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SPEECH BY: ATTORNEY GENERAL ROBERT MORGAN

TO: REGIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME INFORMATION
CENTER CONFERENCE,
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

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THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME TO BE WITH YOU THIS MORNING.
IT'S A PLEASURE TO HAVE YOU VISIT NORTH CAROLINA AND I HOPE YOUR
STAY WILL BE BOTH PLEASANT AND PROFITABLE.

I'D LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO TELL YOU BRIEFLY ABOUT
THE PROGRESS WE'VE MADE IN NORTH CAROLINA IN SUPPORT OF LAW
ENFORCEMENT.

SIX YEARS AGO WHEN I BECAME ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE STATE'S
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WAS AN ORGANIZATION THAT WORKED VALIANTLY,
BUT WHICH WAS HANDICAPPED BY A LIMITED BUDGET, LIMITED PERSONNEL
AND LIMITED LEGISLATIVE AND PUBLIC SUPPORT.

AND THEY WERE BATTLING THE SEEMINGLY LIMITLESS RESOURCES OF
ORGANIZED CRIME AND LAW BREAKERS IN GENERAL.

IN THE 1968-69 FISCAL YEAR, THE BUREAU HAD AN OVERALL BUDGET OF \$703,000. THAT YEAR WE HAD 47 FIELD AGENTS AND 23 LABORATORY PERSONNEL.

DURING THIS FISCAL YEAR, SIX YEARS LATER, THE BUREAU HAS GROWN TO 146 FIELD AGENTS AND 117 LABORATORY PERSONNEL. THE CURRENT BUDGET IS \$5.9 MILLION.

EVEN SO, WE FIND OUR RESOURCES LIMITED BECAUSE OF THE INFLUX OF ORGANIZED CRIME INTO OUR AREA AND, WITH A GROWING POPULATION, MORE CRIMINAL ACTS.

LAST YEAR, FOR EXAMPLE, THE NUMBER OF BANK ROBBERIES IN THE STATE SET A NEW RECORD.

WE HAVE INCREASED THE NUMBER OF AGENTS DEALING IN THE AREA OF ORGANIZED CRIME FROM TWO IN 1969 TO 30 AGENTS TODAY, HELPED BY FEDERAL FUNDS THIS YEAR.

WE'VE TAKEN OTHER STEPS BESIDES INCREASING THE NUMBER OF AGENTS AND THE BUDGET. WE HAVE UPGRADED THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR AGENTS AND INCREASED THE EMPHASIS ON THEIR INTERNAL TRAINING.

TO MEET OUR NEEDS, WE OBTAINED LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY TO CREATE THE POLICE INFORMATION NETWORK WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. BACK AS FAR AS THE EARLY SIXTIES, VARIOUS LAW ENFORCEMENT GROUPS AND AGENCIES IN THE STATE MADE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE SYSTEM OF COLLECTING AND SHARING INFORMATION.

By 1962, PLANS FOR CREATION OF A RAPID INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SYSTEM HAD BEEN FORMULATED. BUT IT WASN'T UNTIL 1968, THROUGH EFFORTS OF THE POLICE EXECUTIVES ASSOCIATION, THE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION AND THE GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE ON LAW AND ORDER, THAT ACTIVE EFFORTS WERE MADE TO USE COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY TO FIGHT CRIME.

IN 1968, FOLLOWING AN EXTENSIVE SURVEY STRESSING THE NEED FOR A COMPUTER SYSTEM, A REPORT WAS FILED BY THE GOVERNOR'S LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE THAT BECAME THE BASIS FOR RECOMMENDING THE POLICE INFORMATION NETWORK. A YEAR LATER, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY PASSED LEGISLATION CREATING THE NETWORK AND PLACED IN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.

IN THE LEGISLATION THAT CREATED IT, THE POLICE NETWORK WAS AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT AND CORRELATE INFORMATION IN CRIMINAL LAW ADMINISTRATION, TO MAINTAIN CONTROLLED ACCESS TO INFORMATION THAT WOULD ASSIST ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL IN PERFORMING THEIR DUTIES AND TO MAKE STUDIES, ANALYSES AND COMPARISONS OF THE INFORMATION COLLECTED.

