

1                                   **OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF**

2                   CHAIRMAN DALEY:   Good morning.   The Finance  
3   Committee of the Cook County Board will now  
4   reconvene.   We have Thomas Dart, the Sheriff of Cook  
5   County.

6                               Welcome, Tom.

7                   MR. DART:   Thank you so much.   Thanks for  
8   having me here today.

9                               I was just going to go through an  
10   overview of my budget, and just highlight a couple  
11   of points.   I will then be happy to answer any  
12   questions.

13                              Since I have taken office, ten years  
14   pretty much, since 2006, not quite ten years, my  
15   headcount has dropped 2.2%.   That is all in spite of  
16   the fact that I had a federally-required nine  
17   percent hiring surge in correctional officers.  
18   Since I have been in office, my headcount has gone  
19   down.   My correctional staff as a result of that has  
20   gone up because of the requirement for doing that.

21                              The court side of it, my deputies have  
22   decreased dramatically as a result of that.   That is  
23   how we were able to meet the Federal requirement by  
24   not filling deputy positions as they were becoming

1 open, to maintain that, and it still dropped my  
2 overall headcount down by 2.2%.

3 One of the points I wanted to make to  
4 everyone here -- there is a lot of discussion about  
5 the jail and its population that has been going on  
6 recently. There has been a national decrease in  
7 crime throughout the country, and we are not unique  
8 to that. We are having a spike right now, as  
9 everyone is aware of, in the City of Chicago this  
10 past year. But there has been an overall decrease  
11 that has occurred basically since the '90. Since  
12 2008, there has been somewhat of a dramatic decrease  
13 as well.

14 You will see that our population  
15 inside the walls has decreased as a result of  
16 national decreases. There is all sorts of reasons  
17 that people try to tie it to, but no one has been  
18 able to nail down one, and anybody that says they  
19 have is lying to you. They are making it up. We  
20 have seen the decrease as well as everyone else.

21 The one thing that is significant for  
22 us, that has been a large cause of our decrease of  
23 the population in the jail is I went from an average  
24 of about four hundred people on electronic

1 monitoring for an extended period of time to where  
2 right now I have about 2000 people on electronic  
3 monitoring every day. A little bit over 2000. That  
4 is, frankly, because the judiciary has got very  
5 engaged in electronic monitoring.

6 As you folks know, I have been highly  
7 critical of the judiciary in some regards over the  
8 years. I can't praise them enough as far as their  
9 engagement goes in electronic monitoring. They have  
10 really been very, very engaged. On an average day,  
11 we have a little over 2000 people on electronic  
12 monitoring.

13 The biggest problem we have right now  
14 with regard to electronic monitoring -- the reason I  
15 am not quite clear, to be honest with you -- there  
16 are Judges who will order people onto electronic  
17 monitoring who do not have a house. As you can  
18 imagine, incumbent on being put on home monitoring  
19 is the home part of it.

20 On an average day, out of my budget,  
21 we spend -- I don't have the exact figure, but it is  
22 a little over one hundred twenty-something beds a  
23 day that we rent from a Safe Haven or Henry Sober  
24 Living to put people into beds that have been

1     ordered onto electronic monitoring. In spite of  
2     that, we still have over one hundred and something  
3     people that are still in my custody who have been  
4     ordered to electronic monitoring. They have no home  
5     and I have no more money to put them out. So they  
6     sit in my custody for different periods of time.

7                     Many of them, the majority of them,  
8     are all homeless. The reason I say the majority is  
9     that not all of them categorically. Some of them  
10    have a couple of issues. Some of them might be a  
11    sex offender or something like that. We can't rent  
12    a bed for them, even if we wanted to, because the  
13    rules of that house won't allow them. The majority  
14    of them it is because of their homelessness that  
15    they stay in my custody for any period of time.

16                    The other issue I wanted to mention to  
17    you as well -- because of the surge in electronic  
18    monitoring, we have had two divisions that have been  
19    empty for almost two years now. Big division, large  
20    divisions that have had nobody in them. The plan is  
21    in the coming year -- the President's Office and  
22    myself have worked really close on this -- is to  
23    knock down a couple of the older divisions because  
24    they are quite expensive. The President's Office

1 can go on and give you more specifics on the  
2 expenses for Facilities Management in maintaining  
3 these empty buildings. Our goal is to knock down  
4 three of these buildings in the coming year. Very  
5 old buildings. We believe that the population can  
6 be maintained with what we have. We have had a  
7 commitment from the President's Office, if we do  
8 have concerns, that we will be replacing a division,  
9 if we need to accommodate more people.

10 To be quite frank with you, the only  
11 way that I would agree to the ripping down of the  
12 divisions was if there was a big plan in place. The  
13 reason, as you folks all know, that we have been in  
14 the Federal Court forever is because of  
15 overcrowding. If we rip down buildings, and it then  
16 requires us to put people on the floor, we are back  
17 in a very expensive Federal lawsuit.

18 There is a plan in place with the  
19 President's Office to rip down some of the old  
20 buildings. We have tried one of them at a time. We  
21 have to make sure that the population is where it  
22 is. But all of the trends keep going that way. In  
23 the criminal world that we live in, a lot of it has  
24 to be a little bit of guesswork as far as the trends

1 go, etcetera.

2                   The one area that I cannot emphasize  
3 often enough -- we have two divisions that have been  
4 completely empty. We have another division that has  
5 a lot of empty living units in it. The one area  
6 that we have never had problems with, as far as the  
7 number of people, to the point where we are  
8 overcrowded every day and have been every day, is  
9 our mental health unit. Our mental health unit is  
10 always overcrowded. There is always people that are  
11 required to sleep in different accommodations, in  
12 the cell with either one person or two people.

13                   That is an ongoing problem. It is the  
14 broken record that I keep talking about, as far as  
15 the society killing off the mental health programs  
16 and the mentally ill are being treated as criminals,  
17 and they are being dumped into the jails in  
18 astounding numbers -- astounding numbers, folks. It  
19 is horrible.

20                   Two more points that I was going to  
21 bring up. My budget is, as I said, something that  
22 we are quite proud of because of the fact that we  
23 have been keeping our headcount down. We are  
24 eliminating a total of 138 positions in this year's

1 budget, and laying off twenty-nine people within  
2 that group as well.

3 The other issue I wanted to bring up  
4 to you is one that has been on a lot of people's  
5 lips. That has been the shootings, the guns, and  
6 the rest of it.

7 It is horrible, in the City of  
8 Chicago, and we all know about that. That is  
9 obvious. The point that does not get appreciated is  
10 what is going on out in the suburban Cook County.  
11 We are having incredible crime problems out there.  
12 The professionalism of some of the police  
13 departments out there leaves a lot to be desired.  
14 Everyone knows that. That is not a state secret  
15 that I am divulging here.

16 As a result of this, our office is  
17 called in often, all the time extensively on speed  
18 dial. I have a Mayor of one of the towns in the  
19 south suburbs now has given me a building. We built  
20 a substation in his town because we are there so  
21 often. We just opened it last week or the week  
22 before. We are in Ford Heights full-time. We are  
23 in the towns of Robbins and Harvey all the time. We  
24 are in Maywood frequently as well. We continue to

1 get more and more calls.

2                   This one number I think is something  
3 that should put things in perspective. As I say,  
4 there is always the discussion about the number of  
5 guns taken off the streets in Chicago during the  
6 course of a year. The numbers from the streets of  
7 Chicago break down to 0.75 guns per thousand people.  
8 In just the town of Harvey, just my department, we  
9 are taking 1.8 guns per thousand people. Double  
10 what the City of Chicago is taking in guns. The  
11 city of Robbins, the town of Robbins, 1.7 guns per  
12 thousand people -- double what they are taking off  
13 the City of Chicago streets. The town of Ford  
14 Heights, 1.5 per thousand people. Dolton, 0.9 per  
15 thousand people. Still greater than the guns taken  
16 off in the City of Chicago.

