver narcotics, weapons, cell phones, and other illegal contraband into prisons, as well as violating sensitive airspace. These incidents not only pose a direct risk to the safety and security of correctional facilities but also raise significant concerns about the ability of state and local governments to combat the growing use of drones in criminal activities.

The panelists also shared insights from law enforcement investigations that have uncovered links between organized drone operators and dangerous drug cartels, illustrating how criminal enterprises are leveraging this technology for illicit purposes.

The discussion highlighted the importance of enhanced collaboration between public safety agencies at all levels and stronger federal legislation to tackle the growing drone threat.

For those who were unable to attend or wish to revisit the discussion, the recording of the event is available below.

[View the Recording Here](#)

Revisiting a Rapid DNA Briefing

Policymakers continue to engage in ongoing discussions on Rapid DNA technology. To provide additional background, we wanted to revisit a Capitol Hill briefing hosted by the Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies (ASCIA) during National Police Week 2024.

During the briefing, a panel of experts provided an overview of Rapid DNA technology. This technology is being used for several purposes, including:

- Developing investigative leads to quickly solve violent crimes
- Linking arrestees to past crimes while in custody
- Processing sexual assault kits
- Identifying victims of disasters
- Preventing human trafficking at the border

You can listen to the full briefing below.

[Listen to the Briefing Here](#)

Law Enforcement Voices Continued Support of NIBIN

The Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA), Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA), Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies (ASCIA), National Sheriffs' Association (NSA), International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), National Narcotic Officers' Associations' Coalition (NNOAC), National Fusion Center Association

(NFCA), National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), National High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Directors Association (NHDA), and National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) urgently call for continued and expanded support of the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF).

NIBIN is a cornerstone in the fight against gun violence and violent crime that local and state agencies rely on every day. By enabling rapid matching of shell casings from crime scenes across the entire country, NIBIN enhances our ability to solve crimes and prevent future violence. Since 1997, NIBIN has processed over 6.5 million pieces of ballistic evidence, generating over 1 million investigative leads that have connected crimes and identified criminals. This tool is indispensable in linking gun-related crimes across jurisdictions and disrupting violent criminal activity.

[Read the Group Statement 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.

[House Passes Decoupling from Foreign](#)

[Adversarial Battery Dependence Act & SHIELD Against the CCP Act](#)

[New Cyber/Immigration/Intelligence Nominees](#)

[House Passes Stopgap Spending Measure](#)

[House Passes Bipartisan Emerging Innovative Border Technologies Act](#)

[Senate Panel Advances Trump Pick to Lead Science, Tech Office](#)

[The Hill: Senate Democrats insist on voting on 30-day government funding bill](#)

[Major Public Safety Associations Participate in Congressional Briefing on Drone Threats \(Briefing Recording\)](#)

[Revisiting a Rapid DNA Briefing](#)

[Senate Unanimously Passes Justice for Murder Victims Act](#)

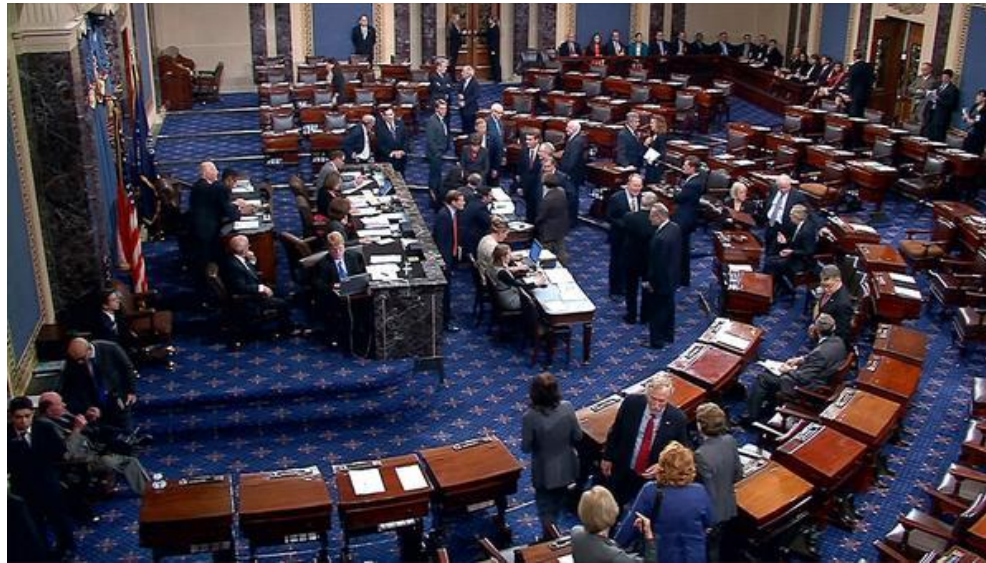
[Shutdown Showdown: Senate Democrats Push for Short-Term Plan as Deadline Looms](#)

