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ORGANIZED CRIME IN NORTH CAROLINA

THERE IS NO DOUBT TODAY THAT ORGANIZED CRIME EXISTS IN THIS COUNTRY. THIS EXISTENCE AND THE GREAT DANGERS WHICH ORGANIZED CRIME PRESENTS TO THIS COUNTRY HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED NOT ONLY BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS BUT ALSO BY THE PRESIDENT, THE CONGRESS, AND NATIONAL BUSINESS AND CIVIC GROUPS SUCH AS THE UNITED STATES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. IN THIS STATE, MY OFFICE, INCLUDING THE SBI, IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS PROBLEM.

WE KNOW FOR ONE THING WHAT CAN HAPPEN IF ORGANIZED CRIME IS ALLOWED TO GAIN A FOOTHOLD IN A COMMUNITY FOR IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THE MOB STARTS CONTROLLING THE WHOLE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING SOMETIMES EVEN CITY HALL. THEREFORE, WE FEEL LIKE WE MUST BEGIN TO TAKE STEPS NOW TO PREVENT THE INFLUX OF THIS ELEMENT INTO OUR STATE. THERE IS NO QUESTION IN THE MINDS OF THOSE CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF COMBATING ORGANIZED CRIME, THAT IT IS CERTAINLY MUCH MORE EFFECTIVE TO TAKE STEPS WHICH WOULD PREVENT OR DISCOURAGE ORGANIZED CRIME INTEREST FROM GAINING A "FOOTHOLD" IN A PARTICULAR

AREA RATHER THAN INITIATING ACTIONS AGAINST THE ORGANIZATION, ONCE ESTABLISHED.

IN ADDITION WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE REPORTS INDICATING THE EXISTENCE OF ORGANIZED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY ALREADY IN THE STATE. ORGANIZED CRIMINAL ELEMENTS MUST KNOW THAT THEY ARE NOT WELCOME HERE IN NORTH CAROLINA, AND THAT OUR PEOPLE WILL NOT TOLERATE THEIR EXISTENCE.

WHEN WE TALK ABOUT ORGANIZED CRIME, THE FIRST QUESTION WE ALWAYS ASK IS "WHAT IS IT?"

YOU WILL PROBABLY GET A DIFFERENT ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION DEPENDING ON WHAT PART OF THE COUNTRY YOU ARE IN. IN NEW YORK, CHICAGO, WASHINGTON OR MIAMI, "ORGANIZED CRIME" PROBABLY WOULD BE DEFINED AS LA COSA NOSTRA OR THE NATIONAL CRIME SYNDICATE WHICH IS MADE UP BY AN ESTIMATED TWENTY-FOUR (24) POWERFUL SO-CALLED MAFIA TYPE FAMILIES WHO HAVE BANDED TOGETHER IN SORT OF A LOOSE COALITION TOGETHER WITH LOCAL CRIME CZARS AROUND THE COUNTRY. THESE POWERFUL ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BECOME TO A DEGREE THE "GENERAL MOTORS" OF THEIR INDUSTRY AND HAVE BANDED TOGETHER TO PREVENT TROUBLE, DRIVE OUT COMPETITION, AND GIVE AID AND ASSISTANCE TO EACH OTHER.

HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE A BAD MISTAKE TO LIMIT OUR DEFINITION OF ORGANIZED CRIME TO THESE LA COSA NOSTRA FAMILIES AND TO THINK THAT IF WE DO NOT HAVE FAMILY MEMBERS RESIDING AND OPERATING IN OUR STATE THEN WE DON'T HAVE ORGANIZED CRIME.

"ORGANIZED CRIME" IS ANY GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO BAND TOGETHER IN A CONTINUING CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY WHERE PROFIT AND POWER ARE THE MOTIVE AND UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES ARE THE MEANS. A SMALLER SCALE

ORGANIZED CRIME GROUP OPERATING IN A COMMUNITY IN NORTH CAROLINA CAN POSE JUST AS GREAT A PROBLEM FOR THAT COMMUNITY AS ONE OF THESE POWERFUL "MAFIA" FAMILIES CAN FOR A CITY SUCH AS NEW YORK.