17                   So when we are having this discussion  
18 today about the violence and the guns, where the  
19 guns are flooding the streets, how the world has  
20 missed that they are flooding suburban Cook County I  
21 will never understand. We spend I can't tell you  
22 how much time taking guns off the streets. I think  
23 we took over five hundred ourselves last year. I  
24 don't have that number in front of me right now. We



1 have been taking guns like you wouldn't believe off  
2 the streets of Chicago, the streets of Harvey, the  
3 streets of Dolton. We spend a great deal of time in  
4 the City of Chicago. Every summer we spend 23,000  
5 man-hours in the City of Chicago just taking guns  
6 off the street.

7                   We have been asked to do more. In  
8 this budget, I think we are adding five police  
9 officers. We are very happy. We are very happy you  
10 are giving us those additional police officers. But  
11 I can just tell you folks that that is the tip of  
12 the iceberg to what the needs are out there. We  
13 have towns that are collapsing. We have towns that  
14 have part-time police departments. We are being  
15 asked to come in and do more and more and more.  
16 These towns all pay their taxes, too. They are part  
17 of the County of Cook so we are there.

18                   There has been some question about us  
19 hiring new attorneys -- seventy-seven. We haven't  
20 hired seventy-seven new attorneys -- I wish -- only  
21 because I get sued so often. Have we hired more  
22 attorneys? Yes. I don't have the exact number in  
23 front of me. I can dig it up here. It is probably  
24 more in line with five - four, somewhere in that

1 range.

2 As many of you folks know, the State's  
3 Attorney's Office represents me in civil lawsuits.  
4 They are fine people, but do they have specialists  
5 for all of these different lawsuits that come  
6 against me? No, they don't. We have been bringing  
7 on some attorneys to assist, not take over the case,  
8 but to assist in that. We have found that it has  
9 brought back a lot of positive results as far as  
10 decreasing the suits against us.

11 Unfortunately for me, folks, it has  
12 been pointed out to me by a reporter in the media.  
13 He was doing a search of defendants, just lawsuits.  
14 He was doing a search on all of the lawsuits that  
15 were filed and the number of defendants that are out  
16 there, etcetera, etcetera. The number one defendant  
17 in the State of Illinois as far as being sued is the  
18 Sheriff's Office.

19 I don't know what else to tell you,  
20 folks. When it comes to having to deal with  
21 lawyers, unfortunately I deal with that pretty  
22 frequently. I keep forgetting that I am one, but I  
23 don't use it too often though -- thank God, right,  
24 Larry?

1 I will be happy to answer any  
2 questions.

3 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Boykin.

4 COMMISSIONER BOYKIN: Thank you very much,  
5 Mr. Chairman, distinguished colleagues, and citizens  
6 of Cook County.

7 Sheriff Dart, it is always good to see  
8 you.

9 I want to start out by, number one,  
10 thanking you for your leadership and commending you.  
11 I want to quote the words of Congressman Danny  
12 Davis. I think he said that you were the best  
13 Sheriff in all of America. I want to say that I  
14 agree with him wholeheartedly.

15 MR. DART: Thank you. Just don't tell  
16 Sheriff Joe.

17 COMMISSIONER BOYKIN: Let me say this --  
18 that we appreciate all that you have done to provide  
19 leadership in terms of your budget.

20 You talked about gun violence. You  
21 talked about it being a big issue in suburban Cook  
22 County. I want to appreciate you for what you are  
23 about to do in terms of appointing a gun violence  
24 coordinator.

1           MR. DART: I can't thank you enough,  
2 seriously, for taking on the initiative. As I say,  
3 there is a lot of talk about it, but as far as real  
4 action -- you get a lot of the same old - same old.  
5 We need a couple of different approaches here. You  
6 are putting a laser light focus on it, and it has  
7 been tremendously helpful.

8           COMMISSIONER BOYKIN: Thank you very much.  
9 I know that the Mayor of Chicago is going to  
10 announce later on today a violence strategy, so I  
11 heard. Part of his initiative --

12           MR. DART: This is the first I heard of it.

13           COMMISSIONER BOYKIN: Part of his  
14 initiative is hiring more minority police.

15                   I wonder if you can speak to that, the  
16 minority police. We have been visited by several  
17 people who have indicated -- I guess the latest  
18 round of hiring by the Sheriff's Office has been a  
19 few minorities in that group. Can you talk about  
20 that a little bit in terms of your numbers?

21           MR. DART: Sure. Just my old demographics  
22 from my office. I will just give you the overall  
23 part of it. It is forty-three percent Caucasian,  
24 thirty-six percent African American, nineteen

1     percent Hispanic, and about two percent Asian.

2                     We are very proud of our hiring  
3     process, and the diversity in our office speaks for  
4     itself with those numbers. I don't know if there is  
5     another office that has numbers like this, to be  
6     quite frank with you. I don't look at other  
7     people's budgets and their numbers and like, but I  
8     don't know if there are too many that are as diverse  
9     as that. We pride ourselves in that.

10                    I will tell you from the graduation  
11    ceremonies that I go to -- I swear in new  
12    correctional officers -- it is incredibly diverse.  
13    It is incredibly diverse.

14                    We make a point of it because we want  
15    our officers to be representative of the County,  
16    "A", and "B", we don't want to be tone-deaf to the  
17    fact that a lot of the issues that is going on out  
18    there with regards to law enforcement you do need to  
19    make sure that you have a diversity level that meets  
20    the community as well.

21                    We feel pretty confident we are there.  
22    The nine years that I have been here we have been  
23    feeling very confident with what we have been doing  
24    going forward. I think our numbers sort of play

1     that out.

2                   COMMISSIONER BOYKIN:  I applaud you on  
3     that.

4                   Let me also talk a little bit because  
5     I am very pleased with the work that you have been  
6     doing in terms of collaborating with the Chicago  
7     Police Department and the City.  You have been in my  
8     District a number of times, and I want to applaud  
9     you and commend you; knowing your gun statistic  
10    numbers in taking guns off the streets.  You didn't  
11    mention the First District, but Austin, East and  
12    West Garfield, and Lawndale.  Those areas have a lot  
13    of guns that you all have been able to take off the  
14    streets.

15                  MR. DART:  I have those numbers, not right  
16    in front of me, but those numbers are huge.

17                  COMMISSIONER BOYKIN:  I kind of figured  
18    that.  I just want to commend you and urge you to do  
19    more of it, if you can.

20                  How many more police officers do you  
21    think are needed?  I know you are getting five  
22    additional police officers, but in a perfect world,  
23    to do the work that you have to do, how many more  
24    police officers do you need?

1           MR. DART: Honestly, I would be lying to  
2     you if I gave you a number now. I haven't come up  
3     with that exact calculation. I will in the coming  
4     year, and I will definitely talk to you about that  
5     as I get closer to it.

6           This is so objective. This is not me  
7     just saying, "Wouldn't it be nice to have additional  
8     people hanging around?" No. The demands on us,  
9     because you were out there on the street on the west  
10    side, the amount of time that we are in the City of  
11    Chicago now, we have a bunch of operations coming up  
12    in the next few weeks, too, has been growing  
13    exponentially, "A". And, "B", these towns are not  
14    getting any better. They are going in the other  
15    direction. We have been called into the towns more  
16    and more in the suburban area than ever before.  
17    Even the State Police. We work with them regularly  
18    now on the Dan Ryan and on the Eisenhower with  
19    operations that we do with them on the weekends and  
20    the late hours because of the shootings that have  
21    been occurring on the highways as well.