IN NOVEMBER, 1969, THE STAFF WAS THE NETWORK DIRECTOR AND ONE OTHER PERSON AND THAT WAS ALL. THERE WERE NO TERMINALS IN USE AT THAT TIME.

BY AUGUST, 1971, THERE WERE 21 EMPLOYEES AND 67 TERMINALS IN OPERATION. TODAY, THERE ARE 46 EMPLOYEES AND 201 TERMINALS AND WE HOPE THAT BY JUNE OF NEXT YEAR WE WILL HAVE THE FINAL 49 TERMINALS INSTALLED AND IN USE, BRINGING THE TOTAL TO 250, LOCATED IN POLICE

AND SHERIFFS' DEPARTMENTS ACROSS THE STATE.

IT BEGAN, IN 1969, WITH A MODEST \$46,000 BUDGET. THIS YEAR THE BUDGET IS \$1.7 MILLION AND WE HAVE THE CAPABILITY OF DELIVERING INFORMATION INSTANTLY TO AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL THROUGH THE STATE.

WE'VE BEEN FORTUNATE IN NORTH CAROLINA TO HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT HAS RECOGNIZED OFFICERS' NEEDS AND THE NEEDS OF OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT INSTITUTIONS.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY UNDERSTOOD WHEN WE ASKED FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA TRAINING AND STANDARDS COUNCIL.

THEY UNDERSTOOD AND RECOGNIZED THE NECESSITY FOR ESTABLISHING MINIMUM ADMISSION AND TRAINING STANDARDS FOR ALL CRIMINAL JUSTICE PERSONNEL.

THEY UNDERSTOOD THERE WAS A NEED FOR MINIMUM SALARIES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL, FOR ONLY WITH FAIR SALARIES CAN YOU GET THE KIND OF PEOPLE YOU MUST HAVE AND INSIST UPON MINIMUM TRAINING STANDARDS FOR LOCAL OFFICERS.

TODAY WE'VE MADE THAT FIRST STEP AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS GIVEN STATE FUNDS TO ASSIST LOCAL GOVERNMENTS SO THAT A LOCAL LAW OFFICER HAS A \$6,000 A YEAR AVERAGE MINIMUM. RETIREMENT AND DEATH BENEFITS HAVE BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED.

OUR MOST RECENT ACTION IN NORTH CAROLINA WAS ANOTHER FIRST STEP, BUT WE THINK A SIGNIFICANT ONE.

THIS IS THE CREATION OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY AT SALEMBURG, NORTH CAROLINA, WHERE WE HAVE TAKEN OVER THE CAMPUS OF A PRIVATE COLLEGE THAT IS NO LONGER BEING OPERATED. THE ACADEMY WILL OPEN THIS FALL WITH A POLICE TRAINING CURRICULUM.

AS ATTORNEY GENERAL, I AM ALSO CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL THAT WILL SET POLICIES FOR THE ACADEMY, AND I AM WORKING TO INSURE THAT THE ACADEMY WILL HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO PROVIDE THE TRAINING THAT IS REQUIRED OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TODAY.

DURING THE LAST SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AN APPROPRIATION WAS APPROVED FOR \$1 MILLION FOR DORMITORY CONSTRUCTION ON THE ACADEMY CAMPUS.

IT'S IMPORTANT, I BELIEVE, TO RECOGNIZE THAT THE PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT MUST HAVE PUBLIC SUPPORT IF THEY ARE TO BE EFFECTIVE AND DO THEIR JOBS WELL. IN THIS STATE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS SUPPORTED OUR EFFORTS AND HAS MADE SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS TO ASSIST US.

BUT IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THAT SUPPORT, OFFICERS MUST BE RESPONSIVE TO THE PUBLIC.

THE POLICE INFORMATION NETWORK HAS TO BE RESPONSIVE TO THE INFORMATION NEEDS OF OFFICERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

THE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, OUR STATEWIDE INVESTIGATIVE AGENCY, MUST BE RESPONSIVE TO LOCAL OFFICIALS ON INVITATION OR REQUEST. AND IT MUST BE AT ALL TIMES AVAILABLE TO HELP.