IN DEFINING JUST WHAT ORGANIZED CRIME IS, WE MUST REMEMBER THAT IT IS NOT JUST A SPORADIC BUSINESS VENTURE BUT RATHER AN ON-GOING BUSINESS EVEN THOUGH THERE MAY BE JOINT VENTURES WITH OTHER GROUPS. TARGETS ARE PLANNED, EXPENSES ARE FIGURED, AND PERSONNEL IS RECRUITED JUST LIKE YOU MIGHT DO IN YOUR OWN BUSINESS OR PROFESSION. IF THE BUSINESS IS SUCCESSFUL, LAWYERS AND ACCOUNTANTS ARE USED; NEW TERRITORIES AND PRODUCTS MIGHT BE SEARCHED OUT AND SUBSIDIARY GROUPS MIGHT BE TAKEN IN. IN SHORT, IF LEFT ALONE, A LOCAL ORGANIZED CRIMINAL GANG WILL BECOME MORE AND MORE POWERFUL AND SOPHISTICATED.

ANOTHER QUESTION YOU MIGHT ASK IS "WHY IS ORGANIZED CRIME ANY DIFFERENT FROM ORDINARY STREET CRIME?"

I BELIEVE ONE REASON IS SIMPLY BECAUSE IT IS "ORGANIZED." THE ARREST OF A LOWER LEVEL MEMBER OF THE GROUP WILL NOT DISSOLVE THE GANG'S OPERATION EVEN THOUGH IT IS THESE MEMBERS WHO DO THE DIRTY WORK FOR THE GANG. THE TRULY DISTINGUISHING FACTOR WHICH SETS THE ORGANIZED ACTIVITY APART IS THE FACT THAT THE HIGHER ECHELON, THE TOP MEN WHO ACTUALLY RUN THE ORGANIZATION, ARE SO WELL INSULATED AND FAR REMOVED FROM THE PHYSICAL ACTS OR PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE VIOLATION THAT THEY BECOME EXTREMELY "HARD TO GET TO."

ANOTHER THING THAT MAKES ORGANIZED CRIME DIFFERENT FROM ORDINARY STREET CRIME IS THE NATURE OF THE ILLEGAL ACTIVITY

IN WHICH ORGANIZED CRIME USUALLY ENGAGES. THESE ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN LABELED "CONSENSUAL OR VICTIMLESS CRIMES" WHICH INCLUDE SUCH THINGS AS GAMBLING, LOAN-SHARKING, PROSTITUTION, NARCOTICS, ILLEGAL LIQUOR TRAFFIC, LABOR RACKETEERING, AND FENCING OF STOLEN PROPERTY. GAMBLERS DO NOT REPORT THEIR BOOKIES, DRUG ADDICTS DO NOT REPORT THEIR PUSHERS AND BUYERS OF STOLEN GOODS DO NOT REPORT THE PERSON WHO SOLD THEM TO HIM OR THAT THE GOODS WERE STOLEN.

SINCE THERE ARE NO COMPLAINTS, AN UNDERWORLD OPERATION CAN GO ON FOR YEARS IN RELATIVE SECRECY. MANY POLICE OFFICIALS CONCLUDE THAT THE ABSENCE OF COMPLAINTS MEANS THE ABSENCE OF ORGANIZED CRIME. NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH.

ANOTHER MISCONCEPTION THAT MOST PEOPLE HAVE IS THAT ORGANIZED CRIMINAL GROUPS LIMIT THEIR ACTIVITIES TO THESE SO-CALLED VICTIMLESS CRIMES. THIS SIMPLY IS NOT TRUE.

WE KNOW THAT THESE ORGANIZED CRIME GROUPS INCLUDING THE LA COSA NOSTRA FAMILIES WILL DO JUST ABOUT ANYTHING ILLEGAL TO MAKE A DOLLAR, SO LONG AS AN EVALUATION OF THE RISK INVOLVED TENDS TO INDICATE THE WORTHLINESS OF THE VENTURE. LEADING UNDERWORLD FIGURES AROUND THE COUNTRY WHO MOST PEOPLE, INCLUDING LAW ENFORCEMENT, THOUGHT WERE ENGAGED ONLY IN ACTIVITIES SUCH AS GAMBLING AND LOAN-SHARKING, HAVE RECENTLY BEEN CAUGHT AND CONVICTED OF SUCH THINGS AS HI-JACKING, ARMED ROBBERY, MURDER, THEFT OF STOLEN SECURITIES AND BURGLARIES.

