



Photo of the Week: The top four leaders of the Senate and House Appropriations committees met Thursday to make headway on the next package of fiscal 2026 spending bills. Senate Appropriations Chair Susan Collins, R-Maine, at left, and ranking Democrat Patty Murray of Washington met with their House counterparts to map strategy.

Weekly Update and Analysis

November 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?

It was an exceptionally busy week on Capitol Hill, with major movement on spending talks, defense policy, and a broad slate of homeland security and public safety bills. Lawmakers worked to shape the next funding package, pushed the FY26 NDAA toward final text, and advanced measures ranging from threat-assessment reforms to online-safety protections. The Administration issued several leadership and regulatory updates, DOJ released new reports and grant resources, and Congress published the 2026 calendars.

Read below for detailed information.

Appropriations & Spending Negotiations

- **House Waits on Senate to Start Next Funding Package** – House GOP signals they won't move until the Senate finalizes its strategy for the next minibus, **with the Commerce-Justice-Science spending measure discussed as a priority**.

NDAA & AI

- **House and Senate Armed Services leaders are close to finalizing the FY26 NDAA** – Conferees work to close out remaining issues as they push toward releasing final NDAA text.
- **Update: AI Provision in This Year's Defense Bill** - Congress continues debating whether the NDAA should include federal preemption of state AI laws, while the Administration weighs using **executive action to limit conflicting state oversight of AI systems**.

Homeland Security & Public Safety Legislation & Announcements

- **House Passes Additional Homeland Security and Public Safety Measures** – The House advanced a broad slate of homeland security and public safety measures this week—including threat-assessment bills, cyber and intelligence reforms, school-security planning, grant-program improvements, border-security authorities, and D.C. public-safety legislation.
- **House Judiciary Committee Advances the Law-Enforcement Innovate to De-Escalate Act** – Committee moves forward a bill to update the Gun Control Act to clarify that certain less-than-lethal devices are not classified as firearms under federal law.
- **House Judiciary Committee Advances the NDO Fairness Act** – Committee advances legislation that would significantly change how investigators use non-disclosure orders (NDOs) when obtaining electronic communications data.

- **Senate Passes the Countering Threats and Attacks on Our Judges Act** – Senate approves a bill intended to strengthen security support for state and local judges and court personnel.
- **CBP: “DHS announces Final Rule to advance the Biometric Entry/Exit Program”** – DHS finalizes an expanded biometric screening rule across major ports of entry.
- **AP: “Trump administration makes major changes to a report it commissioned on FEMA reforms”** – Internal FEMA reform recommendations were significantly revised before release, according to AP.

Leadership Announcements

- **President Nominates Cekada to Serve as ATF Director** – The Administration puts forward a new nominee to lead ATF.
- **Washington Post: FEMA Leader Resigns** – FEMA’s administrator steps down amid ongoing debates over disaster reform and internal agency challenges.

Grants

- **COPS Office Posts FY 2025 Grant Information** – DOJ releases updated FY25 COPS Office award lists, manuals, and post-award resources.

Drug Policy

- **The Hill: “Hemp THC products that could be banned by Congress”** – Congress weighs restrictions on intoxicating hemp-derived THC products.

Online Safety

- **Bloomberg Government: “House Panel to Unveil Kids’ Online Safety Legislative Package”** – Lawmakers prepare a multi-bill package tightening online protections for children and teens.

DOJ Reports

- **Department of Justice Releases 2025 Annual Report to Congress on Efforts to Combat Elder Fraud and Abuse** – DOJ details prosecutions and policy actions taken to counter elder scams and exploitation.

Congressional Calendars & Hill Operations

- [2026 House Calendar Released](#) – House leaders publish next year's session and recess schedule ahead of the midterms.
- [Senate Releases 2026 Calendar](#) – Senate outlines its 2026 legislative schedule, including an extended pre-election recess.

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.

[The Hill: "Major spending package planned for Senate floor faces doubts"](#)

- [The Hill: "Hemp THC products that could be banned by Congress"](#)
- [This Week in Congress: Public Safety and Homeland Security Legislation to Watch](#)
- [House Passes Homeland Security Measures](#)
- [House Passes Additional Homeland Security and Public Safety Measures](#)
- [Washington Post: FEMA Leader Resigns](#)
- [Punchbowl News: House GOP Eyes AI State Preemption—Possibly Through the NDAA](#)
- [Department of Justice Releases 2025 Annual Report to Congress on Efforts to Combat Elder Fraud and Abuse](#)
- [Bloomberg Government: "Cole, Collins Plan Next Funding Package"](#)
- [2026 House Calendar Released](#)
- [Senate Releases 2026 Calendar](#)