THE PEOPLE IN OUR BUREAU ARE DEDICATED PERSONS -- ALWAYS EAGER AND READY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AT THE LOCAL LEVEL. THEIR ENTHUSIASM AND ZEAL IS A VERY REAL QUALITY.

AND WE ARE LUCKY TO HAVE SOME OF THE BRIGHTEST AND MOST CAPABLE CHEMISTS AND LABORATORY TECHNICIANS THAT CAN BE FOUND IN ANY CRIME LABORATORY IN THE COUNTRY.

THE WORK THESE PEOPLE CAN DO IS LIMITED ONLY BY FACILITIES AND THEIR PROFESSIONAL ABILITY COMPARES FAVORABLY WITH THAT OF ANY CRIME LABORATORY ANYWHERE.

THEY HAVE WON AWARDS IN NATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND THEY'VE MADE SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS IN FORENSIC CHEMISTRY, BIOLOGY AND CRIME DETECTION.

WE'RE VERY PROUD OF THEM.

IN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WE HAVE TRIED TO SHOW AND DEMONSTRATE THAT NORTH CAROLINA'S PROGRAMS ARE WORTHY OF FUNDING THROUGH LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION GRANTS. AS ATTORNEY GENERAL, I'VE BEEN A MEMBER OF THE LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE, WHICH IS THE CONDUIT FOR FEDERAL FUNDS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT.

WE'VE TRIED TO HELP SEE THAT CITY AND COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES RECEIVE THE NECESSARY LEAA FUNDS FOR EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING, AND WE'VE TRIED TO SEE THAT THE FUNDS ALLOCATED WERE PUT TO USE IN A WAY THAT WOULD MAKE THE TAXPAYERS PROUD OF THE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE USE OF THEIR MONEY. WE'VE BEEN ACTIVE IN

THE LAST SIX YEARS IN LOBBYING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS BEFORE THE NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND IN SEEING TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THESE PROGRAMS AFTER THEIR ENACTMENT.

ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL IN THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL, WE HAVE ENCOURAGED ACTIVE ROLES FOR COORDINATED LAW ENFORCEMENT AMONG AND BETWEEN LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

WE'VE SEEN THE KINDS OF RESULTS THAT ACTIVE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE VARIOUS STATES CAN ACHIEVE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE. I'LL BE QUITE FRANK, I'M PROUD OF THE WORK THAT WE'VE DONE, THE WORK THAT GOOD MEN AND WOMEN IN NORTH CAROLINA'S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAVE DONE.

MY PRIDE IN THEIR FINE WORK IS BOLSTERED BY THE FACT THAT LOCAL ENFORCEMENT, WITH THE HELP AND ASSISTANCE OF THESE SAME PEOPLE, IS ALSO MAKING GIANT STRIDES TOWARDS THE EXCELLENCE WHICH WE BELIEVE THE PEOPLE OF NORTH CAROLINA DESERVE IN LAW ENFORCEMENT.

I WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU AN APPROACH WHICH WE HAVE BORROWED FROM OTHER STATES, MODIFIED SLIGHTLY TO MEET OUR CIRCUMSTANCES, AND INCORPORATED INTO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT STRUCTURE AT THE STATE LEVEL IN NORTH CAROLINA.

FIRST, IN 1972, THROUGH A FEDERAL GRANT AND WITH SUBSEQUENT FUNDING FROM THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 1973, WE HAVE IN THE NORTH CAROLINA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, A SPECIAL PROSECUTIONS TASK FORCE.

THAT TASK FORCE IS A VERY MODEST ONE WHICH INCLUDES AUTHORIZATIONS FOR THREE CRIMINAL LAWYERS. THEIR FUNCTION IS A MULTIFACETED ONE. THEY PROVIDE TO OUR DULY ELECTED DISTRICT ATTORNEYS (SOLICITORS), ACTIVE PROSECUTION ASSISTANCE WHEN THE LOCAL PROSECUTOR REQUESTS OUR HELP IN COMPLICATED OR UNUSUAL CASES.

