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2018-01

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS A JOINT RESOLUTION WITH
THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE ACCEPTING THE
NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL POSITION ON CANNABIS (MARIJUANA) AND
DRIVING REGARDING THC PER SE LEGISLATION**

**Support of National Safety Council Position on Cannabis (Marijuana) and Driving
Regarding THC *Per Se* Legislation**

Submitted by DRE (Drug Recognition Expert) Technical Advisory Panel

WHEREAS, the number of states, territories, and countries legalizing medical and recreational cannabis products continues to increase; and

WHEREAS, vehicle crash fatalities continue to be one of the most frequent causes of death internationally; and

WHEREAS, drugged driving and drug-related crashes, deaths, and injuries continue to occur at an alarming rate; and

WHEREAS, successful prosecution of impaired driving incidents is a necessary component of the efforts to decrease roadway injuries and deaths; and

WHEREAS, numerous states and territories have put forth, or adopted legislation creating a *per se* prohibited level of Delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in blood; and

WHEREAS, the rapid elimination of THC from blood significantly challenges the use of forensic samples to represent the driver's state at the time of driving; and

WHEREAS, numerous scientific studies fail to identify a threshold level of Delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in blood as a basis for *per se* legislation;

RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association joins with the International Association of Chiefs of Police supporting the National Safety Council's Alcohol, Drugs, and Impairment Division in supporting that organization's *Position on Cannabis and Driving* publication, which sets forth conclusions that operating vehicles under the influence of THC increases risk of injury and death and that there is no minimum blood THC concentration which a driver can be considered unaffected after recent cannabis product consumption.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all law enforcement officials, highway safety officials, and Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) Program coordinators, should take the position with their legislative and governing bodies that there is no scientific basis for the adoption of THC *per se* legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all law enforcement officials, highway safety officials, and DEC Program coordinators, should take the position with their legislative and governing bodies that impaired driving statutes should prohibit operating a vehicle under the influence of cannabis and public safety efforts should prioritize the expansion of law enforcement training in recognizing and articulating drug impairment in drivers.

Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs' Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs' Association.



2018-02

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION ON YOUTH TRIED AS ADULTS

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) is dedicated to evidence-based juvenile and criminal justice reform measures that improve public safety and reduce recidivism.

WHEREAS, decades of research and the U.S. Supreme Court have confirmed that youth are neurologically, socially, and developmentally different from adults, and therefore are more likely to be rehabilitated by developmentally appropriate treatment and intervention.

WHEREAS, the juvenile justice system was developed to address the specific behavioral, developmental, and mental health needs of youth and are therefore better equipped to hold and treat them after an offense has been committed.

WHEREAS, 45 states and the District of Columbia either treat 17-year-olds as juveniles or have passed legislation to treat them as juveniles in the near future.

WHEREAS, every state has a legal mechanism to prosecute youth who have committed the most serious and violent crimes as adults.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association supports efforts that grant juvenile courts original and exclusive jurisdiction over cases involving youth under the age of 18, unless there is evidence, reviewed by a judge, that rebuts the presumption that a youth can be safely rehabilitated in the juvenile system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association supports efforts that to the extent possible under the law, keep youth under age 18 in juvenile justice facilities instead of adult facilities, unless evidence to the contrary is presented to the court that the youth is a serious and imminent threat to others in the juvenile facility.

Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs' Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs' Association.



2018-03

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS FBI CALL FOR ACTION ON
ENCRYPTION, A MAJOR PUBLIC SAFETY PROBLEM**

WHEREAS, cybercrime is out of control, and law enforcement and U.S. policymakers must do more to combat the global scourge represented by the cyber threat;

WHEREAS, the Nation's sheriffs, working through the National Sheriffs' Association, are committed to making a difference in combating the cyber threat, working in partnership with federal agencies within President Trump's Administration, and with municipal and tribal police, district attorneys and attorneys general, and other local and state law enforcement;

WHEREAS, the Nation's sheriffs increasingly see their efforts to investigate criminal activity of all kinds—human trafficking, counterterrorism, counterintelligence, gangs, organized crime, child exploitation, and cyber—being stymied by private firms' unilateral private commercial decision to “encrypt” smart phones and other devices and apps, which preclude anyone from accessing the encrypted data without a secret password or other secret data, in the name of cyber security;