ICYMI: Axios – New Hampshire Senator Jeanne Shaheen to Retire

Homeland Security Department Scraps Cyber, AI Advisory Boards

Trump to Unveil Crime-Fighting Vision in DOJ Speech

Floor Activity



Senate

Confirmation of Lori Chavez- DeRemer to be Secretary of Labor- Confirmed 67-32

Confirmation of Abigail Slater to be an Assistant Attorney General- Confirmed 78-19

Confirmation of Steven Bradbury to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation- Confirmed 51-46

House of Representatives

H.R. 495 - Subterranean Border Defense Act

This bill requires recurring annual reporting by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) on the implementation of a strategic plan to counter illicit cross-border tunnel operations. Currently, CBP is only required to report once no later than one year after the plan's development.

Passed House by the Yeas and Nays.

Confirmation of Keith Sonderling to be Deputy Secretary of Labor- Confirmed 53-46

Confirmation of Jeffrey Kessler to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Security- Confirmed 54-15

S.960- Justice for Murder Victims Act

This bill ensures that homicides can be prosecuted under Federal law without regard to the time elapsed between the act or omission that caused the death of the victim and the death itself.

Passed by Unanimous Consent.

S. 331- HALT Fentanyl Act

Floor activity expected this afternoon.

H.R. 1968 Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025

This bill provides continuing FY2025 appropriations for federal agencies and extends various expiring programs and authorities. Specifically, the bill provides continuing FY2025 appropriations to federal agencies for the remainder of FY2025. It is known as a continuing resolution (CR) and prevents a government shutdown that would otherwise occur if the FY2025 appropriations bills have not been enacted when the existing CR expires on March 14, 2025.

The CR funds most programs and activities at the FY2024 levels. It also includes several additional provisions that increase or decrease funding for various programs compared to FY2024 levels.

H.R. 706-DHS Biodetection Improvement Act

This bill directs the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to assess how it has utilized Department of Energy national laboratories and sites for research and development in carrying out DHS missions and to report to Congress a strategy for how DHS will conduct biodetection research and development in coordination with such laboratories and sites.

Passed House by Voice Vote.

H.R. 708 SHIELD Against CCP Act

This bill requires the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to form a working group tasked with duties related to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP).

Passed House by Voice Vote.

H.R. 993 Emerging Innovative Border Technologies Act

This bill requires U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Science and Technology Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security to develop a plan to identify, integrate, and deploy emerging and innovative technologies to improve border security operations. Such technologies may incorporate artificial intelligence, machine-learning, automation, fiber-optic sensing technology, nanotechnology, optical and cognitive radar, modeling and simulation technology, hyperspectral and LIDAR sensors, and imaging, identification, and categorization systems.

In addition, the bill extends several expiring programs and authorities, including:

- the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Cybersecurity Protection System;

- authorities for DHS and the Department of Justice to take certain actions to mitigate a credible threat from an unmanned aircraft system;

- several immigration-related programs and authorities;

- The special assessment on nonindigent persons or entities convicted of certain offenses involving sexual abuse or human trafficking;

- The temporary scheduling order issued by the Drug Enforcement Administration to place fentanyl-related substances in Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act;

Floor activity expected this afternoon.

Passed House by the Yeas and Nays.

H.R. 1166 Decoupling from Foreign Adversarial Battery Dependence Act

This bill prohibits the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) from using appropriated funds to procure a battery produced by certain entities, particularly six specific companies owned and operated in China.

Passed House by Voice Vote.

