



NATIONAL DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION

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National District Attorneys Association Applauds the Department of Justice's Establishment of the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

ARLINGTON, Virginia – This morning, the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) joined the Department of Justice (DOJ) for the announcement and installation of commissioners by the United States Attorney General William P. Barr. Our members were pleased that the Department of Justice announced that Commonwealth's Attorney for the City of Chesapeake, Virginia and NDAA President-elect Nancy G. Parr, was chosen to serve as a commissioner by Attorney General Barr. Commissioners were charged by the Attorney General to evaluate current law enforcement practices within the criminal justice system, including the use of technology, data and other advancements and challenges facing the law enforcement community in order to evaluate efforts to enhance public safety and improve the overall functioning of the criminal justice system.

A longtime priority of the law enforcement community, the federal government has not organized a formal review of the criminal justice system since 1967. Announced by President Donald J. Trump in October, the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice will address pivotal issues in the criminal justice community including challenges involving the effectiveness of contemporary best practices, recruitment and retention of law enforcement officers, new developing methodologies to combat violent crime, and the effects of technological innovations in the criminal justice system. The Commission is comprised of federal, State, local, and tribal law enforcement officials alongside experts in the criminal justice field to ensure a diverse, experienced group of voices can provide recommendations to the field on combatting violent crime and protecting the communities our members serve.

For the Commission to succeed in its goals of improving community safety, the prosecutor's perspective should be accounted for and included in any serious evaluation of the justice system. NDAA is thankful to the administration for prioritizing public safety by establishing the Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice and looks forward to assisting the commissioners as they conduct the first comprehensive and meaningful review of the criminal justice system in nearly half a century.

Formed in 1950, NDAA is the oldest and largest national organization representing state and local prosecutors in the country. With more than 5,500 members representing over two thirds of the state and local prosecutors' offices, NDAA is recognized as the leading source of national expertise on the prosecution function and is a valuable resource for the media, academia, government, and community leaders. NDAA's mission is to provide state and local prosecutors with the knowledge, skills, and support they need to ensure that justice is done and that public safety rights are protected.