WHEREAS, when a judicial warrant or other judicial order complying with constitutional due process requirements authorizes law enforcement to access information on a smart phone or other device or app, it is absolutely unacceptable, under the U.S. criminal justice system, that anyone's unilateral private commercial decision should prevent law enforcement from doing its job of investigating criminal activity conducted in compliance with constitutional due process;

WHEREAS, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has for years raised this encryption problem as a major barrier to the conduct of federal criminal investigations of all kinds, and sheriffs and their local and state law enforcement partners are increasingly seeing their own constitutional criminal investigations being stymied by the same encryption problem;

WHEREAS, FBI Director Christopher Wray has recently called this encryption problem a “major public safety problem”, and has called for information security programs that are thoughtfully designed so they “don't undermine the lawful tools needed to keep the Nation safe”;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association joins the FBI in supporting strong information security measures, including strong encryption, which are implemented in a way consistent with both the rule of law and strong cyber security;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association urges the U.S. Congress to exercise leadership in the nation's public safety interest to pass federal legislation to assure that no one's unilateral private commercial decision to encrypt data can be implemented in such a way as to prevent law enforcement from carrying out criminal investigations that are conducted in compliance with constitutional due process requirements.

Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs' Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs' Association.



2018-04

**SUPPORT FOR 2018 MODEL ORDINANCE FOR ALARM MANAGEMENT
AND FALSE ALARM REDUCTION**

Proposed by: Crime Prevention and Private Security Section of the Outreach Committee

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) supports efforts of the life safety, alarm, and electronic security industries, represented by the Security Industry Alarm Coalition; and,

WHEREAS, NSA recognizes the importance of strong relationships between law enforcement and the private sector; and,

WHEREAS, NSA recognizes the importance of accountability in false alarm reduction to maximize officer safety and efficiency in the deployment of law enforcement resources; and,

WHEREAS, NSA acknowledges that correctly installed, operated and monitored electronic security systems are effective resources which help to deter crime, assist in apprehensions, reduce property loss and potentially save lives; and,

WHEREAS, NSA recognizes the need to focus on the credibility of alarms received by Public Safety Answering Points from alarm companies and private entities through the establishment of best practices as contained in this Model Ordinance for Alarm Management and False Alarm Reduction, duly vetted and recommended Crime Prevention and Private Security section of the Outreach Committee; and,

WHEREAS, NSA recognizes the need for and value of strong enforcement recommended in this Model Ordinance to achieve the desired reduction in alarm dispatches experienced by police agencies,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NSA, duly assembled at its 2018 Annual Conference in New Orleans, LA, encourages the use of this 2018 Model Ordinance for Alarm Management and False Alarm Reduction and all of the best practices it contains by law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve.

Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs' Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs' Association.



2018-05

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE
REGIONAL INFORMATION SHARING SYSTEMS® (RISS)**

WHEREAS, the RISS Program was established by Congress in 1974 to enhance the ability of local, state, federal, and tribal law enforcement member agencies to identify, target, arrest, and prosecute criminal conspirators and support law enforcement investigations and prosecution efforts;

WHEREAS, RISS serves as one of the nation's most comprehensive law enforcement information sharing resources, building more than 45 years of trust among its more than 143,000 participants and users;

WHEREAS, RISS has more than 9,000 participating agencies, including 1,700 sheriffs' offices, and contains hundreds of available resources;

WHEREAS, RISS successfully assists law enforcement agencies in predicting, deterring, identifying, apprehending, and convicting violent and destructive offenders, such as violent criminals, drug traffickers, gang members, child predators, organized criminal elements, human traffickers, and criminals who steal the identity of others;

WHEREAS, RISS operates the only secure, Web-based nationwide network, known as the RISS Secure Cloud (RISSNET), for communication and exchange of criminal intelligence and other investigative information by local, state, federal, and tribal participating law enforcement agencies; RISSNET is a leader in developing and implementing a single sign-on solution;

WHEREAS, RISS developed the RISS Officer Safety Event Deconfliction System (RISSafe), which stores and maintains data on planned law enforcement investigative events, with the goal of identifying and alerting nearby law enforcement agencies and officers of potential geographical conflicts to help avoid "blue on blue" or friendly-fire tragedies;

WHEREAS, our nation's citizens expect criminal justice agencies to protect our communities from violence, terrorism, drugs, and other criminal activities;

WHEREAS, the success of RISS is dependent upon all law enforcement agencies sharing target and operation information of their criminal investigations;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association supports RISS as a valuable information sharing tool, investigative support service, and officer safety resource for law enforcement;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association strongly supports increased funding in Congress for RISS.

Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs' Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs' Association.



2018-06

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS
DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM (D.A.R.E.)**

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association recognizes the nationwide seriousness of drug abuse, heightened abuse of opioids and prescription drugs, and violence by our nation's youth, and the urgent need to use and expand school-based prevention education programs throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, the day-to-day struggle against alcohol abuse, tobacco, drugs, bullying, cyber abuse, and violence requires a long-term national, state, and local effort and commitment; and

WHEREAS, since 1983, the D.A.R.E. program has taught millions of elementary, middle, and high school students decision-making skills for safe and healthy living so that they resist the pressure to be involved in high risk behaviors; and

WHEREAS, D.A.R.E. trains local deputy sheriffs and other law enforcement officers who in turn serve as a local resource in helping educate young people on how to resist peer pressure and refrain from drug use, violence, bullying, and other high-risk behaviors; and

WHEREAS, the D.A.R.E. program strengthens the relationship and builds trust between law enforcement and young people through the D.A.R.E. officer's presence in classrooms throughout America teaching students decision making for safe and healthy living; and

WHEREAS, Government and society must address the use of illegal drugs, opioids, tobacco, and alcohol, as well as prescription drug abuse among youth by building knowledge of the warning signs and risks associated with substance abuse, and providing them the decision making skills to resist these and other high risk behaviors; and

WHEREAS, D.A.R.E. instructors, parents, teachers, health care professionals and all other interested parties who help our nation's youth grow into responsible, successful adults, are strengthening our country, and contributing to a future of hope for everyone;

NOW THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association acknowledges and actively supports the efforts of D.A.R.E. Programs to significantly reduce/eliminate the use of alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, opioids and prescription drugs, and other high risk behavior by our nation's youth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association strongly urges sheriffs' offices across our nation to utilize D.A.R.E. program in their communities.

Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs' Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs' Association.



2018-07

**NSA HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS DEVELOPMENT OF A
PLAN TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL CORPS OF COMMISSIONED LAW
ENFORCEMENT CYBER INVESTIGATORS, TRAINED & CERTIFIED BY NSA.**

WHEREAS, cybercrime is out of control, and the nation's sheriffs, their law enforcement partners, and U.S. policymakers must do more to combat the global cyber threat;

WHEREAS, the NSA Homeland Security Committee's Cybersecurity and Crime Work Group, Chaired by Sheriff David Goad (Ret.), and whose members include sheriffs and deputies, state and local police, prosecutors, and private sector firms, has been working diligently on developing approaches and solutions that can be executed upon by the nation's sheriffs, working in and through the NSA, to make a difference in combatting the cyberthreat, and is focused especially on NSA Training and Certification Programs that can aid sheriffs and their partners in investigating and prosecuting cybercrimes, and in making sheriffs' Offices more cybersecure;

WHEREAS, the nation's Railroad Police, commissioned private law enforcement personnel authorized under state and federal law to investigate railroad crimes, first arose during the 19th Century, when railroads began operating in newly-opened and sparsely-populated rural areas in which railroads and their passengers and freight were highly vulnerable to railroad bandits, and existing law enforcement institutions were unable to respond to the law enforcement challenge;

WHEREAS, the need for a law enforcement response to the cyber threat is entirely analogous to the Railroad Police historical model and precedent, and part of the solution to the law enforcement challenge presented by the cyberthreat could possibly be found in the Railroad Police model and precedent;

WHEREAS, the work group has developed and presented to this Committee a concept paper entitled "Commissioning A National Corps of Commissioned Law Enforcement Cyber Investigators, Based on the Railroad Policing Precedent & Model, and Led By the Nation's Sheriffs";

WHEREAS, the work group is proposing a plan of action to create and commission a national corps of commissioned law enforcement cyber investigators that investigate and support prosecution of cybercrimes, based on the Railroad Police precedent and model; it proposes that these cyber investigators be trained and certified by NSA, and affiliated in a full-time or voluntary capacity with the nation's sheriffs; and it proposes that a sheriff-led program to this end be developed in consultation with U.S. and Canadian Railroad Police;

NOW THEREFORE, this Committee supports the work of the NSA Cybersecurity and Crime Work Group, in general, and thanks Sheriff Goad and the work group members for their efforts on behalf of sheriffs and public safety in the face of the rapidly emerging cyber threat;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Committee requests that the work group work with NSA leadership and staff, other law enforcement partners, and others, to develop a more complete plan for developing a national corps of commissioned law enforcement cyber investigators, led by the nation's sheriffs and trained and certified by NSA, for presentation to this Committee at its Annual Conference in New Orleans.

Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs' Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs' Association.



2018-08

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE INVENTORYING,
TESTING, AND TRACKING OF ALL RAPE KITS CONNECTED TO A REPORTED
CRIME**

WHEREAS, every 98 seconds someone in America is sexual assaulted¹; and

WHEREAS, after an assault, a victim may choose to have evidence of the crime collected and preserved in a rape kit. The process, conducted by a doctor or nurse, is an exhaustive and invasive four- to six-hour examination of the victim's body for DNA evidence left behind by the attacker; and

WHEREAS, when tested, DNA evidence from rape kits can be an incredibly powerful tool to solve and prevent crimes. It can identify unknown assailants, confirm known suspects, identify serial offenders by linking crimes together, and exonerate the innocent; and

WHEREAS, analyzing DNA samples from sexual assault cases can help prevent future attacks by taking violence offenders off the streets; and

WHEREAS, across the country law enforcement agencies have found untested rape kits and the Joyful Heart Foundation estimates that there are more than 225,000 previously unsubmitted rape kits in storage; and

WHEREAS, many communities' rape kit testing efforts are taking violent offenders off the streets—many whom have escaped justice for decades—and improving public safety; and

WHEREAS, researchers studying backlog testing in Detroit found that testing rape kits from both stranger and acquaintance cases led to the identification of 18 serial offenders through case-to-case associations, and researchers studying backlog elimination efforts in Cleveland found that over half of backlogged kits were connected to serial perpetrators; and

WHEREAS, As of January 2018, testing unsubmitted kits in Cleveland, Detroit, and Memphis has resulted in the identification of nearly 1,313 suspected serial rapists. These serial offenders, linked to kits in just three cities, have committed crimes across at least 40 states and Washington, D.C. They have not just committed rape—many have been linked to other violent crimes as well; and

¹ Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2010-2014 (2015).

WHEREAS, the Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research and Education at Case Western Reserve University found testing just 4,300 previously unsubmitted kits in Cleveland saved the community \$38.7 million dollars, or \$8,893 per tested sexual assault kit; and

WHEREAS, federal funding under the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative is available for jurisdictions to test kits, build rape kit tracking systems, investigate leads, prosecute cases, and provide survivors with ongoing support services; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 National Institute of Justice’s “National Best Practices for Sexual Assault Kits: A Multidisciplinary Approach” report recommends that all work to end the backlog be multidisciplinary, survivor-centered, and trauma-informed; and

WHEREAS, testing every rape kit connected to a reported crime within a timely manner; conducting recurring inventories; developing tracking systems for rape kits; and creating victim notification protocols that ensure victims are informed about the status of their kits and cases are federal best practices; and

WHEREAS, every rape kit that goes untested is a missed opportunity for justice for survivors and to promote public safety for the greater community;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs’ Association acknowledges the power of DNA and DNA technology to solve cases, to bring a path to healing and justice to sexual assault survivors, and to take repeat and violent perpetrators off the streets. Be it further resolved that the National Sheriffs’ Association supports the inventorying, testing, and tracking of all rape kits connected to a reported crime, and the right of survivors to know the status of their rape kit and their case.

Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs’ Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs’ Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs’ Association.



2018-09

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION ENDORSES
GROWTH THROUGH OPPORTUNITY (GTO)**

WHEREAS, positive community interactions are of paramount importance to the Office of the Sheriff and to law enforcement agencies across the country.

WHEREAS, information published by the National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability showed that approximately 50-80% of an officer's encounters are with a person with a disability. Responding to calls involving individuals with varying disabilities can pose shifting challenges for law enforcement officers. Additionally, research indicates that people who have developmental disabilities will have up to seven times more contact with law enforcement than a non-disabled member of the public. (Curry et al, 1993).