H.R. 1374 Securing the Cities Improvement Act

This bill makes changes to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office's (CWMD's) Securing the Cities program, which seeks to detect nuclear or radiological materials to prevent terrorist attacks and other events posing a risk to cities in the United States.

Passed House by Voice Vote.

H.R. 1692 PATHS Act

This bill extends through FY2028 the authority of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to use other transactions (OT) to carry out research and prototype projects when the use of contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements is not feasible or appropriate.

Passed House by Voice Vote.

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- several immigration-related programs and authorities;

- The special assessment on nonindigent persons or entities convicted of certain offenses involving sexual abuse or human trafficking;

- The temporary scheduling order issued by the Drug Enforcement Administration to place fentanyl-related substances in Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act;

Passed House by the Yeas and Nays (217-213)

Congressional Hearings



Hearings This Past Week

Tuesday, March 11

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure
Protection Subcommittee, House Homeland Security
Committee – ***Regulatory Harm or Harmonization?
Examining the Opportunity to Improve the Cyber
Regulatory Regime***

House Financial Services Committee – ***Navigating the
Digital Payments Ecosystem: Examining a Federal
Framework for Payment Stablecoins and***

Hearings This Week

The House and Senate are slated to be out on recess.

Consequences of a U.S. Central Bank Digital Currency

Federal Law Enforcement Subcommittee, House Oversight and Government Reform Committee
– **Enhancing Federal, State, and Local Coordination in the Fight Against Criminal Illegal Aliens**

Oversight, Investigations, and Accountability Subcommittee, House Homeland Security Committee
– **Eliminating Waste, Fraud, and Abuse at the Department of Homeland Security: Addressing the Biden-Harris Administration's Failures**

Criminal Justice and Counterterrorism Subcommittee, Senate Judiciary Committee – **Hearings to examine the STOP CSAM Act**

Wednesday, March 12

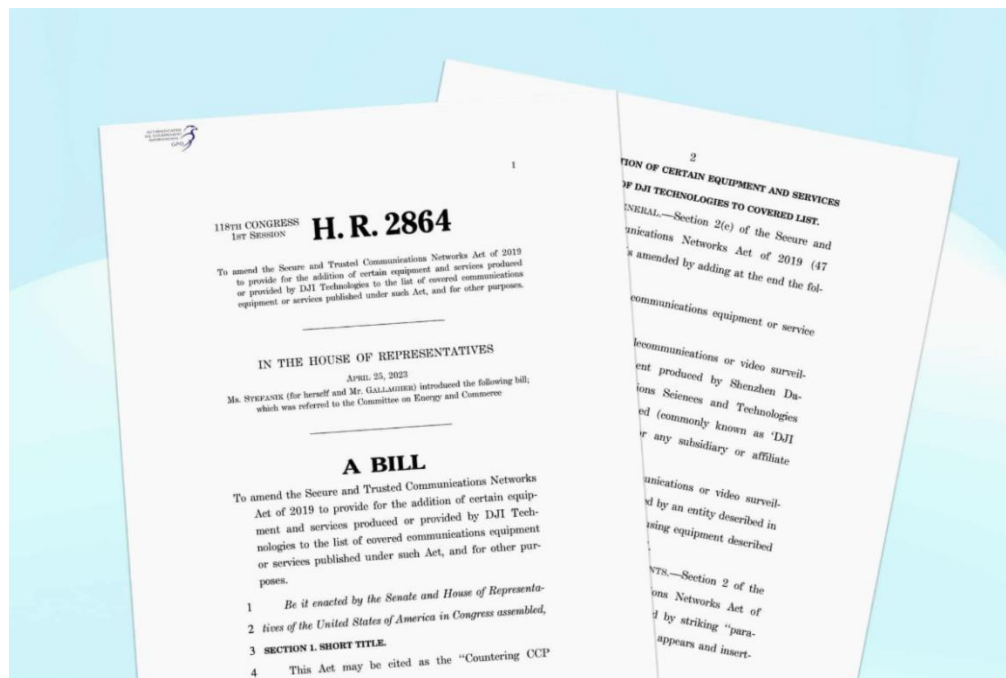
Senate Commerce Committee – **Business Meeting (S.792, Government Spectrum Valuation Act)**