- [President Nominates Cekada to Serve as ATF Director](#)
- [Axios: "White House floats executive order to rein in state AI laws"](#)
- [Appropriators Weigh Next Minibus – With CJS Emerging as a Key Focus](#)
- [AP: "Trump administration makes major changes to a report it commissioned on FEMA reforms, AP sources say"](#)
- [COPS Office Posts FY 2025 Grant Information](#)
- [House Waits on Senate to Start Next Funding Package](#)
- [GOP Eyes New Health Care Package Through Reconciliation](#)
- [Update: AI Provision in This Year's Defense Bill](#)
- [Bloomberg Government: "House Panel to Unveil Kids' Online Safety Legislative Package"](#)
- [CBP: "DHS announces Final Rule to advance the Biometric Entry/Exit Program"](#)
- [Register Today – Threat Briefing: Protecting Faith-Based and Public Spaces \(December 3\)](#)

- [House and Senate Armed Services leaders are close to finalizing the FY26 NDAA](#)
 - [Trump Calls for National AI Standard Amid Debate Over State Authority](#)
 - [House Judiciary Committee Advances the Law-Enforcement Innovate to De-Escalate Act](#)
 - [House Judiciary Committee Advances the NDO Fairness Act](#)
- [Senate Passes the Countering Threats and Attacks on Our Judges Act](#)

Register Today - Congressional Threat Briefing: Protecting Faith-Based and Public



You're Invited
Threat Briefing: Protecting Faith-Based and Public Spaces

Hosted by the Secure Community Network (SCN)
In partnership with the:
National Fusion Center Association (NFCA) and
Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA)

December 3, 2025
12:00-12:30pm (ET)
Virtual Briefing

[RSVP HERE](#)

In response to escalating threats against faith-based communities and other soft targets - including recent incidents involving houses of worship and civic

institutions - we invite you to join a timely, 30-minute unclassified briefing tailored specifically for policymakers and public safety leaders.

Who Should Attend:

This session is relevant for anyone working on homeland security, targeted violence prevention, public safety policy, or threat intelligence - including Capitol Hill staff, officials from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Department of Justice (DOJ), state and local law enforcement personnel, and nonprofit security partners.

This Briefing Will Include:

- A concise threat briefing on current extremist trends and online mobilization tactics
- Real-world case studies illustrating recent operational and intelligence challenges
- Discussion on priority federal grant programs, including the Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP), Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), and State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP)
- Discussion of DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) support for state, local, tribal, and territorial partners

Why You Should Attend:

Participants will gain actionable insights and policy recommendations to inform priorities, resource allocation, and program improvements for 2026 and beyond.

Panelists Include:

- Michael Masters - National Director and CEO, SCN
- Kerry Sleeper - Deputy Director, Intelligence and Information Sharing, SCN
- Sheriff Don Barnes – Sheriff, Orange County, California and Vice President -Homeland Security, MCSA
- Amy Lay – Director of the Northern Virginia Regional Intelligence Center (NVRIC) and Secretary of the National Fusion Center Association (NFCA)

[RSVP HERE](#)

BBM New Position Opening

Job Opening:

Government Relations Associate – Brooks Bawden Moore, LLC

Brooks Bawden Moore, LLC (BBM) is a fast-paced government relations firm based in downtown DC at the leading edge of justice, public safety, law enforcement, emergency response, and homeland security issues. We are

seeking a Government Relations Associate to support our policy work on behalf of professional associations, non-profits, and corporate clients.

Individuals with 1-3 years of experience serving on Capitol Hill, in professional associations, with advocacy organizations, or in lobbying/legislative affairs are encouraged to apply. We're looking for a skilled researcher, excellent communicator, and organized multi-tasker. We value team members who prioritize collaboration and building a broad network of relationships.

The Government Relations Associate will report to the Partner in charge of policy engagement and will perform the following job tasks:

- Conduct legislative and policy research and develop summaries for internal and external audiences;
- Monitor and develop summaries of committee hearings, newsmaker events, and legislative developments in Congress;
- Assist in the development and execution of legislative and public messaging strategies;
- Schedule and attend meetings on Capitol Hill, with executive branch agencies, and with stakeholder groups;
- Draft congressional testimonies, talking points, and blog posts;
- Monitor and summarize federal agency regulatory activity;
- Work collaboratively and proactively on job tasks to achieve objectives in client work plans;
- Provide administrative and logistical support for event planning and event management, principal scheduling, and travel.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree
- 1 to 3 years of relevant work experience
- Exceptional research and writing skills
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail
- High level of professionalism and desire to learn

Salary:

- Starting salary range \$75-90k or commensurate with experience. Excellent opportunity for long-term growth within the firm.