22           We are being asked more and more -- I  
23    say "yes" to everyone. I don't really feel that I  
24    have the option to say "no". If I had a crystal

1 ball, I definitely think I will be back here next  
2 year asking for more police officers.

3 We will continue to be working on  
4 cutting elsewhere so in the end it is showing a net  
5 decrease, but you get to a breaking point in some of  
6 these areas.

7 COMMISSIONER BOYKIN: Last week, the US  
8 Department of Justice announced that they were  
9 releasing 6000+ individuals from prisons, from  
10 Federal prisons. About 260 of those individuals  
11 were slated to come to Illinois. These are  
12 individuals who were drug offenders. Because of the  
13 changes in the drug laws and the overcrowding at the  
14 Federal prisons, they decided to release 6000.

15 I am wondering, number one, do you  
16 know about this? And, number two, have you had any  
17 conversation as to where those individuals are going  
18 to go in Illinois?

19 MR. DART: No -- that is a good point. I  
20 am aware of it primarily and probably from the same  
21 way you are, from reading about it in the papers.  
22 What they are doing -- I applaud the notion that  
23 they are looking at the nonviolent drug offenders  
24 who were swept in in some of these laws, that may



1    have seemed appropriate at the time, but in  
2    hindsight they really look as if they were way, way  
3    over the top. So I do applaud that.

4                   The one thing that I have also been  
5    reading about is the concern that the plan for them  
6    coming back into the community is not only not  
7    really completely thought out. The other point of  
8    it, the normal process where there is a specific  
9    period of time in a halfway house before people are  
10   then moved into a community, the time that the  
11   halfway house works on jobs and integrating people  
12   back into the community. They don't have the  
13   capacities in the halfway house, and "B", the time  
14   frames they are getting for releasing people won't  
15   allow them to be in the halfway house for a period  
16   of time.

17                   My understanding that this could be a  
18   problem. This very well could be a problem. The  
19   idea is a great idea, but the execution of it could  
20   be troublesome. Because as I was talking about  
21   earlier, it isn't just the mental health services  
22   that are being cut, all sorts of programs, substance  
23   abuse, the mental health treatment -- they all are  
24   being cut. The very things that you sort of need to

1     have sprinkled in the community, that are going to  
2     help people coming back into the community, they are  
3     going in the other direction. This could be a  
4     problem.

5                 COMMISSIONER BOYKIN: The reason why I  
6     bring it up -- if there is no plan for these  
7     individuals, they are likely to reoffend. They are  
8     going to wind up in the County jail or they are  
9     going to wind up killing somebody.

10                MR. DART: That is a concern. It is a real  
11     concern. As I say, it is interesting, Commissioner,  
12     that there was, as I say, a lot of appropriate focus  
13     on the changing of the mindset in the releasing of  
14     people -- all fantastic. The sort of nuts and bolts  
15     logistics part of it -- what is the pathway going to  
16     be -- it doesn't seem that that was well-thought-  
17     out.

18                I was reading stuff yesterday or the  
19     day before that was specifically speaking to the  
20     fact that the normal process cannot take on these  
21     numbers.

22                It is what we always talk about, the  
23     thoughtlessness of the system. I am not just a one-  
24     note guy talking about the mentally ill. To me, it

1 explains it and demonstrates it pretty well. When  
2 you don't provide these types of services that are  
3 going to get people back involved in the community,  
4 what do you expect is going to happen? I think I  
5 know.

6 COMMISSIONER BOYKIN: I agree with you.  
7 You talked about the mentally ill. Let me commend  
8 you -- I had a chance to read yesterday your op-ed  
9 in the newspaper and I thought it was a great piece.

10 What can we do as a County Board to  
11 help impact this issue? Is the jail still thought  
12 of to be the number one mental health institution in  
13 the United States? What can this Board do to help  
14 assist?

15 I think there is a plan in place, I  
16 think at the Hospital, that actually sets up a  
17 triage where police can divert individuals who they  
18 think may be suffering from mental illnesses. Is  
19 that right, Madam Budget Director?

20 CHAIRMAN DALEY: I think the Hospital  
21 indicated that they were going to try to put a plan  
22 together with the police department where certain  
23 offenses, they would work with the police department  
24 and bring them to a center, not so much the

1 Hospital, but to another place so they are not  
2 arrested.

3 MR. DART: I haven't heard of that.

4 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It is in early  
5 discussions.

6 MR. DART: I haven't heard of that. The  
7 notion is a good notion. It has been done around  
8 the country and in other locations. Miami Dade, San  
9 Antonio, and a couple of other places have done a  
10 real good job.

11 It has got two components. Here is  
12 the issue, though. One component is that you train  
13 the police officers. It is called CIT training so  
14 they can treat some of these mentally ill on the  
15 street, understand that that is the issue. It  
16 really isn't a criminal issue. It is a mental  
17 health issue. That is the one component. Then you  
18 have places where you can take them.

19 It will be great to have a place where  
20 you can take folks, but we have had this discussion  
21 in our office for a while. We put all sorts of  
22 different programs in place for the mentally ill.  
23 We have a mobile unit concept that we have been  
24 putting together and working on. Originally it was

1     going to be for that very type of notion, that we  
2     would respond when a local department has somebody  
3     that they have taken into custody and has a mental  
4     health issue. We respond there, de-escalate, get  
5     the person to a hospital.

6                     The problem with it was we have 128-  
7     130 different towns and villages in the County. If  
8     their departments aren't trained in how to spot  
9     this, they will never call us. They won't know.  
10    They will just continue to arrest people.

11                    There has to be two parts to it. You  
12    have to train the people and then have the location  
13    to do it. We have started doing the training of the  
14    departments. Then the State just cut the money for  
15    the training. We have been training some of these  
16    suburban departments on the CIT training, but we  
17    just had the funding cut six months ago - three  
18    months ago.

19                    We managed to find in our own budget  
20    the ability to do one more class, but the future  
21    classes that we planned for training suburban  
22    officers, we lost that money.

23                    The concept is fine. The County Board  
24    could be very helpful on this issue with additional

1 focus on some of the programs that we have been  
2 doing with regards to the mentally ill -- helping us  
3 with that. We are not looking for crazy funding.  
4 We put this mental health treatment center together,  
5 which is the first in the country to do it. The  
6 whole notion is that the people who are in my  
7 custody who are mentally ill, to get them ready for  
8 the streets by taking them out of the jail, putting  
9 them into a different setting.

10 The different setting is the old boot  
11 camp. I took the people that were in the boot camp  
12 program, moved them out of there about a year and a  
13 half - two years ago. I put the mentally ill in  
14 that location. It is the perfect location for them.  
15 It is away from the jail. It is Quonset huts  
16 surrounded by gardens -- you name it, it is a really  
17 nice location.

18 We have specialists, clinicians who  
19 work with them on the mental health issue. We have  
20 people working with them on jobs and the like.

21 We actually have an alumni association  
22 that we have already developed out of there. People  
23 who left it -- because, as you have said,  
24 Commissioner, we are the largest mental health

1 provider in the country. They keep coming back to  
2 us because we are the only ones left, and they like  
3 what we do.

4 If you want to talk about setting the  
5 world on its head, people are coming back to a jail  
6 because that is where they are treated the most  
7 thoughtfully. It is incredible. Usually when  
8 people get out of a jail, they can't run quick  
9 enough away from it. We have people coming back to  
10 it. We have done that.