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs – **Business Meeting (S.850 Northern Border Security Enhancement and Review Act)**

Thursday, March 13

Senate Judiciary Committee – **Business meeting to consider the nominations of Dean Sauer to be Solicitor General of the United States, and Harmeet Dhillon, and Aaron Reitz, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, all of the Department of Justice**

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

MARCH						
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	29
30	31					



House and Senate
in Session



Senate in Session
Only



House in Session
Only



Federal Holidays

Community and Client News



New NAMI Brief on Mental Health and Criminal Justice State Policy

Mental illness is not a crime, yet individuals with mental illness are disproportionately impacted by our nation's criminal justice system and overrepresented in jails and prisons. About two in five people who are incarcerated have a history of mental illness. NAMI's [**Trends in Mental Health and Criminal Justice State Policy**](#) explores how state policymakers and advocates can address this problem through legislation.

This issue brief offers state legislators and advocates policy recommendations and examples of legislation that supports individuals with mental health conditions who are at risk of being or are justice system-involved. Recommendations are provided in the following key categories:

- Diversion
- Juvenile Justice
- Conditions in Custody
- Reentry from Incarceration
- Competency Restoration Backlogs
- Civil Commitment
- Concerning Trend: Using Mental Illness as Risk Factor in Extreme Risk Protection Orders
- Law Enforcement Training and Policies

[**Read the Publication Here**](#)

NAMI Is Hiring!

What started as a small group of families gathered around a kitchen table in 1979 has blossomed into the nation's leading voice on mental health. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness.

Today, we are an alliance of hundreds of local affiliates, state organizations and a national office who work in communities across the United States to raise awareness, provide support and education, and advocate to address systemic barriers impacting people with mental health conditions. NAMI's Government Relations, Policy and Advocacy team fights discrimination that keeps people from accessing the mental health care they need to get well and stay well. In particular, we work to address inequities and injustices and to promote dignity and inclusion for all people with mental illness and their families. NAMI's policy work spans a wide range of key issues, from fighting for quality of care and insurance coverage to diverting from criminal justice system involvement and addressing social determinants of health.

We currently have an open position for a **Manager, Public Policy and Manager, Advocacy**

The Manager, Public Policy is responsible for monitoring, analyzing and articulating how federal regulatory policy impacts people with mental health conditions and their families. The Manager will do this by drafting NAMI comments on regulatory proposals, representing NAMI at national coalition meetings, and engaging the expertise of internal and external subject matter experts (SMEs), as appropriate. The Manager will also to the development of NAMI's official public policy positions.

[Learn more about this role here](#)

The Manager, Advocacy is responsible for implementing and supporting strategic, multi-faceted advocacy campaigns and initiatives to engage key stakeholders on NAMI's priority issues and advocacy initiatives. The Manager will create written and visual materials for both policymaker and advocate audiences to elevate lived experience of mental illness in support of advancing NAMI's public policy priorities.

[Learn more about this role here](#)



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Advancing Representation
in Law Enforcement

National Law Enforcement Museum to Host Virtual Panel on Women in Policing

The National Law Enforcement Museum will host a virtual panel discussion examining the impact of women in law enforcement. This discussion marks the 50th anniversary of the National Policing Institute's 1974 report, *Women in Policing: A Manual*

WHO: Moderator

Gina Hawkins: President, National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executives (NAWLEE)

Panelists

Catrina Bonus: President, Women in Federal Law Enforcement (WIFLE)

Jenn Rineer: Director & Research Psychologist, Workforce Wellbeing & Effectiveness Program, Center for Public Safety & Resilience, RTI

Tanya Meisenholder: 30×30 Leader and Director of Policy Research, NYU Policing Project