Work Location:

- BBM follows an office-first hybrid work model. Our office is one block from Metro Center adjacent to City Center in downtown Washington, DC.
- Occasional overnight travel related to client work may be required, and occasional

- after-hours networking events should be expected.

Please send a cover letter and resume including references to: info@bbm-dc.com by November 30, 2025. Writing samples will be requested during the interview process.

[Job Posting Attachment Here](#)

House Judiciary Committee Hearing: "Restoring Law and Order in High-Crime U.S. Cities"



The House Judiciary Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing to examine crime trends, local policy decisions, and the use of National Guard deployments in certain cities. Members offered differing views on the causes of crime and the effectiveness of local responses, while witnesses discussed crime data, the role of repeat offenders, enforcement challenges, officer workload, and the impact of evidence-based programs. Testimony highlighted localized crime patterns, leadership and accountability issues, and the use of community-based strategies. During questioning, members and witnesses also addressed crime disparities across jurisdictions, funding considerations, and whether Congress should pursue a broader, data-driven crime bill focused on targeted enforcement and deterrence. Read more [here](#).

Floor Activity



Senate

S.2379 – Countering Threats and Attacks on Our Judges Act

To amend the State Justice Institute Act of 1984 to authorize the State Justice Institute to provide awards to certain organizations to establish a State judicial threat intelligence and resource center.

Passed Senate

House of Representatives

H.R. 1608 - DHS Vehicular Terrorism Prevention and Mitigation Act of 2025

Requires DHS, in coordination with the Transportation Security Administration and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, to submit a report to Congress assessing current and emerging vehicular terrorism threats, reviewing high-risk locations, describing coordination with law enforcement, and recommending research, development, and deployment of technologies to detect, deter, and mitigate such attacks.

Passed House (400-15)

H.R. 2659 - Strengthening Cyber Resilience Against State-Sponsored Threats Act

Establishes a joint interagency task force led by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and the FBI to facilitate collaboration among Sector Risk Management Agencies in detecting, analyzing, and responding to cybersecurity threats from state-sponsored actors, particularly those affiliated with the People's Republic of China, including publishing federal resources for critical infrastructure protection and providing annual reports to Congress.

Passed House (402-8)

H.R. 4058 - Enhancing Stakeholder Support and Outreach for Preparedness Grants Act

Requires the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide ongoing stakeholder outreach, engagement, education, technical assistance, and support for the State Homeland Security Grant Program and Urban Area Security Initiative before, during, and after grant awards, including annual surveys for feedback from state, local, and tribal governments, and mandates a Government Accountability Office review of effectiveness.

Passed House (380-45)

H.R. 5214 - District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act of 2025

Amends D.C. Code to require mandatory pretrial detention for defendants charged with violent crimes and mandatory cash bail or bonds for those charged with public safety offenses, applying to offenses committed 30 days after enactment.

Passed House (237-179)

H.R. 5107 - CLEAN DC Act of 2025

Repeals most provisions of the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022 (D.C. Law 24-345), restoring prior laws on Metropolitan Police Department operations, including body-worn camera procedures, disciplinary records access, and use-of-force reporting, while preserving bans on chokeholds and restrictions on vehicular pursuits.

Passed House (233-190)

The following bills below passed the House by Voice Vote:

H.R. 2212 - DHS Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program and Law Enforcement Support Act

Establishes an Intelligence Rotational Assignment Program within DHS to allow intelligence analysts from various components, including the U.S. Secret Service, to participate in temporary rotations across DHS agencies, promoting interagency understanding, integration, and cooperation on intelligence sharing.

H.R. 5078 - PILLAR Act

Reauthorizes the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program through fiscal year 2030, adds definitions for artificial intelligence and related terms, expands eligible uses to include protections against AI-related risks and foreign entities of concern, requires implementation of advanced cybersecurity practices like multi-factor authentication and continuous vulnerability assessments, and prioritizes outreach to rural and underserved jurisdictions.

H.R. 2261 - Strengthening Oversight of DHS Intelligence Act

Requires DHS to provide mandatory training for intelligence personnel on privacy rights, regulations, and information practices under the Privacy Act and other laws, with a focus on those involved in disseminating or reviewing intelligence, to ensure sharing, retention, and dissemination align with civil rights and liberties protections.

H.R. 1327 - Syria Terrorism Threat Assessment Act

Directs DHS to conduct a threat assessment of risks to the U.S. posed by individuals in Syria affiliated with Foreign Terrorist Organizations or

Specially Designated Global Terrorist Organizations, including DHS's capabilities to identify, track, and monitor such individuals, and submit findings to congressional committees.

H.R. 1736 - Generative AI Terrorism Risk Assessment Act

Requires DHS, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence, to conduct annual assessments of terrorism threats to the U.S. from terrorist organizations using generative AI for activities like recruitment, radicalization, operational planning, and disinformation, and to review and disseminate related information from fusion centers.