11 There will be things probably down the  
12 road -- I will ask you folks if you can help me with  
13 it. It will be actually adding more value to what  
14 we are doing.

15 We have a really good footprint. This  
16 continuum of care to walk people out of the jail,  
17 back to a de-escalation, back to the community, and  
18 really hold hands with people.

19 Right now, we do a discharge plan for  
20 everybody. Before you just dumped people. People  
21 got dumped in the streets. We actually print out a  
22 sheet that has listed where they are going back. It  
23 has all of the pharmacies listed. It has all of the  
24 bus routes. It has any mental health providers

1 listed around there. It has the bus routes to get  
2 back to us, if they need help. All of our phone  
3 numbers -- we run on a twenty-four-hour emergency  
4 help line. My upper level staff mans it.

5 We go out to houses when people have  
6 problems. We work with their families. We have a  
7 family support group that actually meets in the jail  
8 where we reconnect family members who have been  
9 broken up for decades, and get them back together so  
10 there is new support for them when they get back  
11 home.

12 We thought it through pretty well. We  
13 could do more, but between the people on my staff  
14 and through some of the stuff we have been reading,  
15 we keep adding more to it. Everyone acknowledges  
16 that we are the leaders in the country. The more  
17 value we can add to any part of that, that you folks  
18 can help me with, would be great. But we have been  
19 trying to do it with the resources that we have so  
20 far.

21 COMMISSIONER BOYKIN: Mr. Sheriff, I think  
22 you are doing a tremendous job. I have a number of  
23 other questions, but I will just say this: For the  
24 interest and for the sake of my colleagues, I won't



1 go through them.

2 I want to commend you on the  
3 innovative programs that you have put together. I  
4 know you have some inmates who are going out and  
5 picking up trades and rehabbing abandoned houses and  
6 gardening and stuff like that. I want to commend  
7 you for that.

8 Can you speak about the heroin issue?  
9 We had just recently, a couple of weeks ago, over  
10 one hundred people overdose on this bad batch of  
11 heroin on the west side of Chicago. Of course, that  
12 is the heroin highway -- 290 in the suburbs and all  
13 of that. Can you talk about our efforts on that?

14 MR. DART: All of the numbers, just like  
15 the national numbers that show the overall crime  
16 decrease -- the national numbers all show the heroin  
17 up a tick, too. We are experiencing that here. We  
18 are up a little bit more than some other  
19 jurisdictions, and there is a myriad of reasons for  
20 that. But for a place like ours, we see it a lot.  
21 We see a lot more people coming in who are going  
22 through withdrawal from heroin. We see a lot of  
23 people who might have a mental health issue, when  
24 they can't find meds, when they are trying to self-

1     medicate, heroin is a real good substitute. People  
2     will gravitate to that as well.

3                     We have done some work with some  
4     outlying counties along 290 specifically because  
5     they have found that a lot of the people in their  
6     county come to ours right along 290. We all know  
7     where. That is where they get their heroin.

8                     We have done some work on the  
9     intervention on the street as far as law  
10    enforcement, but it has been mostly now trying to  
11    work with the people who are addicted to it.

12                    Similar to the mentally ill, the  
13    programs for substance abuse are taking a real bad  
14    hit as well. That is at a time when we are having a  
15    real spike with the heroin issue. That is the  
16    problem. The numbers are very real, very real.

17                    COMMISSIONER BOYKIN: Mr. Sheriff, I again  
18    want to commend you. I want to commend your staff,  
19    Doctor Nneka Jones. I want to commend the  
20    Undersheriff, Zelda Whittler, and Cara Smith, and  
21    the entire professional Sheriff's police department  
22    for the work that you all do on a constant daily  
23    basis. Thank you.

24                    Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

1                   CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Garcia.

2                   COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr.

3 Chairman, and good morning, Sheriff Dart. Happy to  
4 have you here.

5                   MR. DART: Good morning.

6                   COMMISSIONER GARCIA: The Cook County jail  
7 is now located in the District that I represent, and  
8 I want to thank you for the responses that you and  
9 your staff have made to requests.

10                   More recently, we have had an  
11 opportunity to visit again the jail with some of my  
12 new staff to get a handle on its operations, and, of  
13 course, some of the initiatives that you have taken;  
14 including, of course, the great appointment of  
15 Doctor Jones Tapia as the Director of the jail. I  
16 think that is a fantastic step that you took in that  
17 regard, especially given the mental health crisis  
18 that we are facing and all of the implications for  
19 the jail detainee population.

20                   I have several questions that are  
21 mostly related to that.

22                   The first is: The jail detainee  
23 population has gone down, and we hope it will  
24 continue to do so, thanks to the great work of

1 stakeholders -- you and the President of the County  
2 Board as well as the Judges becoming more aware of  
3 the utilization of alternatives to bond, electronic  
4 monitoring, recognizance, etcetera.

5           The savings that we assume will be had  
6 as a result of the decrease in the population --  
7 what happens to those savings? There has been a  
8 push, for example, by advocates of restorative  
9 justice to try to get the Board to increase the  
10 investment in these restorative justice programs.  
11 They say if we have reduced the population that  
12 those savings should be invested elsewhere.

13           I am wondering how do we go from a  
14 reduction in population to our ability to invest in  
15 other things like preventative types of things like  
16 restorative justice? What happens to the savings?

17           MR. DART: It is interesting, Commissioner.  
18 We have talked with some of those folks. They are  
19 well-meaning, but it is an oversimplification, by  
20 far, to say we shut down two divisions so all of  
21 that money goes. That would assume that I lay off  
22 all of the correctional officers in those divisions,  
23 so on and so forth. I don't think anybody in this  
24 room is suggesting that that occur.

1                   We have historically had an overtime  
2   problem at the jail. We still do. We are well  
3   below the number that you budgeted for last year. I  
4   think we are going to come in \$5 million under what  
5   we have asked you for. We feel pretty good that we  
6   have gotten it under control, but it is still a  
7   large amount. It is still a large amount of people  
8   who call in.

9                   The reason I bring that up -- that  
10   requires me to use overtime, etcetera, etcetera.

11                  The reality of it is that the costs of  
12   operating the jail are "X". It is not as if I have  
13   taken the buildings, the staff, and we have  
14   eliminated all of those. No one, I believe,  
15   suggested that.

16                  The other part of it is -- the overall  
17   hard number of people. I still have all of the  
18   people on electronic monitoring. I am still  
19   monitoring them. We are trying to put together  
20   programming for some of them as well so they don't  
21   recidivate.

22                  There should be some money. There  
23   should be some money that could go into that. But  
24   the notion that it is like a one-for-one is really

1     oversimplifying it. We tried to explain to the  
2     folks there that it isn't as if you can take the  
3     cost of Division I, the building and the people in  
4     it, and put a dollar figure on it, and then say,  
5     "Here, you have this money now."

6                     The correctional officers in Division  
7     I, for example. If we rip down Division I, the  
8     correctional officers there will be utilized to get  
9     at our overtime so we don't have overtime issues.  
10    We won't be overstaff, trust me. That has never  
11    been the problem. It is something where the Federal  
12    Court said, "Here is the number of correctional  
13    officers you need."

14                    My suggestion -- we haven't gone down  
15    there yet, to be honest with you, Commissioner, but  
16    I feel that if we get our population down, we get  
17    the buildings down, there is a strong argument that  
18    I should be able to have my staffing number at a  
19    different level, too. It makes sense that if the  
20    staffing level was based on "X" amount of buildings,  
21    that once I had less buildings I shouldn't have to  
22    staff for that. But we will have to go down that  
23    road, and I am expecting some pushback from them.