A MAN WHO HAD A NATIONAL GAMBLING LAY-OFF OPERATION, WAS RECENTLY CAUGHT IN ATLANTA USING STOLEN CREDIT CARDS. NOT

TOO LONG AGO A TOP LIEUTENANT IN THE BUFFALO, NEW YORK, LA COSA NOSTRA FAMILY WAS CAUGHT AND CONVICTED FOR ORDERING THE BURGLARY OF A HOUSE THOUGHT TO CONTAIN A LOT OF MONEY IN ELIZABETHTOWN, NORTH CAROLINA.

IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT MOST ORGANIZED CRIME LEADERS GOT THEIR START AS BOOTLEGGERS BACK IN THE PROHIBITION ERA. WHEN PROHIBITION WAS REPEALED, THESE PEOPLE USED THE SAME CONTACTS AND KNOWLEDGE THAT THEY HAD ACQUIRED IN BOOTLEGGING TO GO INTO OTHER FIELDS. IT SEEMS THAT ONE THING THESE PEOPLE WERE NOT GOING TO DO IS GO OUT AND EARN AN HONEST DOLLAR.

ONE OF THE MOST FRIGHTENING ASPECTS OF ORGANIZED CRIME IS ITS INFILTRATION INTO LEGITIMATE BUSINESS. THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE REPORTED THAT "RACKETEERS CONTROL NATIONWIDE MANUFACTURING AND SERVICE INDUSTRIES WITH KNOWN AND RESPECTED BRAND NAMES." FOR EXAMPLE, ONE CRIMINAL SYNDICATE REPORTEDLY OWNS REAL ESTATE VALUED AT THREE-HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS. EVEN MORE STARTLING, RECENT DISCLOSURES BY SENATE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEES SHOW THAT ORGANIZED CRIME NOW CONTROLS LARGE BANKS AND HAS INFILTRATED WALL STREET WHERE IT STEALS AND MANIPULATES STOCKS AND BONDS. IT HAS ALSO BEEN REVEALED THAT ORGANIZED CRIME OWNS HOTELS, MOTELS, RESTAURANTS, GARBAGE COLLECTION COMPANIES AND MANY OTHER BUSINESSES. FINALLY, MANY OF THE SYNDICATES HAVE RECENTLY BEEN FORMING SHELL CORPORATIONS AND SELLING STOCKS IN THESE CORPORATIONS BASED ON FRAUDULENT BALANCE SHEETS.

WHEN WE LOOK AT THE INFILTRATION OF LEGITIMATE BUSINESS

BY ORGANIZED CRIME, WE ARE LOOKING AT THE LOGICAL RESULTS OF THE ACCUMULATION OF MASS UNTAXED PROFITS. LEGITIMATE BUSINESS PROVIDES MANY THINGS TO ORGANIZED CRIME. IT PROVIDES A PLACE FOR ORGANIZED CRIME TO INVEST ITS ILLEGAL MONEY IN ORDER TO TURN DIRTY MONEY INTO CLEAN MONEY. IT MAY PROVIDE A SOURCE OF INCOME WITHIN ITSELF BECAUSE THE BUSINESS MIGHT BE A VERY PROFITABLE ONE.

IT PROVIDES A SOURCE OF REPORTABLE INCOME FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES. IT MAY PROVIDE A COVER FOR ILLEGAL OPERATIONS AND IT USUALLY PROVIDES A CERTAIN RESPECTABILITY AND SOCIAL STANDING FROM WHICH ORGANIZED CRIMINALS CAN INFILTRATE AND CORRUPT PUBLIC OFFICIALS. THE VENDING MACHINE BUSINESS HAS BEEN UTILIZED BY ORGANIZED CRIME IN SOME OF THE NORTHERN CITIES IN THIS RESPECT.

TO WHAT DEGREE DO WE HAVE AN ORGANIZED CRIME PROBLEM IN NORTH CAROLINA?

TO A LARGE EXTENT WE JUST DO NOT KNOW THE SCOPE OF OUR PROBLEM IN THIS STATE. TO REALLY FIND A TRUE PICTURE OF THE OPERATIONS OF AN ORGANIZED CRIMINAL GROUP, WE NEED UNITS OF SPECIALLY TRAINED PERSONNEL WHO CAN DEVOTE ALL THEIR TIME AND ENERGIES TO THIS TASK. WE DO KNOW THAT NORTH CAROLINA IS NOT A MAJOR HOME BASE FOR ANY OF THE RECOGNIZED LA COSA NOSTRA FAMILIES. IT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED, HOWEVER, THAT SEVERAL OF THESE RECOGNIZED ORGANIZED CRIME FAMILIES ARE REPRESENTED IN NORTH CAROLINA AND RECENT INDICATIONS TEND TO SHOW THAT THEY MAY BE BECOMING MORE ACTIVE IN THIS STATE.