H.R. 2259 - National Strategy for School Security Act of 2025

Directs DHS, in consultation with the Department of Education and other federal agencies, to develop and submit a national strategy to secure elementary and secondary schools against terrorism threats, including descriptions of federal programs and spending, identified vulnerabilities, goals, actions to address them, and coordination with state, local, tribal, and territorial entities while avoiding duplication.

H.R. 3965 - PEARL Act

Establishes a three-year pilot program within U.S. Customs and Border Protection to adopt and train dogs from local animal shelters as support canines for personnel, providing emotional assistance to alleviate stress and anxiety, and supporting community outreach activities.

H.R. 4070 - Tren de Aragua Border Security Threat Assessment Act

Requires DHS, in consultation with the intelligence community, to submit a border threat assessment on the Venezuelan gang Tren de Aragua,

identifying criminal threats from its members seeking unlawful U.S. entry or exploiting border vulnerabilities, followed by a strategic plan to counter those threats through detection, interdiction, and disruption.

H.R. 4071 - Combatting International Drug Trafficking and Human Smuggling Partnership Act

Authorizes U.S. Customs and Border Protection personnel, including Air and Marine Operations, to conduct joint operations abroad with foreign governments to address illicit smuggling of persons and goods, terrorist threats, and other security risks, including providing search and rescue, medical assistance, and capacity-building support, while allowing settlement of related foreign claims under the Federal Tort Claims Act.

Congressional Hearings



Hearings This Past Week

Monday, November 17, 2025

Business Meeting

Hearings Next Week

Congress will not be in session next week.

- [H.R. 5214](#) – District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act of 2025
- [H.R. 5107](#) – Common-Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability Now in DC Act of 2025

House Rules Committee
3:00 PM, H-313, The Capitol

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Markup

- [H.R. 2189](#), the Law Enforcement Innovate to De-Escalate Act of 2025
- H.R. _____, the NDO Fairness Act
- [H.R. 2189](#), the Law Enforcement Innovate to De-Escalate Act of 2025 [\[Bill Text\]](#)
- H.R. _____, the NDO Fairness Act [\[Bill Text\]](#)
- [H.R. 5713](#), the Expedited Removal of Criminal Aliens Act [\[Bill Text\]](#)
- [H.R. 4711](#), the Rapid Expulsion of Migrant Offenders who Violate and Evade Act or the REMOVE Act [\[Bill Text\]](#)
- [H.R. 4638](#), the Bill to Outlaw Wounding of Official Working Animals Act or the BOWOW Act [\[Bill Text\]](#)

House Judiciary Committee
10:00 AM, 2141 RHOB

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

ICE Under Fire: The Radical Left's Crusade Against Immigration Enforcement

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

Restoring Law and Order in High-Crime U.S. Cities

Oversight Subcommittee (House Judiciary Committee)
2:00 PM, 2141 RHOB

Thursday, November 20, 2025

Member Day

House Judiciary Committee

10:00 AM, 2141 RHOB

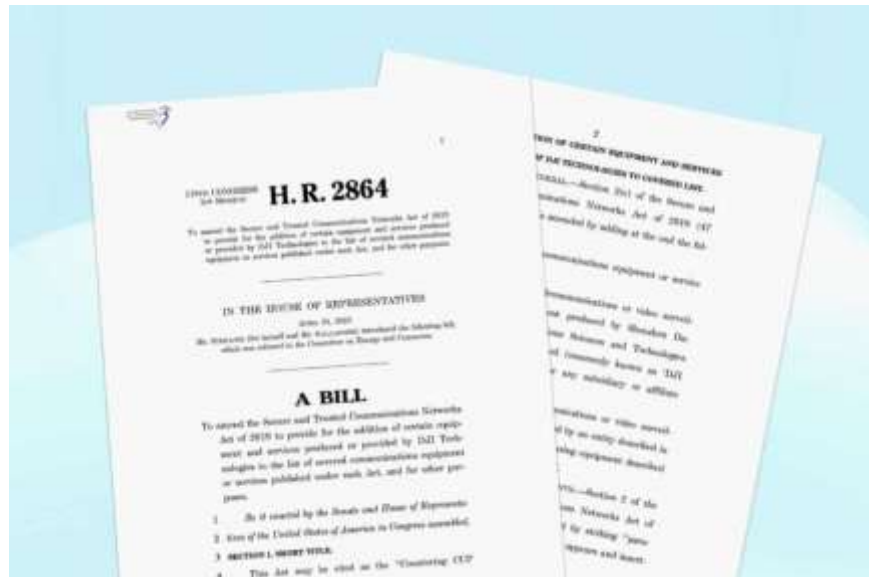
Executive Business Meeting

- Nominees
 - A. Tysen Duva, to be an Assistant Attorney General (DOJ – for Criminal Division)

Senate Judiciary Committee

9:15 AM, 216 HSOB

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

NOVEMBER						
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



NIBIN nailed him!

