



BROOKS BAWDEN MOORE
LLC



Photo of the Week: San Bernadino County Sheriff Shannon Dicus appears before the House Energy and Commerce Committee to testify about public safety communications issues.

Weekly Update and Analysis

September 12, 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, Congressional leadership looked to make progress on government funding.

The House Appropriations Committee approved its final two spending bills for fiscal year 2026, with less than three weeks before government funding expires on October 1. The full committee voted along party lines to advance its Labor–Health and Human Services–Education bill on September 9 and its [Commerce–Justice–Science bill](#) on September 10.

Lawmakers are eyeing a continuing resolution (CR) to start the fiscal year that would extend current funding levels and avert a government shutdown, though details remain unsettled. Appropriators are aiming for a short-term CR through November, diverging from a White House proposal to extend funding through January 31.

The House also approved a motion to go to conference on a measure packaging three smaller fiscal 2026 appropriations bills: Agriculture–FDA, Legislative Branch, and Military Construction–VA. These procedural steps move negotiations toward a bipartisan, bicameral package of less controversial measures, but they do not lessen the growing risk of a government shutdown as Democratic lawmakers clash with President Trump.

Top appropriators have proposed combining the three funding bills with a short-term CR that would fund the nine remaining annual bills at current levels. They will have to act quickly to finalize a package before the September 30 deadline.

There was also movement on both sides of the Capitol to advance the annual defense policy bill. The [House approved its version](#) on Wednesday in a largely party-line vote. Notably, the House-passed NDAA omits provisions on counter-drone authorities for state and local governments that had been under consideration as possible amendments. Meanwhile, the Senate has taken procedural steps on its version and is expected to devote significant floor time to advancing it next week.

On the floor, the House passed legislation increasing penalties for illegal border crossings, while the Senate advanced a measure to [reclassify public safety telecommunicators](#) from the federal government's

“administrative/clerical” occupation category to the “protective service” category within the Office of Management and Budget’s Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system.

On the day President Trump’s 30-day emergency order controlling Washington, D.C.’s police department expired, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee held a [markup advancing 14 bills](#) to reform criminal law and law enforcement in the Nation’s Capitol. These measures included proposals to lower the age at which a minor may be tried as an adult, eliminate the use of cashless bail, and increase mandatory minimum sentences for certain crimes, among others.

Representative Elise Stefanik introduced a measure to [discourage the use of cashless bail nationwide](#), while members continue considering other items for inclusion in a more comprehensive crime package.

The House Judiciary Committee advanced the [Trafficking Survivors Relief Act of 2025](#), which would create a process for victims of human trafficking to vacate convictions and expunge arrest records for crimes they were forced to commit while trafficked. The committee also advanced the [FIREARM Act](#), which would prohibit the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) from revoking or denying renewal of a federal firearms license based on a self-reported violation, provided the issue is correctable and did not involve transferring a firearm to a prohibited person.

Meanwhile, the House Energy and Commerce Committee’s Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a [hearing examining the future of public safety communications](#), with a focus on reauthorizing the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) and advancing Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG911). Shannon Dicus, Sheriff of San Bernardino County, California, and Vice President of Government Affairs for the Major County Sheriffs of America, emphasized the importance of reauthorizing FirstNet and establishing a grant program to strengthen the nation’s 911 capabilities.

Lastly, DOJ is expected to release multiple FY 2025 public-safety grant NOFOs soon—possibly several at once with short application windows. Agencies are encouraged to begin preparing now to ensure strong, timely submissions. Federal funding this year is expected to prioritize strengthening law enforcement operations, particularly tools and technologies that improve officer readiness and enhance community safety.

This week, the Department of Justice released several [DNA Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction \(CEBR\) grant opportunities](#), along with a related program to support medical examiner and coroner services. DOJ also released new opportunities for the [Internet Crimes Against Children \(ICAC\) Task Force National Training Program](#), a competitive grant providing resources to strengthen training and technical assistance for ICAC Task Forces nationwide.