FOR INSTANCE, OUR STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION HAS WITHIN THE PAST FEW MONTHS RECEIVED INFORMATION ALLEGING THAT ORGANIZED CRIMINAL ELEMENTS ARE ATTEMPTING TO BUY INTO MOTELS AND INVEST CONSIDERABLE AMOUNTS OF MONEY IN RESORT DEVELOPMENTS HERE IN NORTH CAROLINA. WE HAVE LEARNED RECENTLY THAT A FATHER AND SON LIVING IN NORTH CAROLINA HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN SMUGGLING CIGARETTES INTO NEW YORK AND TURNING THESE CIGARETTES OVER TO IDENTIFIED ORGANIZED CRIME CONNECTIONS THERE.

IN THE AREA OF CIGARETTE SMUGGLING, A PRELIMINARY REPORT OF A NEW YORK STATE INVESTIGATING COMMISSION CAME OUT SEVERAL MONTHS AGO STATING THAT THE ORGANIZED CRIME FAMILIES IN NEW YORK HAVE NOW ALMOST COMPLETELY TAKEN OVER THE CIGARETTE SMUGGLING BUSINESS. THE PROFITS IN THIS RACKET ARE ENORMOUS.

AS ALL OF YOU KNOW, MOST OF THE CIGARETTES ARE BOUGHT RIGHT HERE IN NORTH CAROLINA; YET, THESE RACKETEERS ARE NOT VIOLATING ANY OF OUR LAWS. THERE IS A STRONG INDICATION THAT ONE WHOLESALE COMPANY IN NORTH CAROLINA IS ALREADY CONTROLLED BY THE MOB, AND THE NEW YORK POLICE TELL US THAT THE NEXT STEP FOR THE SYNDICATE WILL BE TO TRY TO INFILTRATE THE TOBACCO COMPANIES THEMSELVES. ALSO, HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF CIGARETTES ARE BEING HI-JACKED AND ACCORDING TO REPORTS, TRUCKING COMPANIES CAN NO LONGER GET INSURANCE TO HAUL CIGARETTES. RECENTLY WE HAVE SEEN A SERIES OF CIGARETTE HI-JACKINGS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA.

WITHIN THE PAST FEW MONTHS WE HAVE LEARNED OF THE CONVICTIONS OF FIVE PERSONS WITH ALLEGED ORGANIZED CRIME CONNECTIONS IN

A NEW YORK FEDERAL COURT ON CHARGES ARISING OUT OF THE SMUGGLING OF CIGARETTES FROM THIS STATE.

WE DO HAVE WELL-ORGANIZED NARCOTIC RINGS OPERATING IN NORTH CAROLINA. NARCOTICS ARE OFTEN FLOWN INTO THIS STATE IN PRIVATE PLANES. NOT LONG AGO, ONE INDIVIDUAL WHO LIVES IN EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA WAS ARRESTED WITH ENOUGH HEROIN IN HIS POSSESSION TO BRING IN EIGHT-MILLION DOLLARS ON THE STREETS. EARLIER THIS YEAR, OPERATION EAGLE WAS AN EFFORT BY FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND OUR STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION TO CURB THE FLOW AND SOURCE OF HEROIN IN OUR STATE. IT WAS THROUGH THIS EFFORT THAT AN INTERNATIONAL HEROIN SMUGGLING RING WAS IDENTIFIED WITH HEADQUARTERS IN THE EASTERN PART OF OUR STATE.

NORTH CAROLINA ALSO HAS SEVERAL LARGE ORGANIZED CRIME GANGS THAT OPERATE ALL OVER THE STATE. ONE OF THESE GANGS SPECIALIZES IN STEALING FARM EQUIPMENT. THEY WILL TAKE AN ORDER FOR A LARGE TRACTOR AND THEN GO OUT AND LOCATE A SIMILAR TRACTOR AND STEAL IT.