A major justice milestone out of Bibb County, Georgia!.

Sterling Brainard Bell has been sentenced to 25 years in federal prison on firearms charges connected to the 2016 murder of Kendra Roberts. The breakthrough came from one critical tool: NIBIN.

An ATF agent used NIBIN to match a gun seized from Bell to cartridge casings recovered at the murder scene, a connection powerful enough to exonerate Robert's boyfriend who was originally charged, and redirect the case toward the true offender, Bell.

This is what crime-gun intelligence looks like:

Precision. Persistence. And justice for victims and the wrongfully accused.

[Read More Here](#)



A recipe for success
Fairfax Co. Police Department

Are your partnerships strong?

Are you fully leveraging ballistic intelligence?

Are you seeing a level of return?

These are the questions every law enforcement leader must confront when gun violence challenges their community.

In Fairfax County, Virginia, the answers are loud and clear.

Operation Press Check (OPC) is now entering its third year, and it's proving what happens when intelligence-led policing meets genuine partnership.

Since 2024, FCPD has:

- Removed 112 illegal firearms from the streets
- Driven 104 Felon-in-Possession cases
- Surpassed pre-OPC performance by a wide margin

So what's fueling the surge?

Collaboration + Technology.

NIBIN is connecting guns and cartridge casings across incidents, surfacing leads that would've stayed hidden. Combined with proactive enforcement, data-driven analysis, and tight coordination between FCPD, ATF, prosecutors, and federal partners, you get real, measurable, community-level impact.

And by aggressively targeting machine-gun conversion devices ("switches"), OPC isn't just responding to gun violence...it's disrupting it.

The lesson?

When local, state, and federal partners operate in sync, and when ballistic intelligence is fully leveraged, communities get safer. Period.

As OPC heads into year three, the message is unmistakable:

There is no safe place for crime guns in Fairfax County.

[Read More Here](#)



Federal Court Terminates Newark Police Department's Consent Decree After Successful Reforms

Yesterday, the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey terminated the consent decree in *United States v. City of Newark*, marking the completion of a nine-year reform effort of the Newark Police Department (NPD). Through the consent decree, NPD resolved prior Department of Justice findings by implementing constitutional policing requirements for stops, searches, arrests, and use of force. Based on completion of those and other requirements, Newark moved to dismiss the decree; the Justice Department supported the City's motion.

"We are proud to stand by the men and woman of NPD as federal oversight ends, and the court returns control of local law enforcement to the City of Newark," said Assistant Attorney General Harmeet K. Dhillon of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division. "We look forward to the continued, effective policing of the City — in a constitutional manner — to protect all Americans from crime."

"Over the last decade, the Newark Police Division has made tremendous improvements to ensure constitutional policing and to increase community trust," said Acting U.S. Attorney and Special Attorney Alina Habba for the District of New Jersey. "NPD remains a valuable law enforcement partner, and we will continue to work with it to reduce gun crimes, drug trafficking, and gang violence. The men and women of NPD should be proud of what they accomplished, and we appreciate the hard work they do every day to keep the people of Newark safe."

In 2011, the Justice Department and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey jointly initiated an investigation into the NPD under the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, Title VI of the Civil Rights act of 1964, and the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968. After concluding the investigation, in 2016 the United States and the City of Newark entered into a consent decree to address the investigation's findings that NPD engaged in a pattern or practice of conducting stops and using unjustified and excessive force in violation of the Fourth Amendment; allegations of biased policing; retaliating against individuals who questioned police action in violation of the First Amendment; and subjecting individuals to theft by NPD officers in violation of the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments. NPD has been implementing the decree since its entry. In 2024, the Court granted the parties' joint motion to terminate several of the consent decree's requirements that NPD completed by that time.

The Special Litigation Section of the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division and the District of New Jersey U.S. Attorney's Office's Civil Division and jointly handled the investigation and litigation.

[Read More Here](#)



Ryan Raybould Named United States Attorney for the Northern District of Texas

Dallas, Texas – Ryan R. Raybould was named the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Texas on November 17, 2025, by United States Attorney General Pam Bondi. His appointment this week follows President Donald Trump’s nomination of Mr. Raybould on October 21, 2025, to serve a four-year term in this role. The President’s nomination of Mr. Raybould is currently pending United States Senate confirmation.