WHEREAS, relevant, specialized disabilities awareness training provides law enforcement officers with a level of understanding and empathy so as to properly and safely handle situations and avoid potentially harmful consequences and liability. Recognizing and effectively responding to common characteristics and behaviors associated with developmental disabilities would reduce the amount of time spent on calls.

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), developmental disabilities are defined as a group of conditions due to an impairment in physical, learning, language, or behavior areas beginning during the developmental period and may last a lifetime. Recent estimates in the United States show that about one in six, or about 16%, of children aged 3 through 17 years have one or more developmental disabilities, such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism spectrum disorder, cerebral palsy, hearing loss, intellectual disability, learning disability, vision impairment, and other developmental delay.

WHEREAS, according to The Arc of the United States, the nation's leading community-based advocacy organization operating nearly 700 chapters across the country for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families, and as the premier provider of the supports and services people want and need, the majority of adults with I/DD are either unemployed or underemployed, despite their ability, desire, and willingness to work in the community. The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) regularly reports the percentage of working-age people with disabilities in the labor forces is about one-third that of persons with no disability.

WHEREAS, A.J. Drexel Autism Institute published a report indicating young adults with autism had lower employment rates and higher rates of complete social isolation than people with other disabilities. Autism spectrum disorder, a developmental disability that can cause significant social, communication and behavioral challenges, is believed to affect 1 in every 59 children in the United States (CDC, 2018).

Between 75-85% of adults with autism are unemployed.

WHEREAS, an individual with a disability may have a limited capacity to protect themselves, avoid or escape victimization, seek assistance, or to report crimes in an articulated manner.

WHEREAS, building safer communities is a responsibility that must be shared through collaborative efforts including local law enforcement, other public safety agencies, the disabilities community and the larger community.

WHEREAS, Growth Through Opportunity (GTO) is a non-profit organization operating a National Award-Winning Apprenticeship Program which trains law enforcement, firefighters, and/or civilians as job coaches providing vocational skills training within public safety facilities and courthouses. GTO's unique training model creates opportunities for GTO Cadets with I/DD to develop long-term relationships with first responders. First responders and GTO Cadets grow immensely in their respective levels of understanding by being partnered together in various settings, drastically decreasing negative encounters during future, real-life situations.

WHEREAS, the GTO Cadet Program provides a unique opportunity for law enforcement personnel to work alongside individuals with varying disabilities while sharing information related to the use of calling 911 for assistance, drugs, personal and internet safety, and how to recognize and avoid bullying, exploitation, victimization, and other related crime prevention measures.

WHEREAS, Growth Through Opportunity (GTO) operates with a unique approach to creating enriched communities by increasing socialization, communication, and vocational skills for program participants, and by exposing participants to various real-life experiences, leading to increased cultural and personal awareness.

WHEREAS, Growth Through Opportunity (GTO) utilizes a replicable training model incorporating best practices for learning including: making sure the material presented is engaging, relevant to the GTO Cadets' lives, and will have immediate usefulness. The training environment is safe and welcoming, allowing GTO Cadets to have an opportunity to share their knowledge, skills, strengths, and experiences.

Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs' Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs' Association.

WHEREAS, Growth Through Opportunity (GTO) is endorsed by the National Down Syndrome Society and The Arc of the United States. GTO was proudly featured by the United States Department of Justice C.O.P.S. Office, Special Olympics, Autism Speaks, and Project Lifesaver International.

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association supports programs designed to foster understanding and respect for the law by individuals with disabilities and to combat unlawful behavior and victimization of some of society's most vulnerable citizens.

WHEREAS, the safety of all members of our communities, including people with disabilities, is top priority for law enforcement.

WHEREAS, employment plays a critical role in the everyday lives of individuals with disabilities by expanding their access to community resources, commerce, medical care, housing and recreation while boosting local economy and enriching their lives.

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association supports the creation of safer communities which uphold community awareness, acceptance, and inclusion of people with disabilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the National Sheriffs' Association acknowledges and actively supports the efforts of Growth Through Opportunity to significantly and positively impact the lives of law enforcement and people with disabilities, and their caregivers, by increasing positive interactions between law enforcement officers and the disability community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the National Sheriffs' Association endorses and strongly urges law enforcement across our nation to utilize the Growth Through Opportunity (GTO) Cadet Program in their local communities.