BBM will continue to keep you updated as additional opportunities are released.

New Podcast: A Conversation with the Policing Leadership Academy – Shaping the Future of Policing Through Commander Training

On this episode, you'll hear from Meredith Stricker and Ken Corey with the Policing Leadership Academy (PLA). The PLA is a national program dedicated to commander-level training for rising police leaders.

That focus is critical: commanders are the link between front-line officers and agency leadership. The way they manage crime strategies, build community trust, and use data directly shapes whether policing is effective and fair. By equipping commanders with advanced tools and leadership skills, the PLA is helping departments across the country reduce violence and strengthen public safety.

We're excited to share their perspective and the impact they're seeing nationwide.

Check out the podcast below.

[Listen to the Podcast Here](#)

Public Safety Leaders Urge Congress to Act on Counter-Drone Authority

Sixteen national public safety associations are calling on Congress to pass comprehensive legislation to give state and local agencies the authority to detect, track, identify, and mitigate drones that threaten public safety.



August 20, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Democratic Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steve Scalise
Majority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

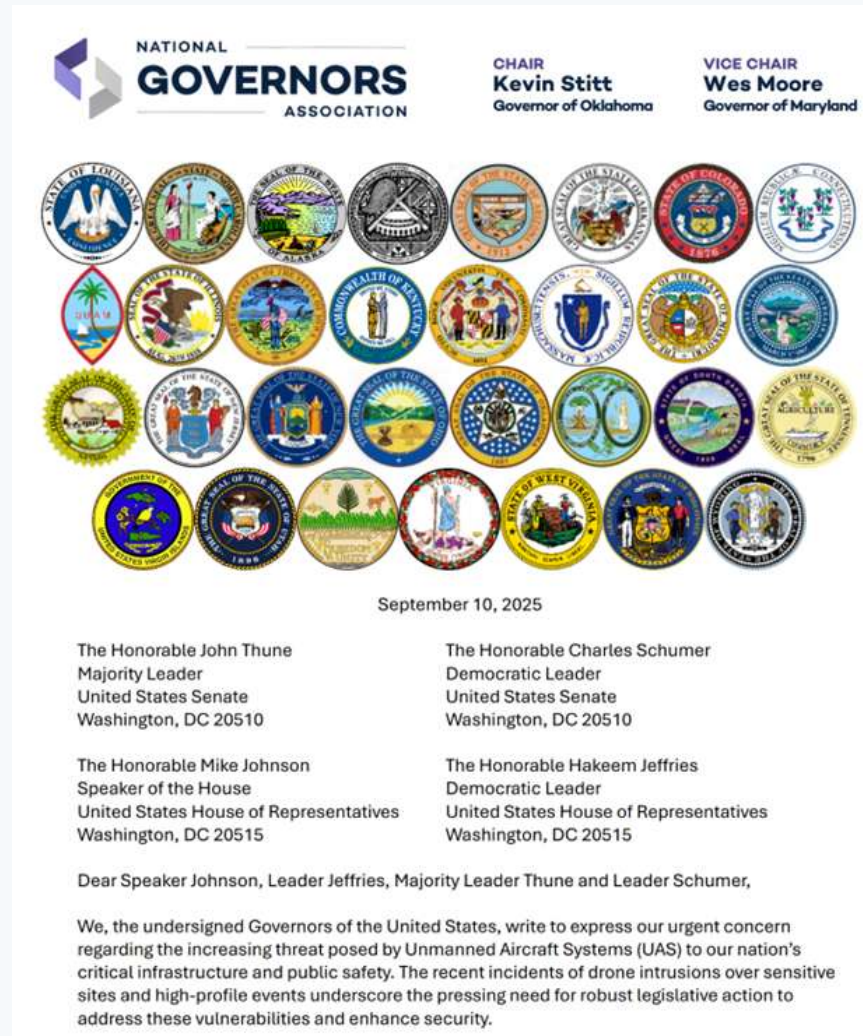
Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Thune, Leader Jeffries, Leader Schumer, and Leader Scalise:

On behalf of the undersigned national public safety associations - representing thousands of local and state agencies and personnel responsible for protecting communities across the country - we

[Read the letter and view additional resources on counter UAS and drones for public safety below.](#)

[Read More Here](#)

State Governors Sign Letter Urging Congressional Action on Drone Security



"We, the undersigned Governors of the United States, write to express our urgent concern regarding the increasing threat posed by Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) to our nation's critical infrastructure and public safety. The recent incidents of drone intrusions over sensitive sites and high-profile events underscore the pressing need for robust legislative action to address these vulnerabilities and enhance security.

We urge Congress to enact legislation that strengthens and clarifies the coordination between federal and state authorities, enhancing states' capacity to detect and mitigate UAS threats while recognizing our inherent duty to protect our citizens and vital infrastructure. This is imperative; Congress cannot wait for a catastrophic event to occur before taking action. Further, we urge Congress to legislatively grant states explicit legal authority, similar to that of the federal government, to detect and mitigate UAS threats. This clarity is essential for effectively safeguarding our citizens and critical infrastructure"

[Read the Letter Here](#)

Briefings and Podcasts

Over the past several months, BBM has facilitated congressional briefings and grant information sessions. Recordings and additional details are included below.

- [Major Public Safety Associations Participate in Congressional Briefing on Drone Threats](#)
- [Major Public Safety Associations Participate in Congressional Briefing on Law Enforcement Training Priorities During National Police Week](#)
- [High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas \(HIDTA\) Program Briefing](#)
- [Briefing Recording: Law Enforcement Tools Transforming Public Safety](#)
 - Panelists discussed National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN), rapid DNA technology, and drones for public safety
- [Understanding the National Instant Criminal Background Check System](#)
- [Major Public Safety Organizations Participate in Capitol Hill Briefing on AI](#)
- [Grant Podcast- Nonprofit Security Grant Program](#)
- [Grant Podcast- DHS Homeland Security Grant Program](#)

BBM Blog Posts of the Week

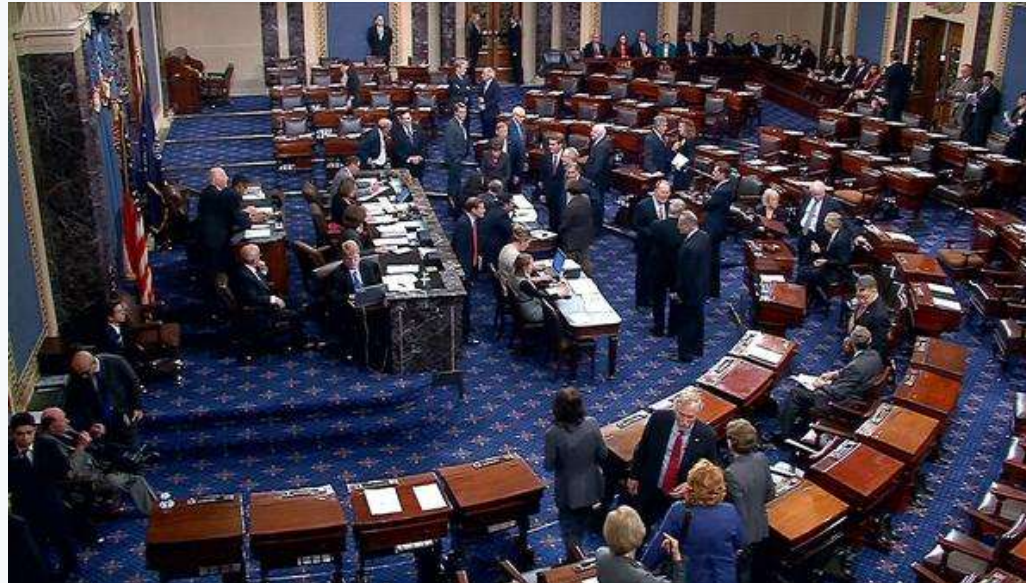
BBM posts timely updates on topics of interest to the public safety community. Please explore this week's blog posts below and click on any topic that interests you to stay updated. Email a member of the BBM team today to get our blog content delivered directly to your inbox.