ANOTHER GROUP SEEMS TO SPECIALIZE IN BREAKING INTO EXCLUSIVE RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS THROUGHOUT THE STATE. THESE JOBS ARE CARRIED OUT BY REAL PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE FULLY EQUIPPED WITH EVERYTHING THEY NEED TO AVOID DETECTION INCLUDING THE USE OF POLICE RADIOS. IN ONE INCIDENT THE LEADER OF ONE OF THESE GANGS UTILIZED PERSONS EMPLOYED AS HOME REPAIRMEN WHO COULD EASILY GAIN LEGITIMATE ENTRY TO A RESIDENCE AND WHILE THERE MAKING REPAIRS WOULD "CASE" THE RESIDENCE IN ORDER TO

PROVIDE DETAILED PLANS FOR THE BURGLARY WHICH WOULD OCCUR SUBSEQUENT TO THE REPAIRMEN'S VISIT.

THERE IS ALSO A BAND OF CRIMINALS WHO OPERATE IN NORTH CAROLINA AS WELL AS OTHER STATES THROUGHOUT THE SOUTH THAT HAVE BEEN LABELED THE DIXIE MAFIA. THESE PEOPLE ARE INVOLVED IN JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING ILLEGAL INCLUDING BREAKING-AND-ENTERING, FENCING STOLEN MERCHANDISE, NARCOTICS AND CONTRACT MURDERS. TWO OF THEM FROM ATLANTA WERE RECENTLY CAUGHT BREAKING INTO SOME HOMES IN THE EASTERN PART OF THE STATE. WE COMMONLY REFER TO THIS ELEMENT AS TRAVELING CRIMINALS. THEY FREQUENTLY WORK FROM STATE TO STATE WITH ASSOCIATES IN THE PARTICULAR STATE AND GENERALLY HAVE NO SET PATTERNS OF OPERATIONS.

IN ADDITION, NORTH CAROLINA HAS ITS GAMBLING OPERATIONS. WE KNOW THAT GAMBLING IS THE BIGGEST MONEY-MAKER FOR ORGANIZED CRIME. THE MOST CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE IS THAT GAMBLING PROVIDES A NET PROFIT TO ORGANIZED CRIME OF OVER SIX BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR. THE BREAK-UP OF ONE LARGE GAMBLING OPERATION IN THE CHARLOTTE AREA WAS RECENTLY ANNOUNCED BY THE FBI. STILL, WE KNOW THAT THERE ARE LOTTERY OPERATIONS GOING ON IN THIS STATE AS WELL AS HIGHLY ORGANIZED SPORTS BOOKMAKING. UNFORTUNATELY, KNOWN GAMBLING RACKETEERS FREQUENT OUR STATE OFTEN. WE VERY DEFINITELY NEED TO TIGHTEN OUR LAW IN THE AREA OF GAMBLING. PRESENTLY WE HAVE NO FELONY STATUTE FOR ANY TYPE GAMBLING VIOLATION. ALL GAMBLING VIOLATIONS NOW FALL WITHIN THE AREA OF MISDEMEANORS.

ORGANIZED CRIME MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO GO UNCHECKED. IF

IT IS, IT WILL SPREAD LIKE A CANCER.

WHEN AN ORGANIZED CRIMINAL OPERATION IS ALLOWED TO GO UNCHECKED, IT HAS MANY EFFECTS ON THE WHOLE COMMUNITY. IT PROVIDES A MODEL OF SUCCESS FOR IMPRESSIONABLE YOUTH IN OUR GHETTOS AND POOR AREAS. IT HAS A DIRECT RELATIONSHIP TO STREET CRIME THROUGH ENCOURAGING NARCOTIC ADDICTS TO STEAL, PROVIDING FENCING OPERATIONS FOR BURGLARS AND SHOPLIFTERS AND BY ENGAGING DIRECTLY IN BURGLARIES AND HI-JACKING.

WHEN ALLOWED TO GAIN ENTRY INTO LEGITIMATE BUSINESSES, HONEST BUSINESSMEN AND CONSUMERS ARE THE LOSERS. THE HONEST BUSINESSMAN CANNOT COMPETE WITH THE ORGANIZED CRIME OPERATION BECAUSE HE DOES NOT HAVE THE VAST UNTAXED RESOURCES NOR DOES HE USE THE ILLEGAL METHODS THAT ORGANIZED CRIMINALS WILL NOT HESITATE FOR A MINUTE TO USE. ALSO REMEMBER THIS: THE PUBLIC TAX BURDEN IS INCREASED WHEN ORGANIZED CRIME DRAINS BILLIONS OF UNTAXED DOLLARS FROM OUR ECONOMY -- DOLLARS THAT COULD BE USED FOR EDUCATION, HOUSING, RESEARCH AND SOCIAL SERVICES.