2018-10

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS PROTECTION OF
SPECTRUM USED IN SUPPORT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT**

WHEREAS, our nation, communities and public safety continue to face a serious threat of violent crime, drug crises, and terrorists threats; and

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association is a national leader in the effort to lead, protect, and serve our communities and is committed to doing our part to keep our people and communities safe and secure, and;

WHEREAS, America's law enforcement community must continue to have at its disposal the necessary communications tools and associated wireless spectrum to support mission critical prevention and response activities; and

WHEREAS, Multiple bands of wireless spectrum needed by public safety are at risk of being reallocated or shared with consumer use; and

WHEREAS, Section 6103 of Public Law 112-96 passed in February 2012 requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to reallocate and auction the Public Safety T-Band spectrum in the 470-512 MHz band and remove public safety operations from the band; and

WHEREAS, some members of Congress have sponsored or co-sponsored bill H.R.5085 to repeal Section 6103 of Public Law 112-96 to the benefit of public safety and the public it protects; and

WHEREAS, the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network administered by the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) is essential for broadband mobile data, but is not expected to be a substitute for proven mission critical voice systems for a number of years, if ever, and

WHEREAS, The FCC implemented a license freeze in the T-Band spectrum that prevents public safety and critical infrastructure entities from expanding current T-band operations to meet operational needs; and

WHEREAS, the law enforcement and related public safety communities relies on the 4.9 GHz band to support 24/7 connections to fixed surveillance cameras increasingly necessary for law enforcement protection of the public and for secure WiFi networks not shared with consumers; and

WHEREAS, certain FCC Commissioners have publicly expressed a strong interest in reallocating the 4.9 GHz (4940-4990 MHz) Public Safety spectrum for commercial use; and

WHEREAS, the FCC is considering allowing unlicensed consumer operations in the 6 GHz microwave band (5.925-6.425 GHz) relied on by the nation's law enforcement and other public safety entities, utilities, railroads and other key users for links between critical fixed locations; and

WHEREAS, the reliability of spectrum sharing mechanisms being considered by the FCC for the 6 GHz band have yet to be proven; and

WHEREAS, the FCC repeatedly highlights the benefit of making spectrum available to accommodate the seemingly insatiable desire for commercial licensed and unlicensed broadband use by consumers; and

WHEREAS, the FCC's focus on accommodating the data-centric desires of consumers cannot be allowed to override more essential considerations of public safety and other critical users;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association encourages the Congress to complete repeal of Section 6103 of Public Law 112-96 expeditiously, as addressed in H.R. 5085; and

FURTHER RESOLVES that the National Sheriffs' Association encourages the FCC to lift its licensing freeze in the T-band spectrum; and

FURTHER RESOLVES that the National Sheriffs' Association encourages Congress and the FCC to seriously consider existing and prospective public safety operations in the 4.9 GHz band spectrum before making further decisions on the band; and

FURTHER RESOLVES that the National Sheriffs' Association encourages the FCC to ensure full protection of 6 GHz band public safety and other critical operations from interference that could occur from opening the band to unlicensed consumer use.

Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs' Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs' Association.



2018-11

**THE NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION RECOGNIZES AND SUPPORTS
RESULTS-BASED SOLUTIONS THAT ADDRESS OR SOLVE THE MULTITUDE
OF CHALLENGES THAT INNEFFECTIVE BORDER SECURITY HAS
CAUSED OUR NATION**

WHEREAS, local solutions and programs are no longer a thought, but a reality for bringing relief to our citizens who consciously choose to live near our international boundaries; and

WHEREAS, local law enforcement is best suited to understand their geographic community needs and solutions based on the expectations of their citizens. Community policing begins and succeeds at the local level; and

WHEREAS, no longer are the border problems and issues we face confined to the international border communities, these problems and issues have now spread across the United States and impacted agencies and budgets in every state of our nation; and

WHEREAS, sheriffs maintain that it is our constitutional and statutory duty to protect and secure the freedoms and liberties of our citizens, with or without the help of our federal and state law enforcement partners/policy makers; and

WHEREAS, having the immediate experience of living and working as sheriffs in our respective counties border security has been a continuous educational lesson. Not only have we witnessed the escalation of violence by these assailants on our citizens, we have also seen the successes that can be accomplished through a coordinated tiered law enforcement response with local, state, and federal partners working in cooperation with prosecutorial agencies; and