- [New Grant Opportunity: Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force National Training Program](#)
- [New DOJ Grant Opportunities](#)
- [House Judiciary Committee Advances FIREARM Act](#)
- [Punchbowl News: E&C Moves Forward with Data Privacy Discussions](#)
- [House Passes Defense Policy Bill](#)
- [Senate Passes Enhancing First Response Act \(Includes 911 SAVES Act\)](#)
- [House Judiciary Committee Advances Trafficking Survivors Relief Act](#)
- [MCSA Testifies Before House Panel on Public Safety Communications](#)
- [Kratsios Testifies Before Senate Commerce Committee on White House AI Action Plan](#)
- [The Hill: "Democrat wins Virginia special election to replace deceased Rep. Gerry Connolly"](#)
- [Washington Times: "Stefanik pushes bill to end cashless bail across the country"](#)
- [Cruz AI Proposal](#)
- [Senate Panel Hits Pause on Homeland Security Funding Bill](#)
- [Don't Wait – Prep Now for FY25 DOJ Public Safety Grants](#)

- [House Appropriations Committee Advances FY 2026 CJS Spending Bill](#)

- [House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Advances D.C. Crime Bills](#)

Floor Activity



Senate

[Confirmation of Robert Law to be Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans, Department of Homeland Security](#): Confirmed 51-46

[S.306 - Fire Ready Nation Act of 2025](#)

This bill provides statutory authority for existing wildfire response services of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and establishes

House of Representatives

[H.R. 3838- Streamlining Procurement for Effective Execution and Delivery and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2026](#)

This bill sets forth policies and authorities for FY2026 for Department of Defense (DOD) programs and activities, military construction, and the national security programs of the Department of Energy and the Maritime Administration.

Passed House (231-196)

new programs and collaborative efforts to improve fire forecasting and readiness.

Passed by Unanimous Consent

S.725 - Enhancing First Response Act

This bill requires the Office of Management and Budget, by 30 days after the bill's enactment, to categorize public safety telecommunicators as a protective service occupation under the Standard Occupational Classification System. This bill also requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to report on certain activations of the Disaster Information Reporting System (DIRS).

Passed by Unanimous Consent

H.R.3486 - Stop Illegal Entry Act of 2025

This bill establishes or increases criminal penalties for certain non-U.S. nationals (aliens under federal law) who illegally enter the United States and then commit a felony or illegally reenter the United States.

Passed House (226-197)

Congressional Hearings



Hearings This Past Week

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Evaluating the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network

National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions Subcommittee (House Financial Services Committee)

10:00 AM, 2128 RHOB

Public Safety Communications in the United States

Communications and Technology Subcommittee (House Energy and Commerce Committee)

10:15 AM, 2123 RHOB

Hearings Next Week

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

Senate Judiciary Committee

9:00 AM, 216HSOB

Unmanned and Unchecked: Confronting the Rising Threat of Malicious Drone Use in America

Crime and Federal Government Surveillance Subcommittee (House Judiciary Committee)

2:00PM, 2141 RHOB

Examining AI chatbots

Full Committee Markup – Fiscal Year 2026 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Bill (House Appropriations Committee)

11:00 AM, 2359 RHOB

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

Examining America's AI Action Plan

Space and Science Subcommittee (Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee)
10:00 AM, 253 RSOB

Full Committee Markup – Fiscal Year 2026 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Bill

House Appropriations Committee
10:00 AM, 2359 RHOB

From Playground to Classroom: The Spread of Antisemitism in K-12 Schools

Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee (House Education and Workforce Committee)
10:15AM, 2175 RHOB

Sounding the Alarm: America's Fire Apparatus Crisis

Subcommittee on Disaster Management, District of Columbia, and Census (Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee)
2:30 PM, 342SDB

Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2026 (Closed)

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (Closed)

Legislative Markup (DC/ DC Policing)

House Oversight and Government Reform Committee

Criminal Justice and Counterterrorism Subcommittee (Senate Judiciary Committee)
2:30PM, 226 DSOB

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

House Judiciary Committee
10:00AM, 2141 RHOB

Nominations

Senate Judiciary Committee
10:15AM, G50 DSOB

Shaping Tomorrow: The Future of Artificial Intelligence

Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Government Innovation Subcommittee
2:00 PM, 2247 RHOB

Another Biden Blunder: Missing Unaccompanied Alien Children and Criminal Sponsors

Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Safety Subcommittee (Senate Judiciary Committee)
2:00 PM, 226DSOB

Thursday, September 18, 2025

Legislative Markup (Counter Drone Authorities)

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee
9:00AM, 342DSOB

Invasion of the Homeland: How China is Using Illegal Marijuana to Build a Criminal Network Across America

Oversight, Investigations, and Accountability Subcommittee
10:00 AM, 310 CHOB

10:00AM, HVC 210

Legislative Markup

House Judiciary Committee

10:00 AM, 2141 RHOB

Thursday, September 11, 2025

Nominations

Senate Judiciary Committee

10:15, 216HSOB

Legislative Markup

Federal Lands Subcommittee (House Natural Resources Committee)

10:00 AM

AI at a Crossroads: A Nationwide Strategy or Californication?

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

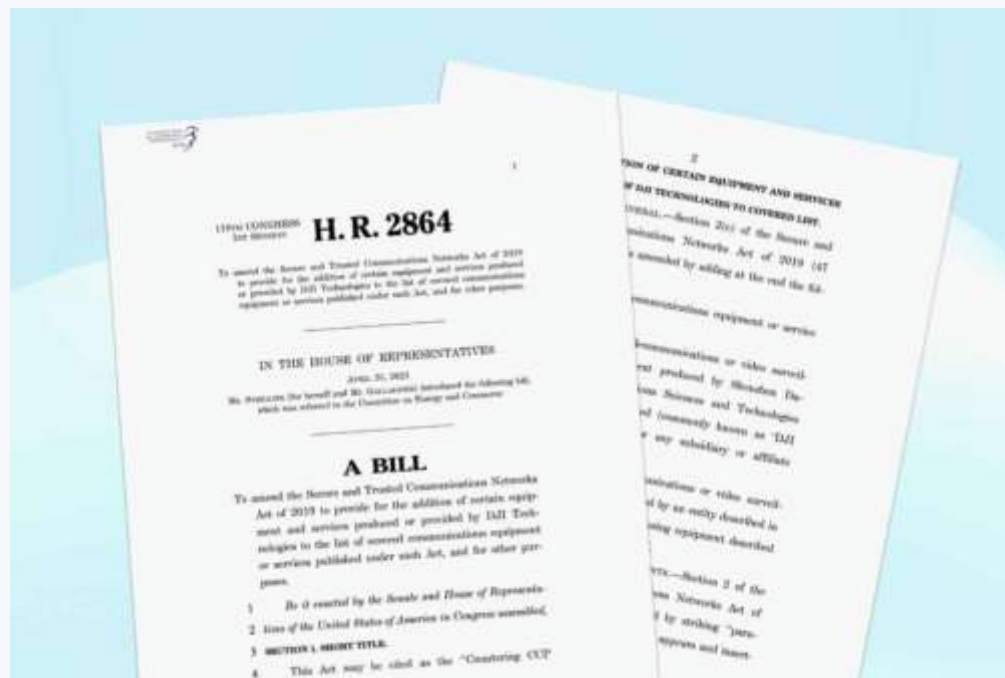
10:00 AM, 2141 RHOB

Oversight of the District of Columbia

House Oversight and Government Reform Committee

10:00AM, HVC-210 C

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

SEPTEMBER						
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				



House and Senate
in Session



House in Session
Only



Senate in Session
Only



Federal Holidays

Check out and download the **BBM 2025 Combined Congressional Calendar** below.