24                    There should be some money for it. It

1 is not a one-for-one. It is not going to happen  
2 today or tomorrow. The buildings are still up and  
3 all the rest of it. There should be some.

4 The long answer to a short question --  
5 I'm sorry, Commissioner.

6 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you for sharing  
7 the complexities of that. You said it is not a one-  
8 to-one, and we will continue to struggle with how to  
9 invest at a greater level in restorative justice.

10 Do you expect the numbers of detainees  
11 to continue to go down in the next year, in the next  
12 couple of years?

13 MR. DART: That is a great question. The  
14 trends have been going down, but then this past year  
15 -- not just in the City of Chicago, there is like  
16 four or five other large municipalities that have  
17 had spikes in violent crime.

18 Once again, Commissioner, I always  
19 find myself just shaking my head whenever I get one  
20 of the brain surgeons who goes on TV and starts  
21 spouting off about here is the reason for this mess.

22 I have talked to the experts around  
23 the country. No one has come up with the one cause  
24 for "X", "Y", or "Z", the downturn or the spike.

1     They all have different theories.

2                     The thinking behind some people now is  
3     that this spike in crime had something to do with  
4     some type of population change. I haven't really  
5     figured out what they are talking about yet. It  
6     doesn't really make sense to me. Could we be back  
7     down next year? Possibly, I guess.

8                     The level of violence on the street is  
9     horribly, horribly real. It is horribly, horribly  
10    underreported outside of the City of Chicago. I  
11    don't see any of that dissipating. I don't see  
12    there being one particular thing that anybody can do  
13    that is going to drive that down. It is a very,  
14    very complex problem.

15                    In the long term right now, my guess  
16    would be the population numbers are going to be  
17    static -- possibly increasing, primarily from the  
18    mentally ill. There is no end in sight. They are  
19    cutting more programs there, so they are pouring in  
20    in record numbers for us. I think our population  
21    will either be steady from here on out or possibly  
22    uptick, but the uptick, I think, will be mostly with  
23    the mentally ill.

24                    COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you.



1                   My last question -- I know the members  
2   want to get in on the conversation. With respect to  
3   the gun problem that we have in Cook County, and  
4   actually in the metro area, the gun coordinator  
5   position that was approved by ordinance that the  
6   County Board sponsored and championed by  
7   Commissioner Boykin -- what are your hopes and  
8   expectations that the appointment of such a person  
9   will produce, in terms of our ability to engage in  
10  some policies, some initiatives to reduce the flow  
11  of guns and the number of guns that are on the  
12  streets in Chicago and in the suburbs that you  
13  mentioned, for example, that have a much higher rate  
14  of gun frequency, access to guns, even higher than  
15  certain places in the City of Chicago?

16               MR. DART: I think, Commissioner, when  
17  Commissioner Boykin came to me about this -- we have  
18  been doing all sorts of different things, some  
19  creative, some pretty standard, with regard to guns.

20               I love the idea because it allowed for  
21  us to have a singular focus to go on here. There  
22  are things we can do. I started thinking in my own  
23  head -- if we were to do this, what would be some of  
24  the things that we could do here as opposed to just

1    having another pointless task force that just meets  
2    and doesn't really do anything.

3                   I thought as a starter -- something  
4    that I got going, but has not had all of the  
5    traction because frankly I am pulled in many, many  
6    directions -- is our interaction with Indiana. We  
7    are very, very fortunate that on the other side of  
8    the border we have an incredibly progressive,  
9    thoughtful Sheriff in Lake County, Indiana. I work  
10   together with him on I can't tell you on how many  
11   countless things. He is always of the opinion --  
12   Tom, what else can we do? What else can we do?

13                   The more that we can make that  
14   relationship one of specifics -- we both are on  
15   board. Now it is specifics and how we can interact  
16   with his data and my data.

17                   We have spent a great deal of time  
18   across the border in Indiana because there is always  
19   this discussion about the guns. They have their  
20   little gun shows all the time. They spread them all  
21   around Indiana. There has been a discussion about  
22   how many of the guns are coming from the gun shows.  
23   We spent a lot of time out there.

24                   Our experience, and mind you I am not

1 saying that it is scientific -- it is not  
2 overwhelming. We were expecting a lot of activity  
3 in the parking lots, things like that. We didn't  
4 get it. I had great guys out there a lot and we  
5 didn't get it.

6 We wanted to go on to Plan "B", and  
7 Plan "C", and things like that. He helped me  
8 convene a bunch of the police chiefs from all of the  
9 towns against the border of Illinois. They are all  
10 of the same mindset. They know that their  
11 criminals, our criminals, are the same people. They  
12 know that they are all floating across the line.

13 The system we are trying to put  
14 together would be a data-sharing one that would give  
15 us a heads-up on a lot of the people that are going  
16 back and forth. I think a lot of it won't be just  
17 centered on Indiana because it represents over  
18 twenty percent of the guns that are found in the  
19 City of Chicago at the crime scenes. It is a great  
20 place to start. That is one part of it.

21 I can't will these other towns to do  
22 what Lyons did. What Lyons did the other day really  
23 -- was really thoughtful. That guy, honest to God,  
24 had a one hundred percent batting average in

1 Springfield with having my bills killed, my gun  
2 bills. I lost every one of them. Yes, I got  
3 creamed. I was at the point now thinking that there  
4 is nothing that you can do thoughtfully from a  
5 legislative standpoint. But what Lyons did was  
6 very, very thoughtful.

7 I think it is things like that.  
8 Honestly, Commissioner, I think it is going to be a  
9 combination of four or five major things and some  
10 minor things.

11 The one thing that has really  
12 astounded me as I got more involved with some of  
13 these towns in suburban Cook County -- it literally  
14 runs the complete gamut. It literally runs from  
15 towns that are the state-of-the-art in everything.  
16 The officers are trained. They are trained in every  
17 conceivable way, with every tool imaginable. Tanks,  
18 surface-to-air missiles; they have got it all.

19 Then you have got the other ones.  
20 Part-time policing. Their officers rotate in and  
21 out. Every week they have new ones. They have zero  
22 training. They have people that are in there --  
23 you're scratching your heads why they are there and  
24 there is no reporting.

1                   Virtually every town that I have had  
2   to go into and somewhat taking them over for a  
3   little bit, when I have gone into the evidence room  
4   I have always asked, "You traced all of your guns"  
5   -- because I find guns lying all over the place.  
6   "You guys have traced your guns, right?"

7   "Absolutely, sure; we have traced our guns."

8                   So, just for the heck of it, I have  
9   got time to kill, we are going to run them anyway.  
10   Sure enough, they haven't run them.

11                  You run such a gamut of towns that do  
12   things or don't do. Our hope is to sort of lay a  
13   blanket over it. We have worked with the Joyce  
14   Foundation in an effort to sort of tie into this.  
15   You would be astounded, from one jurisdiction to  
16   another, one town to another, how it is completely  
17   different. They are not connected as all, as far as  
18   the information sharing.

19                  We are hoping some of this will be  
20   part of what we end up with here. It could be a lot  
21   of data sharing, networking, attempting to work with  
22   the laws that we have out there, because I just  
23   don't know how many more Lyons we have out there on  
24   the horizon. Because the NRA, as I say, they are

1 not just beating me. They beat everybody. I am not  
2 waiting on anything with them.

3 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Two things that you  
4 hope the gun coordinator will produce?

5 MR. DART: "A", an MOU type situation  
6 between our county and Lake County, Indiana, on data  
7 sharing with regards to guns. And "B", a  
8 comprehensive data sharing through all of the  
9 jurisdictions within Cook County in regards to guns.  
10 Those would be the two big ones.