Mr. Raybould is now the chief federal law enforcement officer for the district, which covers 96,000 square miles and a population of approximately eight million, including those in Dallas, Fort Worth, Amarillo, Lubbock, Abilene, San Angelo, Wichita Falls, and surrounding areas. Mr. Raybould oversees roughly 220 attorneys and staff across five division offices and is responsible for all federal criminal prosecutions and civil litigation involving the United States government in the region.

“The opportunity to serve in this role is an honor and a privilege,” said U.S. Attorney Ryan Raybould. “I look forward to continuing the tremendous work of those in my Office, partnered with our Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, in pursuing justice and restoring safety to our communities in the Northern District of Texas.”

Before his tenure as U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas, Mr. Raybould was a litigation partner at Kirkland & Ellis in the Government, Regulatory, and Internal Investigations Practice Group.

Mr. Raybould previously served as a federal prosecutor with the Department of Justice for almost seven years, including as Deputy Chief of the White Collar and Public Corruption Unit in the United States Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of Texas. As a federal prosecutor, Mr. Raybould investigated and tried cases involving public corruption, tax fraud, securities fraud, cybercrime, national security, violent crime, money laundering and other white-collar crimes.

Mr. Raybould also served as Chief Counsel to former Assistant Majority Leader and U.S. Senator John Cornyn. As Chief Counsel to Senator Cornyn, Mr. Raybould helped draft and negotiate numerous pieces of legislation that became law on national security, government accountability and drug diversion control. Mr. Raybould also advised Sen. Cornyn’s work on the Judiciary Committee and the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control.

After receiving his J.D. from Notre Dame Law School, Mr. Raybould clerked for Chief United States District Judge Reed O'Connor of the Northern District of Texas. Mr. Raybould is a graduate of Yale University.

[Read More Here](#)



A drug Houston hadn't seen at this scale in years is now flooding the region, according to DEA

Agents say cartels are shifting from fentanyl to meth, leading to quadrupled confiscations across the region.

HOUSTON, Texas — The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency's Houston field office says the number of methamphetamine seizures this year is four times as many as in 2024.

Deputy Special Agent in Charge Brian Leardo told KHOU 11 that cartels are shifting their strategy as U.S. law enforcement intensifies its focus on fentanyl.

"The cartels are looking to make money and they're looking to pivot to the next thing, which is methamphetamine," Leardo said.

The Houston DEA field office displayed a recent seizure made just hours before KHOU arrived: 55 pounds of crystal meth packaged in 25 one-kilogram bags. Each bag carries a wholesale value of roughly \$2,400, according to Leardo.

"Methamphetamine has become such a problem. This is almost a daily occurrence," he said. "It's highly addictive. That's why the cartels are pushing it. They want repeat customers."

Agents say meth traffickers are using increasingly creative methods to smuggle the drug into the region, hiding it in concrete blocks or packing it inside produce shipments. In one recent case, more than 900 pounds of meth were found concealed in boxes of green squash.

Leardo says intelligence efforts have helped agents stay ahead of traffickers who use Houston as a strategic distribution hub.

“Houston is perfectly placed on the interstate map for distribution of narcotics ... into the rest of the United States,” he said.

While agents don’t expect the flow of meth to stop anytime soon, Leardo says each seizure brings them closer to identifying and disrupting cartel operations

[Read More Here](#)



How Mcmtech Streamlines and Enhances Operations for Sheriff Departments

Sheriff’s offices manage a wide range of mission-critical responsibilities — tracking issued gear, managing inmate property, maintaining fleet and equipment readiness, and staying audit-ready year-round.

As highlighted at the FSA Exec Leadership Conference, Mcmtech’s purpose-built solutions are designed to support that work and lighten the operational load.

Read [here](#) to see how sheriffs benefit from a system built for their unique needs. See the full video below showcasing the benefits of Mcmtech on sheriff departments.

[Watch Full Video Here](#)



IACP President's Message: The Year Ahead

It's an incredible honor to serve as the president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), and I have so many people to thank for pouring into me and lifting me up to get to this point in my life and career.

As director of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, I've seen firsthand the power of collaboration, innovation, and leadership in shaping the future of policing. IACP represents more than 35,000 members across 180 countries, and together, we stand at a pivotal moment in our profession.

This year, I'm calling on each of you to get engaged, be active, and to **STEP UP and STEP IN**. We need your efforts on our committees, sections, and divisions. We need your insights, your voice, and your engagement. We need you to encourage your peers to become members and to get involved. The IACP is the largest professional association for police leadership in the world, but we can and should be bigger. As a membership organization, we have been growing steadily year over year for some time now. But I think we have an opportunity before us to see exponential growth over this next year. The question you may have is WHY?

The current status of our world is WHY. The world needs police leadership now. There is a void that provides space for discontent to be sowed. There is division that has grown worldwide, and the world needs a stable force to **STEP UP and STEP IN**. The IACP can lead that force. In policing, we stand in the gap between competing forces all the time. Our role is to be the calm and the voice of reason—to point North and press for truth and justice and a commitment to the rule of law.