WHEREAS, our successes as engaged sheriffs were based upon:

- Frequent and direct communication with all local, state and federal agencies;
- Common goals that address real issues;
- Working on these issues at the local level;
- 100% Consequence delivery and prosecution; and

WHEREAS, this turnaround can be attributed to four critical developments:

- 1) Significant upgrades in tactical infrastructure;
- 2) Increased manpower for United States Border Patrol;
- 3) The implementation of Operation Streamline, which created a program designed for the 100% prosecution of illegal immigrants apprehended that are involved in criminal activity;

- 4) The implementation of Operation Stonegarden, which created partnerships with Federal and local law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, working with limited budgets and staffing, sheriffs struggle to find ways to maintain the quality of life and safety for those they serve and to deter those who cross our borders to promote their criminal enterprises and activities. Unfortunately, sheriffs witness a lack of engagement, communication and coordination from the state level with sheriffs who have spent their careers knowing what is needed and are ignored; and

WHEREAS, the federal government needs to look at a change in engagement on how best to address border security; and

WHEREAS, sheriffs support reasonable criminal background checks for all granted citizenship; and

WHEREAS, sheriffs support equitable and fair cost sharing to all non-federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, sheriffs that detain illegal criminal aliens and honor ICE detainers shall be indemnified under civil law and tort law; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association supports this administration's change in the "because we have always done it that way" mentality. The National Sheriffs' Association further recommends this administration partnering with sheriffs on border security to ensure the safety first and foremost to our citizens, law enforcement officers and communities.

Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs' Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs' Association.



2018-12

NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION (NSA) SUPPORTS THE ENFORCEMENT PARTNERSHIP KNOWN AS BASIC ORDERING AGREEMENTS (BOA) BETWEEN DHS (ICE), MAJOR COUNTY SHERIFFS' OF AMERICA (MCSA) AND NSA THAT AIM TO PREVENT THE RELEASE OF CRIMINAL ALIENS BACK INTO THE COMMUNITY.

WHEREAS, NSA, MCSA, and ICE places a high priority on enhancing public safety through the arrest and removal of criminal aliens from the United States.

WHEREAS, when an alien is arrested on a local criminal charge, all too often, they are subsequently released before ICE has the opportunity to pick them up from a local jail.

WHEREAS, ICE's valued state and local law enforcement partners are being challenged in court for facilitating the secure and orderly custodial transfer of criminal aliens to ICE.

WHEREAS, recognizing these challenges, the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) and the Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA) worked with ICE to develop a new process to clarify that aliens held by these jurisdictions are held under the color of federal authority, thereby affording local law enforcement liability protection from potential litigation as a result of faithfully executing their public safety duties.

WHEREAS, a BOA is an existing procurement tool for acquiring a substantial, but presently unknown, quantity of supplies or services. BOA is not a contract, but rather is a set of terms negotiated between an agency and a service provider that contain a description of services to be provided, terms applicable to a future order between the parties, and a method for pricing, issuing, and delivering on future orders.

WHEREAS, the immigration detainer issue has been difficult and challenging. Under this new process, sheriffs holding illegal criminal aliens in their jails and prisons are afforded liability protection from potential litigation when faithfully executing public safety duties.

WHEREAS, America's more than 3,000 sheriffs across the nation are grateful to the administration, and the Department of Homeland Security to advance and implement this commonsense solution

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, NSA supports gradually expanding implementation with willing law enforcement partners in the future.

Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs' Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs' Association.



2018-13

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS SEAMLESS
INTEROPERABILITY OF 9-1-1 AND NEXT GENERATION 9-1-1 NETWORKS**

WHEREAS, members of the National Sheriffs' Association are responsible for the operation of many 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Centers (ECCs) throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, ECCs will increasingly become nerve centers, managing data-rich communications with 9-1-1 callers and first responders from routine calls to major events, acting not only as the first link in the response chain, but the critical hub through which all communications flow from start to finish of any incident; and

WHEREAS, the entire emergency response system should have seamlessly interoperable communications, meaning that a citizen can send information such as a photo or video to a 9-1-1 center that is capable of receiving, analyzing, and sharing it with field responders or other 9-1-1 centers; and