11 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you very much.

12 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Murphy.

14 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Thank you, Mr.  
15 Chairman.

16 Hi, Tom.

17 MR. DART: Hey. How are you doing?

18 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: You talked about the  
19 unprofessionalism of the suburban police  
20 departments. Not all of them, but I know there are  
21 a great many of them that are.

22 Do you remember when we were co-chairs  
23 for PAAC, Partners Against Animal Cruelty?

24 MR. DART: Oh, yes. A lifetime ago.

1                   COMMISSIONER MURPHY: We had the police  
2 officers come in for training. They were taught how  
3 to recognize a dog that had been ill-treated and how  
4 to find dog fighting, look for the signs for dog  
5 fighting so you guys can get in there and do  
6 something about it. Isn't there some way that we  
7 can bring these police officers in, maybe a couple  
8 of stations at a time, and train them? Give them  
9 some professional training and train them like your  
10 guys are trained?

11                   I don't know if it would be a costly  
12 thing, something that we could work on with each  
13 individual and municipality to have their guys come  
14 in. I know a lot of them will probably want to put  
15 their nose in the air and not want it, but we can  
16 almost demand that they do it. Couldn't we do  
17 something like that to help these municipal police  
18 officers?

19                   MR. DART: It sort of runs the gamut that  
20 you just said, Commissioner. Some would gratefully  
21 come there and couldn't wait to get there. Other  
22 ones would say, "We don't need your help. We have  
23 everything we need."

24                   Some of them -- I don't want to say it

1 is going to be a waste, but some of them, because  
2 their turnover is so great, you can't keep up with  
3 the police department that is in there. If you do  
4 an annual training, about six months after the  
5 training, the department has had such a turnover  
6 there is already six new people in there.

7 I don't think anybody -- I certainly  
8 didn't -- fully appreciates how rampant that is in  
9 some departments.

10 Unfortunately, my experience has been  
11 usually it is in the departments that need the help  
12 the most the ones that have the higher crime issues.  
13 They are the ones that usually have the departments  
14 that are more challenged.

15 We would be willing to do it, but just  
16 like I was mentioned earlier with Commissioner  
17 Boykin, we had set up to do this CIT training. That  
18 was to try to help people with the mentally ill on  
19 the street. Most law enforcements will tell you  
20 that it is the most volatile situation you are  
21 involved with. You don't know what is going to  
22 happen as you approach them. And then to get beyond  
23 that, what is the appropriate thing to do?

24 We had that set up. Then we lost all



1 of our funding for it. We found some funding for  
2 ourselves to do one more class for people that had  
3 already signed up. I think it was \$12,000 or  
4 \$15,000 a class, something like that. It wasn't  
5 huge money, but it was enough that when the State  
6 pulled all of the money I couldn't find any more to  
7 keep doing it.

8 I would be more than happy to do it;  
9 absolutely beyond ecstatic to do it. It is one of  
10 the things we are working on with the Joyce  
11 Foundation. I run this sort of fine line where I am  
12 trying to work with departments, not come off as  
13 overbearing as "A", I know everything, because I  
14 don't. I don't have as much experience as many of  
15 the police chiefs out there; I acknowledge that.  
16 But at the same time, we need to collectively do  
17 that.

18 You sort of nailed it Commissioner.  
19 Some people will turn their nose up and say, "Who  
20 are you to tell us to do what?" I try to work that  
21 middle and say, "Hey. Let's all work together."

22 Most departments couldn't be more  
23 accommodating. They want to work together. They  
24 want to get more training. But usually those are

1 the ones that already have it. It is the other ones  
2 -- it is good luck.

3 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: If you know who they  
4 are, maybe as Commissioners we can stop in to see  
5 them and talk to them some more about it, and tell  
6 them the benefits of doing it. I will be more than  
7 happy to do it.

8 MR. DART: I would love to do that with you  
9 guys. I will definitely do that.

10 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Maybe we can talk  
11 about this a little more then.

12 MR. DART: Definitely.

13 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: You said these folks  
14 that come in, they have the ankle bracelets on.  
15 They have no place to go. Out in the south suburbs  
16 we have several places, Affordable Recovery is one.  
17 We have PADS. We have some other places. Is there  
18 any thought of putting them into these places  
19 overnight or two nights, or however many days they  
20 have to stay there?

21 MR. DART: I will put them anywhere that  
22 the community and organization are open to it. I  
23 really will.

24 As I said, it is not the majority by

1 any stretch. But there is a group of 150 or so that  
2 are sitting in the jail right now that have orders  
3 and there is no place to put them. Say out of the  
4 150 I have twenty of them that are sex offenders, so  
5 those people don't want them. Other than that, it  
6 is a larger group of people that are just homeless.  
7 So if there are organizations that will do it -- I  
8 ran into an organization called Mercy Homes  
9 recently. They went on my radar screen. They  
10 offered to work with me pretty much for free.

11 So if there are organizations that you  
12 are aware of, that have an interest in that -- we  
13 wouldn't inundate them either; we wouldn't. We  
14 would work with them through the whole process. We  
15 really would like to have more people involved. If  
16 there are some people, I would love to work with you  
17 on that.

18 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I don't know if they  
19 would be able to do it for free. There might be  
20 some kind of a small charge.

21 MR. DART: That is okay, to be honest with  
22 you. We have had great relationships with Safe  
23 Haven and Henry Sober Living -- whoever can give us  
24 the best value, I am on board. I don't really have

1     any horse in the race. The fact that they might  
2     need some money for it, if they can bring it in at a  
3     price that is less than the other places, and they  
4     can give us the service as the other place, I am on  
5     board with them.

6                 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: The boot camp no  
7     longer exists?

8                 MR. DART: What I did with that -- it is  
9     and it isn't. Boot camps had no numbers whatsoever  
10    showing that they worked, none; they didn't.

11                COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I know a couple of  
12    people that went through there. Then they went to  
13    Moraine Valley. Then they got a job. I can't even  
14    remember the name of the company, but they had jobs  
15    in a couple of companies out south.

16                MR. DART: Yes. We have had ones that went  
17    through that committed horrible crimes. I can give  
18    you anecdotes. But the statistics across the  
19    country have shown that didn't make sense.

20                Think about this for a second,  
21    Commissioner, and it took me a while to fully  
22    understand it. The underlying premise of it  
23    originally was put them through this military-like  
24    training, that some of them would be able to get in

1 the military. The military years ago -- I want to  
2 say a decade ago -- stopped taking people with  
3 felony convictions. These guys had felony  
4 convictions. One of the biggest paths for them  
5 going into the military wasn't available for them  
6 anymore. Then the numbers just weren't playing out.  
7 It was real expensive.

8                   What I did was I reconfigured the  
9 program. I took the people in it, instead of  
10 training them in the military, I am training them in  
11 machinery skills, carpentry, you name it. I teamed  
12 up with the unions to work with me on it. The same  
13 people that would otherwise go into the boot camp to  
14 get the military thing, they are now being trained  
15 on how to operate heavy machinery and how to operate  
16 the things just below heavy machinery like these big  
17 saws, jackhammers, things like that.

18                   They are doing that and that is the  
19 people now that we are taking out to all of these  
20 communities. There are many of them in your  
21 District where I have been able to rip down  
22 buildings that have been up for decades, actually  
23 decades. The community had no money to take it  
24 down. I do it for free.