THIS SURELY IS AN AREA WHERE AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION IS WORTH A TON OF CURE, SO I WOULD LIKE TO MENTION SOME OF THE THINGS THAT WE ALL MUST DO TO HELP COPE WITH THIS PROBLEM. ONCE THE ORGANIZED CRIME SYNDICATE IS ALLOWED TO GET ITS FOOT IN THE DOOR OF YOUR BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY, IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO REMOVE IT. THERE IS A NORMAL REACTION AMONG BUSINESSMEN THAT IT CAN NEVER HAPPEN TO ME. THUS, FEW COMPANIES TAKE ANY ACTIVE STEPS TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AGAINST EXPLOITATION.

THOSE OF US CONNECTED WITH THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM MUST DO MANY THINGS TO CONTROL AND PREVENT ORGANIZED CRIME IN NORTH CAROLINA. WE MUST INCREASE AND EXPAND INTELLIGENCE EFFORTS. WE MUST SUCCESSFULLY ARREST AND PROSECUTE ORGANIZED CRIMINALS. WE MUST FIGHT FOR NEW LEGISLATION AND GREATER APPROPRIATIONS TO FIGHT ORGANIZED CRIME. WE MUST EDUCATE THE PUBLIC TO THE DANGERS OF ORGANIZED CRIME AND INFORM THE PUBLIC OF WHAT ORGANIZED CRIME IS DOING AND MAY DO FURTHER.

DURING THE ADMINISTRATION OF FORMER GOVERNOR SCOTT, HE SIGNED AN EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING THE NORTH CAROLINA ORGANIZED CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL. THIS COUNCIL WAS COMPOSED OF SEVEN MEN AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SERVED AS CHAIRMAN. THE PURPOSE OF THE COUNCIL WAS TO TRY TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT AND SCOPE OF ORGANIZED CRIME IN THIS STATE AND TO DEVELOP A STRATEGY TO CONTROL ORGANIZED CRIME AND PREVENT ITS FUTURE ENCROACHMENT. ITS REPORT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED AND I BELIEVE IT IS HIGHLY INFORMATIVE AND USEFUL.

THE STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION HAS SET UP AN ORGANIZED CRIME INTELLIGENCE DIVISION AND HAS ASSIGNED AGENTS TO WORK FULL TIME ON ORGANIZED CRIME. SEVERAL OF THE LARGE CITIES IN OUR STATE HAVE SET UP INTELLIGENCE UNITS TO CONCENTRATE PRIMARILY ON ORGANIZED CRIME.

AS WORKING AND PROFESSIONAL MEN, YOU ALSO MUST SEEK OUT AND RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS OF ORGANIZED CRIME IN YOUR MIDST. YOU MUST ENCOURAGE YOUR BUSINESS AND TRADE ASSOCIATIONS TO ESTABLISH WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO HELP YOU KEEP INFORMED ON CRIMINAL TRENDS AND ASSOCIATES IN YOUR

INDUSTRY. YOU MUST LET YOUR TRADE ASSOCIATIONS OR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES KNOW WHO YOU ARE DEALING WITH IN BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS THAT YOU SUSPECT IS LESS THAN TOTALLY HONEST. YOU MUST COME FORWARD AND INITIATE COMPLAINTS AGAINST THOSE YOU SUSPECT ARE INVOLVED IN ORGANIZED CRIME. YOU MUST TAKE AN ACTIVE STAND ON LEGISLATION AND ENCOURAGE INCREASED APPROPRIATIONS FOR PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO FIGHT ORGANIZED CRIME.

THE SERVICES OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE AND THE STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU TO HELP SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF ORGANIZED CRIME. WITHOUT YOUR HELP AND YOUR ACTIVE COOPERATION OUR EFFORTS MAY NOT BE ENOUGH, FOR, AS LINCOLN SAID MORE THAN A CENTURY AGO, "A HOUSE DIVIDED CANNOT STAND." TOGETHER, WE IN NORTH CAROLINA AND THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES SHALL SURELY SUCCEED.