[BBM 2025 Congressional Calendar](#)

Community and Client News



IJIS Justice, Public Safety, and Security AI Summit Recap

The IJIS Justice, Public Safety, and Security Artificial Intelligence (AI) Summit was held September 9-10, 2025, in Tysons Corner, Virginia.

This two-day operations, policy, and technology event brought together government practitioners and industry experts to examine how artificial intelligence is shaping justice, public safety, and security. The Summit highlighted the opportunities AI offers and the positive impact it can make on communities.

During the Summit, Ben Bawden joined Nicole Ezech, Legislative Director, State-Federal Affairs at the National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL), for a briefing focused on the federal and state legislative landscape for AI and public safety policy. This conversation highlighted the complex nature of AI policy and law and the importance of pulling in practitioners from across the spectrum - federal, state, local, industry, and academia - to ensure these discussions lead to responsible, real-world solutions.

An important resource highlighted at the Summit was the [IJIS Artificial Intelligence Playbook for Justice, Public Safety, and Security Professionals](#), which is intended to help organizations at any point in the AI adoption lifecycle - whether just beginning or further along - to develop, implement, or properly use AI-based capabilities.



NCMEC Launches Backpage Survivor Remission Network

This week NCMEC launched the [Backpage Survivor Remission Network](#) to support survivors of sex trafficking on Backpage.com and CityXGuide.com as they navigate DOJ's recently announced remission process to compensate adults and children who were advertised for sex trafficking on either of these sites. DOJ's release of the remission process brings to a close over 7 years of civil lawsuits, criminal prosecutions, and asset forfeiture actions and begins the process of compensating victims from approximately \$200M seized from the 2 websites.

The remission process is document-intensive and the time for survivors to submit petitions for compensation is very short – ending February 2, 2026. Through the Backpage Survivor Remission Network, NCMEC has brought together a range of professionals to support survivors through outreach, pro bono legal services, medical/mental health evaluations, and NCMEC's analytical knowledge of child sex trafficking cases.

Our goal is to ensure that every survivor who has a viable claim for compensation can get the support they need to participate in DOJ's remission process. You can help by sharing this information with your colleagues working on trafficking and victim support issues so that survivors can learn about these resources.

[Learn More Here](#)

Articles We Read This Week



FCC taking steps that would allow US prisons to jam prisoners' cellphone signals

Federal officials on Friday said they are taking steps that will give state and federal prisons the right to jam the signals of cellphones smuggled to inmates, devices they argue allow prisoners to plot violence and carry out crimes.

[Text Link](#)



In post-Jan. 6 era, 600 officers train for riots as threats to lawmakers climb toward record high

The U.S. Capitol Police led the operation, joined by 600 officers representing nearly 20 agencies — including the Secret Service and local police and sheriff's departments — in one of the largest law enforcement training drills in the country.

[Text Link](#)



‘Gateways to the sky’: Las Vegas Police announce next phase of drone program

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department officials announced “phase two” of the department’s Drone First Responder Program, which will include new “sky ports” and remotely piloted drones. “What, from my perspective once sounded like science fiction, maybe something from like the Jetsons, is now becoming a reality here in Las Vegas as we push the limits of technology,” said Dori Koren, LVMPD assistant sheriff.

[Text Link](#)



Over 600 people arrested in operations targeting Sinaloa drug cartel, DEA says

More than 600 people were arrested in a weeklong series of operations targeting the Sinaloa drug cartel, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration announced on Monday.

[Text Link](#)

Recent and Upcoming Events



2025 Annual Conference

Dallas, Texas



MCCA 2025 Annual Conference

Denver, Colorado

September 22-24, 2025

[Learn More Here](#)



IACP 2025

Denver, Colorado
October 18-21, 2025

[Learn More Here](#)

October 15-17, 2025

[Learn More Here](#)



2025 ASCIA Fall Conference

Denver, Colorado
October 16-18, 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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