THESE SAME MEN PROVIDE FOR JUDGES, MAGISTRATES AND PROSECUTORS WHO ASK THEIR HELP, RESEARCH AND BACK-UP ASSISTANCE ON POINTS OF LAW RELEVANT TO ON-GOING CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS.

THOUGH THEY PREFER TO GET THEIR REQUESTS IN WRITING IN ADVANCE IN ORDER TO HAVE SOME TIME TO DO SOME RESEARCH IN DEPTH, USUALLY THESE LAWYERS ARE CALLED ON TO ADVISE JUDGES AND PROSECUTORS DURING SHORT RECESSES IN THE ACTUAL TRIAL OF A CASE.

ADDITIONALLY, THEY ARE ON CALL TO ADVISE THE STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AT ITS HEADQUARTERS OFFICES AND IN COMMUNICATIONS BY TELEPHONE AND THROUGH THE POLICE INFORMATION NET WORK FROM AGENTS IN THE FIELD. THIS IS AN ADVANCE OVER PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENTS WHICH OUR OFFICE HAD MAINTAINED WITH THE STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

A FURTHER ASPECT OF THIS PARTICULAR DIVISION IS THE INCORPORATION OF EXPERIENCED SENIOR ACCOUNTANCY-ORIENTED INVESTIGATORS OF WHOM THERE ARE NOW THREE. THESE INVESTIGATORS, WORKING CLOSELY ON A DAY-TO-DAY BASIS WITH THEIR LAWYER COUNTERPARTS, ACTIVELY PREPARE AND INVESTIGATE CERTAIN DESIGNATED CASES THAT COME TO THEM BY DESIGNATION BY ME OR FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION THROUGH ME.

THEIR CASES USUALLY INVOLVE ALLEGATIONS OF OFFICIAL CORRUPTION, MISUSE OF STATE PROPERTY, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND OTHER QUESTIONS WHICH ARISE IN UNDULY COMPLEX OR INVOLVED CASES THAT MAY REQUIRE SPECIALIZED ATTENTION. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS SPECIAL UNIT, COMBINING AS IT DOES THE TALENTS OF OUR CRIMINAL LAW-ORIENTED LAWYERS AND SENIOR ACCOUNTANCY-ORIENTED INVESTIGATORS, CAN AND WILL PRODUCE SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS IN THE WAR ON WHITE-COLLAR CRIME.

WHILE IT'S HARD TO PREDICT THE RESULTS THAT THIS UNIT WILL HAVE IN THE TRADITIONAL TERMS OF NUMBERS OF ARRESTS AND CONVICTIONS, IT'S CLEAR TO ME THAT THEIR VERY PRESENCE AND ACTIVITY IN THE AREA OF OFFICIAL CORRUPTION WILL HAVE A SALUTORY EFFECT IN DISCOURAGING VIOLATIONS OF OUR STATE'S LAWS.

I'M GLAD TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE HERE AT STILL ANOTHER ASPECT OF THE WAR ON CRIME. IT'S A SOURCE OF PERSONAL PLEASURE AND GREAT SATISFACTION TO SEE INTERSTATE COOPERATION TAKING PLACE IN NORTH CAROLINA.

I BELIEVE THAT THE GROUNDWORK LAID IN YOUR MEETINGS, THE FACE-TO-FACE ACQUAINTANCES AND FRIENDSHIPS THAT DEVELOP BETWEEN THE LEADERSHIP OF EACH OF OUR STATE'S CRIMINAL JUSTICE AGENCIES, WILL DEVELOP AND GROW AND THE FRUIT IT WILL BEAR WILL BE A BITTER ONE FOR THOSE ENGAGED IN THE LIFE OF CRIME.

I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE HERE THIS MORNING. I HOPE THAT YOUR MEETING WILL BE A SUCCESSFUL ONE AND THAT THE PEOPLE FROM NORTH CAROLINA WHO ARE PARTICIPATING WILL

CONTRIBUTE ACTIVELY AND WELL. I CONFESS THAT I ALSO HOPE THAT THEY
COME AWAY WITH SOME NEW IDEAS FOR HELPING US DO OUR JOB IN NORTH
CAROLINA EVEN BETTER. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.