The IACP has consistently taken a stand to press forward with policy that supports community safety. What I have learned in my travels to several continents now is, while we may have differences in structure and in practice, policing is similar worldwide. The IACP is intentional with our efforts to ensure that the lens of our international footprint is always used in the development of our positions, and it informs our conversations with political representatives globally.

There are things that I am passionate about and will continue to emphasize during my year in this role. First is the continuation of the IACP Trust Building Campaign that was started five years ago. It continues to move forward, and I encourage you and your agencies to sign up and make the commitment to be part of this movement. As we look to the future, I see this initiative continue, and it will morph as there is a natural next step that we will transition to through the coming year. The natural next step is focusing on culture. We are the creators of culture in our agencies. The culture of our organizations impacts everything in our communities. Culture is crafted with every decision we make, from hires to selection for training, to promotions, to discipline, and more. Literally every decision sets the tone and shows what you value as a leader. The IACP is here to support you in making informed decisions that boost culture.

A long-standing challenge our agencies have had is the effective collection, interpretation, and dissemination of intelligence information. We have slipped backward since the tragedy of 9/11, and that is not acceptable. We can and must do better, and it has to happen now. This is why I will be working with our new Law Enforcement Intelligence and Information Sharing Section to push a long-sought effort of developing a single reliable source of information for police executives and to inform the intelligence community so as to ensure the safety of our communities from terroristic acts.

An area that has been improving, but needs more work is our efforts to destigmatize mental health wellness and improve skill development with our personnel. "C suite" executives and professional athletes are known for their engagement with psychological services and personal coaches throughout their careers. In our profession, for the most part, we send an employee to psychological services only when they have been involved in a violent or traumatic incident or when we are seeking to see if they are fit for duty. If we encourage personal coaching, it is because they have failed at some task. But in the corporate and professional sports worlds, these services are utilized to gain a competitive edge by removing barriers and setting goals. Engagement with these services is proactively used to help them achieve greatness. Imagine if we packaged our programs this way. What employee does not want a competitive edge over the criminal element and among their peers? What community doesn't want high-performing police to lead their residents in all things safety? We need to change the narrative now to take better care of our personnel and our communities.

This year, let's commit to action. My plea to you is to STEP UP and STEP IN. Get involved.

Another area that I believe we must continue to press forward in is working with our academic research partners. As leaders in our communities, we do whatever we can to improve safety. We try many things that seem like good ideas, but without proper measurement prior to, during, and after, we really do not know if a given initiative, program, or strategy works. By bringing in researchers to help build a program that includes an assessment plan, we can provide critical information to our peers on the value of an effort that could be adopted and

adapted to their communities. Research to identify impactful efforts rings very Peelian and is significant for our profession.

The last area I want to touch on is technology. We have seen the impact technology can have on improving our craft. The speed of the introduction of new products is exponentially greater each year. The challenge we have is keeping up and staying on top of how the criminal element is adopting and adapting the tools for their gain as well as trying to get our communities comfortable with our use of technology. We must continue to message the guardrails that we have in place to protect the rights of those we police, even with the adoption of technologies that detractors will claim to embody “big brother.” Combined with the previous idea of robust research, we may just find a way to get the edge over the criminal element.

This year, let’s commit to action. My plea to you is to **STEP UP and STEP IN**. Get involved. Each of us needs to invite a colleague to join the IACP to grow our voice and our impact. The world is in a place right now where leadership is needed. We are the leaders that can fill this gap. I am honored to have this opportunity to represent you in this role. My commitment is to give you my all and serve you fully.

As Aristotle said, “We are what we constantly do; excellence then is not an act, but a habit.”

So, in the words of the infamous Ted Logan from the classic film Bill and Ted’s Excellent Adventure, “Be excellent to each other!”d

[Read More Here](#)





National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund Announces October 2025 Officer of the Month

Officer shields 7-year-old child running on highway in fast moving traffic, with his patrol vehicle.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (November 19, 2025) - The **National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF)** today announced Sergeant James Shields of the North Port (FL) Police Department as the Officer of the Month for October 2025. Sergeant Shields was recognized for his actions when responding to a dangerous situation involving a child who ran onto a highway.

In early October, Sergeant Shields observed a young child running in fast-moving traffic along a Florida highway. He immediately turned his patrol vehicle around and drove toward the child. When the child moved into the path of an oncoming vehicle, Sergeant Shields activated his emergency lights, steered into oncoming traffic, and positioned his vehicle to block the child from danger. The approaching motorist swerved off the roadway at the last moment, narrowly avoiding a collision with both the patrol vehicle and the child.