1                   I know multiple houses, one in  
2   particular stands out with me, where the little girl  
3   had been dragged in there and sexually assaulted.  
4   That place was still standing years after that  
5   horrible event occurred, but the town had no money  
6   to do it. We took it down. The only reason I found  
7   out when I was out there is that the neighbors came  
8   up to me and said, "Thank God you are getting rid of  
9   that one. You know what happened in there?" No, I  
10  didn't, and they walked me through it.

11                  We are giving them a skill that is now  
12  actually transferable big time out into the  
13  community, and, to boot, we are helping these  
14  communities that have no money to rip down these  
15  horrible eyesores. We have ripped down seventy-  
16  something buildings already. We then restore them  
17  or we flatten them out. A couple of them they put  
18  gardens in and things like that.

19                  I have another group that is similar  
20  that goes out, short of ripping the building down,  
21  they clean it up. They can restore it maybe. They  
22  can maybe resell it. This whole revitalization idea  
23  I came up with instead of these guys doing pushups  
24  and sit-ups -- yes, sir, and no, sir -- let's give

1     them a real skill.  Let's give them a skill that  
2     they can transfer out to the street.

3                   As I said, I got the unions to agree  
4     with me because last year you folks were very, very  
5     kind and gave me an additional position for that  
6     group as a laborer, a union laborer.  Part of the  
7     agreement I had with them, if you will agree to open  
8     up the apprenticeship program opportunities for  
9     these people that are coming out of there -- they  
10    said, okay, as long as you are using union people in  
11    all of the rest of it.  The unions are very happy.  
12    They have been very helpful.  We have a path now.

13                   But the other part of it,  
14    Commissioner, I was able to take all of the  
15    participants off that ground.  I put them in a  
16    different building that is right next to my office,  
17    frankly.  It works for me.  It works for them.  They  
18    didn't have a vote in it, to be honest with you.  I  
19    have got these gorgeous grounds now for the mentally  
20    ill that is beautiful.  It is where someone who are  
21    not criminals, if they have to be incarcerated for  
22    some reason, that is where they should be.  So it  
23    has all worked out real well.

24                   The Judges have been pretty good.

1 They were a little slow at first buying into it.  
2 They are buying into it now. I was puzzled at first  
3 because I kept telling myself if I was a Judge, I  
4 couldn't wait if I was up for retention to run  
5 around to the communities and say, "Look. I am not  
6 just sending people to jail, and this is going to  
7 cost you all of this money. I am helping you  
8 restore your community. Here are pictures of some  
9 of the guys that I have sent out to these  
10 buildings."

11 I went out to this one place in  
12 Dixmoor. It was a thirty-unit condo thing that had  
13 been there for decades. When I went out there, when  
14 we were just starting it, I had neighbors come out  
15 hugging me and crying. I have lived here all my  
16 life. I thought this was going to be my life. I am  
17 stuck with this. I said, "No. It is gone."

18 Dixmoor has been great. I have worked  
19 with them a ton. We are working a little bit with  
20 Robbins. That is always like a roller coaster, but  
21 we are working there. We have been out in Dolton a  
22 ton. That Mayor is phenomenal. He has me on speed-  
23 dial. He has given me a substation out there for my  
24 police department. It is not what it used to be; it



1 is better.

2 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: One other thing.  
3 When you arrest someone who has a gun and it is, of  
4 course, an unregistered gun and been used in a crime  
5 or something like that, and it belongs to a gang --  
6 when someone belongs to a gang, if they get any  
7 money, or if they get something I'm sure they turn  
8 it over to whoever is running that gang. Is there  
9 some way to arrest the leaders of these gangs on the  
10 RICO Act?

11 MR. DART: There is always attempts to move  
12 up the ladder. The RICO statute is particularly  
13 complicated. I don't mean in a necessarily  
14 difficult way, but it is used infrequently because  
15 it is complicated. You have to really connect a  
16 load of dots to get up there to meet the level for  
17 the RICO statute.

18 I can tell you from our standpoint,  
19 the memo went out to my people years ago that I am  
20 not really interested in the whole war on drugs  
21 thing. It's failed. It is not a good use of our  
22 resources. The only way that I have an interest in  
23 that is if that is helping us get up to a bad guy.  
24 Some guy who is big in the gang with loads of guns,

1 by working the drug element of that, if it gets up  
2 there, I am on board. Sign me up.

3 We are constantly trying to work our  
4 way up the pyramid. That is our only goal there.  
5 It just gets complicated at times.

6 RICO -- would I wish it was? Yes, but  
7 from a civil libertarian side of it, we can't just  
8 charge everybody with it. It is a tough call, but  
9 it is by purpose a difficult statute to use.

10 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Thank you very much.

11 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Suffredin.

12 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you, Mr.  
13 Chairman, and ladies and gentlemen of the Committee.

14 Mr. Sheriff, how are you?

15 MR. DART: Yes, you need your stress ball  
16 whenever you talk to me.

17 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Not just you.  
18 You're actually the easy part of this. You will  
19 notice it is a heart. You have got heart.

20 MR. DART: So when I get hit with it, I  
21 will know what hit me.

22 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Tom, in terms of  
23 this budget, your office is in agreement with the  
24 budget as presented to you; is that correct?

1 MR. DART: Yes, I am.

2 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: One of the things  
3 that we just talked about is your population at the  
4 jail. I appreciate every Monday getting your  
5 summary.

6 Everybody focuses in on the fact that  
7 the jail population is down to 8900 - 9000 that it  
8 has been hovering at. But in terms of the people  
9 that you have direct responsibility for, it has been  
10 staying around 11,600 people. All of those people,  
11 be they on electronic monitoring, be they in the  
12 moms' program, whatever programs we have got,  
13 require personnel and care from your office.

14 I know when Commissioner Garcia was  
15 asking you about the savings -- how much savings do  
16 we really get from having a reduced population?

17 MR. DART: It is marginal. Commissioner, I  
18 love the question. I feel like you have been  
19 conducting the meetings in my office. I keep  
20 telling the people over and over again. This notion  
21 that because somehow we have 2500 or 2300 people out  
22 on electronic monitoring, that they are no longer  
23 our concern. No. I daresay that if a problem  
24 occurs with any one of them, the people rightfully

1 will come to me and say, "What is going on here?"

2                   We don't just let them out the door  
3 and off they go. They are being monitored. They  
4 are being watched. They are being back and forth  
5 in. We have violations at times when they are not  
6 complying with it as well.

7                   The savings -- when I have met with  
8 some of these groups, they are marginal. There will  
9 be small savings. Is there a savings between the  
10 \$143 a day in custody as opposed to the cost when  
11 someone is in-house? There is, but it isn't this  
12 monumental one. There is this underlying cost for  
13 the actual electronic monitoring, as you mentioned,  
14 the labor, the people that go and hook them.

15                   I will be honest with you,  
16 Commissioner. If we had more time -- we are  
17 spending a lot more time. If you look, the only  
18 place in my budget where I increased was in my IT,  
19 and I will continue to do that. If anywhere that I  
20 have learned, across the country, and to me it is an  
21 absolute sin -- when you think about it, the largest  
22 thing a government can do anywhere is to take the  
23 liberty away from a person. The lack of data around  
24 the country, the whole country, on incarceration,

1     who is incarcerated for how long -- it is mind-  
2     numbing how bad it is.

3                     When I first came in, I had a DOS-  
4     based computer system. We have not had the time to  
5     look at it, but I want to look at it, and I am  
6     getting more IT people for this very purpose, and to  
7     do the data analysis.

8                     The people on electronic monitoring --  
9     they filter in and off. We are going out, hooking  
10    them up. He might be on for three days. We are  
11    going back out there two days later. There is two  
12    people in the car, driving out there to get the guy.  
13    It is very labor-intensive.