WHEN: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 | 6:30 p.m. Eastern

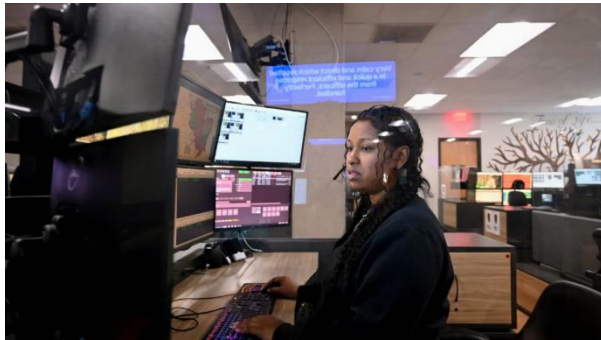
WHERE: Virtual Attendance

Participants can register for free here - event will be live-streamed

WHY: Despite decades of research highlighting the benefits of women in law enforcement, they still comprise only 12% of the overall U.S. police force. This Women's History Month event will examine the importance of increasing female representation in policing, addressing challenges in recruitment and retention, and evaluating the progress of the 30x30 initiative.

[Learn More Here](#)

Articles We Read This Week



Georgia's 911 systems could soon see a multimillion-dollar overhaul

Georgia legislators are pushing for a multimillion-dollar overhaul of the state's antiquated 911 systems that have struggled to handle the volume of emergency calls from people in crisis.

[Text Link](#)



Apparent 'swatting call' directed at Southern California hospital prompts large response

Authorities rushed to evacuate a hospital in Southern California on Wednesday night after receiving reports of a possible shooter, which law enforcement later determined was an apparent swatting call.

[Text Link](#)



Capitol Police Chief J. Thomas Manger will retire in May

J. Thomas Manger, who took over as chief of the U.S. Capitol Police to restore stability to the department after its response to the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol riot was heavily criticized, announced Tuesday that he will be retiring — again — in May.

[Text Link](#)



Miami Beach Police will use drones, real-time intelligence center during spring break

On Monday, Miami Beach Police unveiled their new Real Time Intelligence Center (RTIC) and launch of the Skydio's Drone as a First Responder (DFR) program. The department is the first agency in the state, one of only five departments nationwide, to implement Skydio's DFR program. According to police, the center and drone program will allow them to monitor and respond to incidents quicker, particularly during the high-impact spring break weekends through March.

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‘Surge’ of violence prompts crackdown in California prison system, officials say

Faced with seven homicides in the first nine weeks of the year, California prison authorities announced they have restricted inmate movement and revoked privileges such as visits and phone calls at high-security facilities across the state. In a statement dated March 8, officials from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation cited a “surge” in violence directed at both inmates and staff as the reason for the crackdown at 11 prisons.

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The Rising Call for Regulating Police Robots

When it comes to rules and standards around acceptable uses of police drones and robots, “in most departments in the country, there is absolutely none. There are no standards. There are no policies,” says Matthew Guariglia, senior policy analyst at the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF). That creates risk of misuse, including deploying robots in ways that hurt someone or using them to conduct surveillance in ways that might conflict with First Amendment rights, Guariglia says.

[Text Link](#)



Utilizing MCPTT over FirstNet and Verizon 'best decision I've made,' Georgia police chief says

Opting for an LTE-based mission-critical-push-to-talk (MCPTT) solution and abandoning land-mobile-radio (LMR) technology for vital public-safety communications is proving to be an operational and financial boon to the city of Dallas, Ga., according to its police chief.

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Experts warn that recent school shootings show growth in new radicalization pattern

Two recent school shootings are highlighting what extremism researchers see as a growing — and poorly understood — trend among young people who embrace mass violence.

[Text Link](#)



Deadliest phase of fentanyl crisis eases, as all states see recovery

The deadliest phase of the street fentanyl crisis appears to have ended, as drug deaths continue to drop at an unprecedented pace. For the first time, all 50 states and the District of Columbia have now seen at least some recovery.

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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](#)



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.

Ron Brooks
Partner

rbrooks@bbm-dc.com

Ben Bawden
Partner

bbawden@bbm-dc.com

Chris Moore
Partner Emeritus

cmoore@bbm-dc.com

Melissa Nee
Partner
mnee@bbm-dc.com

Dean Kueter
Vice President of Government Relations
dkueter@bbm-dc.com

Rob Wright
Vice President of Government Relations
rwright@bbm-dc.com

Jake Schiff
Director of Government Relations
jschiff@bbm-dc.com

Joseph Fernando
Government Affairs Associate
jfernando@bbm-dc.com

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