The child was not injured and was safely reunited with relatives following the incident.

“Sergeant Shields’ actions reflect the dedication and courage demonstrated by law enforcement officers across the country each day,” said Bill Alexander, CEO of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. “His quick response and commitment to protecting others, even in the face of personal risk, exemplify the values we honor through the Officer of the Month program.”

The Officer of the Month Award Program is sponsored by the Police Unity Tour and recognizes federal, state, and local officers who distinguish themselves through exemplary law enforcement service and devotion to duty.

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Join SCN's Winter & Holiday Safety Webinar Series

The Secure Community Network (SCN) invites you to join our Winter & Holiday Safety Webinar Series, featuring two live sessions to help you stay informed, prepared, and safe throughout the winter months.

The first session will cover our new 10-Minute Weather Safety Series: Winter Weather webinar, including an interactive Q&A where you will learn strategies to navigate snowstorms and other winter weather conditions.

In the second session, we will cover our high-demand BeAware training and introduce two new event resources: the Community Guide for Event Planning and the Security Professional's Guide for Event Planning. These resources provide practical tools to plan and organize safe, secure events year-round.



10-Minute Weather Safety Series: Winter Weather Q&A
Monday, 24 November 2025
2:00–2:30 p.m. EST

Join our 10-Minute Weather Safety Series: Winter Weather Q&A webinar. Participate in a live Q&A with experts sharing practical tips and guidance to stay safe and prepared this winter.

Featured Presenter:

Murray Snow, SCN Emergency Preparedness Program Director

This interactive session features a live Q&A where our experts will provide practical, actionable strategies for snowstorms and other severe winter conditions, alongside best practices for emergency planning. You will be familiarized with the essential steps and considerations to help yourself and your community remain prepared, safe, and resilient throughout the season.

[Register Now](#)



BeAware Training & Event Security Guide Webinar
Thursday, 04 December 2025
2:00–3:00 p.m. EST

Join us for BeAware, SCN's Introduction to Situational Awareness Course, and our Event Planning Guides overview. This session covers the fundamentals of situational awareness and how to recognize suspicious or potentially dangerous behavior. You will also learn how to respond effectively to potential emergencies in synagogue, at school, or out in the community. No prior security experience is required.

Featured Presenters:

John Piser, SCN Deputy Director of Planning & Preparedness
Chad Lotman, SCN Training Program Director

To kick off the session, we will introduce two new guides developed by SCN and our network partners: the Community Guide for Event Planning and the Security Professional's Guide for Event Planning. The webinar will provide a brief overview of these new resources and detail how they can be applied in your community.

[Register Now](#)

Articles We Read This Week



Federal immigration crackdown in Charlotte, North Carolina, has ended, sheriff's office says

A federal immigration crackdown based in Charlotte, North Carolina's largest city, is now over, a local law enforcement agency said Thursday.

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Border Patrol preparing to leave Charlotte; plan to mobilize in New Orleans next

Border Patrol is preparing to end their immigration enforcement operation in Charlotte, North Carolina, nearly a week after the agency first deployed agents to the state's most populated city, two officials at the Department of Homeland Security told NBC News Thursday.

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Cities and states are turning to AI to improve road safety

Cities and states in the U.S. are turning to AI to improve road safety. Hawaii is distributing 1,000 dashboard cameras to monitor road conditions and reduce traffic fatalities.

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After years of reform, NOPD close to exiting federal consent decree: 'It's a new department'

The 2011 federal consent decree changed the course of an NOPD thought of as a national symbol of bad policing. "This community loves on their police department. This police department loves on their community. That's transformation, folks."

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University of Central Oklahoma students solving cold cases with Midwest City Police

The University of Central Oklahoma and the Midwest City Police Department are partnering together to solve cold case crimes.

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AI is reinventing crime and cops aren't ready

AI-powered crimes surge as law enforcement lags.

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FEMA head resigns. Richardson had been hard to reach during Texas floods.

David Richardson resigned Monday after a brief tenure leading the Federal Emergency Management Agency

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Upcoming Events



**National Sheriffs' Association
Winter Conference**

Washington, DC
January 31, 2026-February 4, 2026

[Learn More Here](#)



**National Narcotic Officers'
Associations' Coalition
2026 Delegate Meeting & Conference**

Washington, DC
February 2, 2026- February 4, 2026

[Learn More Here](#)



**Major County Sheriffs of America
2026 Policy Conference**

Washington, DC
February 5, 2026- February 7, 2026

[Learn More Here](#)



**National Fusion Center Association
2026 Annual Training Event**

Washington, DC
March 30, 2026-April 2, 2026

[Learn More Here](#)



**American Correctional Association
2026 Winter Conference**

Long Beach, California

[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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