WHEREAS, ECCs should be able to receive calls and related data from 9-1-1 callers, hand off calls and related data to other ECCs regardless of jurisdictional boundaries, call handling or computer aided dispatch solutions, and share incident-related data with responders in the field without the need for costly after-the-fact integrations or specialized interfaces; and

WHEREAS, ongoing efforts to modernize 9-1-1 systems and ensure seamless interoperability will empower public safety telecommunicators to make increasingly critical contributions to the safety and security of the general public, as well as first responders, and will provide significant benefits to homeland security; and

WHEREAS, while ECCs are beginning to upgrade their systems to IP-based technology, such early stages of Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG 9-1-1) deployments are not seamlessly interoperable, with adverse consequences to emergency responses for law enforcement, fire, and EMS; and

WHEREAS, ECCs should have the freedom to choose whatever solution is best for them, knowing that doing so will not limit their ability to interoperate with other ECCs that choose different equipment and service providers or are located across jurisdictional boundaries; and

WHEREAS, leading public safety associations, including the National Sheriffs' Association, have in the past partnered in the Public Safety Alliance to collectively advocate for needed improvements to emergency communications.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association fully supports the imperative of seamless interoperability for 9-1-1 and NG 9-1-1 to help best ensure efficient and effective emergency response and save and protect lives; and

FURTHER RESOLVES, that the National Sheriffs' Association encourages the reconstitution of the Public Safety Alliance to work collectively to advocate for seamless interoperability of 9-1-1 and NG 9-1-1 networks.

Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs' Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs' Association.



2018-14

**NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE EFFORTS OF STOP
UNDERRIDES AND ADVOCACY FOR COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SAFETY**

WHEREAS, the NSA encourages support of law enforcement agencies across the United States in their efforts to prevent and curtail civilian and first responder deaths, injuries, and property damage due to underride events and to encourage proper reporting of these events; and

WHEREAS, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety estimates that in 2016, 1,475 Americans were killed in passenger vehicle collisions involving commercial vehicles. Of those deaths, 295 were the result of side-impact deaths; 238 were the result of rear impact deaths; 915 were the result of frontal collision deaths; and, 27 people died when their vehicles struck an unknown part of the commercial vehicle; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation, approximately 4,000 people have been killed in [crashes involving underride](#) between 1994 and 2014. Of that number, approximately 1,530 were related to side underride crashes; and

WHEREAS, underride incidents are the result of a “geometric mismatch” between the floor of a tractor trailer, and the hood of passenger and first responder vehicles. Although passenger vehicles -- including law enforcement vehicles and first responders -- are equipped with safety features such as crumple zones and airbags, in a truck underride crash those safety features are rendered ineffective. Due to the [geometric mismatch](#) between commercial vehicles and passenger vehicles and the lack of effective comprehensive underride protection on commercial vehicles, an underride crash can have devastating consequences for the occupants of passenger vehicles; and

WHEREAS, every year hundreds of fatalities occur after vehicles collide with and traveling underneath commercial vehicles. According to NHTSA, 80-90% of commercial vehicle crashes result in a vehicle underride. Although demonstrably underreported, over 4,000 American lives have been lost during the previous 19 years since the last underride regulation was issued in 1998; and

WHEREAS, these substandard designs can be retrofitted and adapted with the proper side guards and rear guards that will provide passenger vehicle protection that works to correct this “geometric mismatch” to better protect roadway drivers and traffic safety; and

Be It RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association and The National Sheriffs' Association's Traffic Safety Committee believe that retrofitting commercial vehicles is vital to the efforts to prevent these crashes from occurring, first and foremost and also to lower roadway deaths, injuries, and property damage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs' Association and the National Sheriffs' Association's Traffic Safety Committee encourages further collaborative efforts by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; the Federal Highway Administration; the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration; the Governors Highway Safety Association; the National Sheriffs' Association and the International Association of Chiefs of Police to monitor and collect data that properly identifies underride deaths caused by Commercial Vehicle-involved crashes.

Approved by the Board of Directors of the National Sheriffs' Association on June 18, 2018, at the Annual Conference of the National Sheriffs' Association, New Orleans, Louisiana. This resolution to remain in effect until June 24, 2022, in accordance with Article XIII, Section 6 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Sheriffs' Association.