

Speech by: Robert Morgan

To: North Carolina Sheriff's Association
Boone, North Carolina

July 20, 1970

ON THE PIN NETWORK

I was pleased to receive your invitation to come to Boone and speak to the North Carolina Sheriff's Association. Even before I formally assumed my duties as your Attorney General, the members of this organization offered to help us in preparing to meet the challenges which were sure to face us after we were sworn in.

Many of you will remember that we were not long in calling upon you for that help. One of the first items of business after the November election was to try to analyze the condition of the State Bureau of Investigation and determine how we could best make it serve local law enforcement officers and in turn the people of communities and counties throughout our state.

Morale in the Bureau at that time was low. For years, the Bureau had received little legislative support and it had been forced to operate with a minimum staff and on a shoestring budget. Nothing short of the dedication

of many of the senior agents and staff members held the Bureau together and made it function as well as it had.

It was obvious to us that something had to be done to improve the morale of the agents and expand the scope and improve the quality of services rendered to you by the Bureau. At that time it appeared to us that if the image of the Bureau was not improved that it would soon be of little service to any one.

We felt that before we made any move which would substantially change the Bureau that we should consult with one of its major clients, the North Carolina Sherrifs. Your executive committee on two nights came to Raleigh to confer with us as we wrestled with questions which would ultimately determine the direction which the State Bureau of Investigation would take.

I can't begin to tell you how much we appreciated your giving us the benefit of your practical experience and your very sound advice. Soon afterwards Charles Dunn was appointed to Direct the Bureau and I think it is

obvious that the course you helped chart for us has greatly increased the effectiveness of the Bureau and the image of all law enforcement agencies in the State.

This is not the only time that we called on your organization for assistance and you have come. When the Police Information Network was still in its infancy, it ran into very serious difficulties. These were policy matters and great importance to law enforcement which had to be resolved. Again you came to our aid; you met with us for long hours over in the law and order building in Raleigh. I remember very well the tense moments I shared in that room with sherrifs like Dale Johnson, Nick Clark, Bob Pleasants, Malcolm McLeod, and Carl Axum. It looked like for a while that the project was lost, but through reason and compromise we worked out a plan for development and control of the Network which I think is going to work and work well.

We got the PIN Network off the ground that night but when the Legislature came to town things started happening so fast I could hardly keep up with

them and it looked like we were about to lose the system. Thank goodness the officers of this Association heard the distress call which went out and came down to Raleigh to indicate your support for the system and the role which we all believe it will eventually have in making law enforcement more effective throughout our State. You people came to Raleigh in numbers, you contacted key legislative leaders and the bill went through establishing the Network in the Department of Justice and dedicating it to the service of the 100 sherrifs and 375 police department in North Carolina.

Of course we were pleased and I am equally pleased today to tell you that the development of the system under the direction of Howard Livingston of our Department is progressing on schedule.

Specifications for the central computer were released by the State Purchase and Contract Division on June 8. A conference was held in Raleigh, June 23, to give bidders an opportunity to ask any questions which they might want answered prior to subletting their final

· bids. Thursday the sealed bids will be received from the competing companies and we plan to make a selection within a week or ten days after receiving them.

In the meantime, Mr. Livingston is working with our consultants from Burlington Management Services Company and officials from Southern Bell Telephone and Western Union to work out a system of transmission lines to crisscross the State and connect terminals in your local offices with the central computer in Raleigh.

Thus far we have looked at a number of terminals which could be used in the PIN system but have not made a final decision. However, we now have in mind one which would have a sort of typewriter keyboard for entering information and a television type viewer for examining information requested. In addition, the terminal would have a device for making paper copies if needed. We plan to make the final selection of terminal type shortly after the contract for the central computer has been awarded.

It nows appears that barring unforeseen difficulties---and there is always the possibility we will hit a snag---the computer system, terminal lines, and some

of the video terminals will be ready for use by November of this year. Certainly, we hope so.

I am proud of the fact that North Carolina Law enforcement officials have worked together to initiate plans for and bring into being a project like the PIN Network. Certainly, it speaks well for the spirit of cooperation which I think we now have in our ranks and points the way to greater progress through cooperation in the future.

I certainly do not want any of us to forget that the PIN Network was conceived through the efforts of the Governors Law and Order Committee for it illustrates so very well the kind of leadership the Committee can provide and the role it can play in coordinating projects which involve many agencies and cross jurisdictional lines. It illustrates how the Law and Order Committee can supplement the efforts being made in local towns and communities to upgrade law enforcement services and make your jobs easier.

Memorandum to: Attorney General

From: Ed Beddingfield

Subject: Superior Court cases pending

Following is the information you requested concerning the composition of the Superior Court dockets in the indicated counties:

	ONSLow	NEW HANOVER	BUNCOMBE	MECKLENBURG	GUILFORD	FORSYTH
Cases Pending	67	223	380	1070	718	112
Cases Disposed of last term	18	161	30	112	72	-
New Cases since last term	7	101	17	31	77	-
Murder Cases Pending	2	9	13	35	15	6
Oldest Murder Case	3-70	1-68	8-68	1-70	7-68	5-70
Drug Cases Pending	3	18	13	65	101	3

Six-County Totals:

Cases Pending	2570
Cases Disposed of Last Term	393
New Cases Since Last Term	233
Murder Cases Pending	80
Oldest Murder Case	1-68
Drug Cases Pending	203