14                    COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: The point I want  
15    to make -- I think we need to be using the 11,500  
16    number because those are the people that you are  
17    responsible for.

18                    MR. DART: I agree.

19                    COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Two weeks ago at  
20    the Chicago City Council, the Superintendent of the  
21    Chicago Police Department said that his arrests for  
22    last year are down 20,000 arrests. There was a  
23    number that he used in the budget to show a change  
24    in police strategies.

1                   One of the things that I was struck by  
2   is the size of that number. That could also cause a  
3   reduction in the number of people. He did not go  
4   into great detail as to what kind of arrests these  
5   are.

6                   I also want to just point out that  
7   your budget is fragile because a change in police  
8   strategy by the Superintendent of the largest city  
9   in the State can dramatically change overnight three  
10  to five hundred people more in the jail.

11                  MR. DART: They did that, Larry, about ten  
12  to twelve years ago, you might remember, or I think  
13  it was longer than that. I think George Ryan was  
14  Governor. They had Operation Windy City, where they  
15  swept all of these people that were on parole.  
16  Because there was a spike in crime, they swept  
17  everybody to jail. The jails just exploded  
18  overnight. So you are right.

19                  COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: We had a situation  
20  with Governor Quinn, at the end of his term, where  
21  he was going to lend State Police officers to the  
22  Chicago task force to do the same kind of sweep on  
23  warrants. We saw a minor spike in your jail  
24  population going up.

1                   But, in any of these things, what I am  
2 pointing out to you is your budget is fragile.

3                   Your budget has grown, as I look at  
4 this, by \$28 million from last year. But of that  
5 \$28 million, the majority of it is going to pay the  
6 increases in wages. Is that not correct, Alexis?

7                   MR. DART: Basically \$28.5 million is union  
8 raises and \$2.2 million is for the nonunion raises.

9                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Then there also is  
10 -- you are paying some rents for some space you have  
11 got, I think, in the Daley Center. I don't think  
12 you are paying for any other places, right?

13                   Your budget looks like it went up \$28  
14 million. In fact, as you said, the only place you  
15 got an increase is your IT. You are going down in  
16 other places.

17                   I am concerned about a couple of other  
18 places as I look at it. I am on page Z-1, where we  
19 have got restricted funds. The prison rape  
20 elimination project is zeroed out. It is about  
21 \$150,000.

22                   MR. DART: The grant ended, but we still  
23 have the employees that are doing it now.

24                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: We still provide

1 the services, but we are doing it without any  
2 revenue at this point?

3 MR. DART: Yes.

4 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: There is a  
5 \$500,000 reduction in your child support enforcement  
6 grant, which is kind of, again, across the board. I  
7 just want to point out that you still have the  
8 responsibility to provide services, but we are  
9 losing revenue.

10 MR. DART: Yes, sir, and, Larry, I am very  
11 concerned about what is going on. When people ask  
12 me about the nightmare down in Springfield and how  
13 that is impacting us, we get very little funding at  
14 all from the State, as you are painfully aware of.  
15 That is the one area where I am concerned because  
16 that is a duty we have to do and I don't know what  
17 is going to go on down there.

18 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: In this budget,  
19 there are three of your buildings that are going to  
20 be mothballed. There is a savings on that. You did  
21 not realize that savings. That savings went back to  
22 the general revenue fund of the County.

23 MR. DART: We realized about \$2 million of  
24 overtime savings as a result of that.



1                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Overtime savings  
2    is really not savings. It is just not spending. It  
3    is a very different concept. Savings, to me, is --  
4    I got the money right here. What you are saying is  
5    it has changed your deployment of personnel, which  
6    is important.

7                   MR. DART: Correct.

8                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Under the Federal  
9    monitor's agreement, the consent decree that we are  
10   living under, what do we do if Gary McCarthy changes  
11   his mind and arrests another 20,000 people? Where  
12   do we put them without putting ourselves in jeopardy  
13   with the Federal side? The other three buildings  
14   are closed.

15                  MR. DART: The agreement I have had with  
16   the President's Office from the very beginning was  
17   we would not leave ourselves open to that so that  
18   there would be a plan in place, and there is some  
19   design element that is in a budget somewhere so that  
20   we wouldn't be open to it.

21                  As I say, Larry, we don't try to  
22   relive every day over and over again. We started  
23   with this thing in the '60s with Duran because  
24   people were sleeping on the floor. I wasn't ever

1 going to sign off on ripping down buildings. I  
2 couldn't agree to it more -- I would have to be the  
3 dumbest person in the world if I am not aware that  
4 the populations of jails are very fragile, as you  
5 put it, and they can go up at any given moment.

6 It has been our agreement with the  
7 President's Office in ripping down the three  
8 buildings, there is a plan in place to construct a  
9 new one that wouldn't go bed for bed, but we  
10 wouldn't be exposed to more Federal lawsuits.

11 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: On page Z-4, there  
12 seems to be a creation of a new revolving capital  
13 fund. Where are these revolving funds coming from?

14 MS. HERRERA: Alexis Herrera, CFO for the  
15 Sheriff's Office.

16 This revolving fund was created by the  
17 Budget Office. That is how they are funding capital  
18 for the Sheriff.

19 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: So the money is  
20 coming from the general revenue fund of the County;  
21 is that correct, Madam Budget Director?

22 MS. ANTHONY: No, sir. It is my  
23 understanding the capital fund is a revolver that  
24 was set up so that we would not have to use debt

1 service or the operating fund. It is a different  
2 type of capital funding.

3 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Where does the  
4 original dollars come from to revolve with?

5 MS. ANTHONY: I would have to defer to Ivan  
6 on that. I don't want to speculate. I think I  
7 understand it, but I don't want to make any  
8 statements.

9 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: I will ask him  
10 that question.

11 Tom, during our hearings, we heard  
12 from a couple of people that are in graffiti  
13 removal. Are those workers eligible for other cross  
14 assignments within your office? Or are those people  
15 being laid off under the agreement that you have in  
16 this budget?

17 MR. DART: They are being laid off. We are  
18 attempting to accommodate them, if they fit a job  
19 description that they are qualified for.

20 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: That is what I  
21 thought was going on, that they might find other  
22 employment.

23 MR. DART: Yes, if there are openings that  
24 they qualify for.

1                   COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: I want you to know  
2     that we had a witness the other night that I got a  
3     little angry at. It was the fire chief of  
4     Riverdale, Illinois, who came in to say on behalf of  
5     the Mayor that he wanted the graffiti unit back  
6     because it kept his community safe. I told him that  
7     the only thing that would keep his community safe  
8     and my community safe and the rest of our  
9     communities safe is the regulation of Chuck's Gun  
10    Shop. To come in and tell me that graffiti is the  
11    problem in Riverdale was a huge mistake.

12                   I would hope that our coordinator  
13    would look and see that whatever happened in Lyons,  
14    to see if we can get Chuck's Gun Shop, who has the  
15    majority of guns coming into our area that are used  
16    in crime, to have the same kind of restrictions  
17    throughout.

18                   MR. DART: I couldn't agree with you more.  
19    I never heard from the Riverdale chief or anybody  
20    else about ways that graffiti can help them with  
21    their crime. That is the first I have heard of it,  
22    "A", and "B", I couldn't agree with you more.

23                   What Lyons did was incredible. It is  
24    the first time that I have seen an entity negotiate

1 with a gun shop something that made sense and could  
2 be helpful. Why Lyons or the other towns won't do  
3 it would be unfathomable.

4 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: I would hope that  
5 your coordinator will start working on that.

6 Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: Tell us what Lyons  
8 did.

9 MR. DART: What Lyons did -- there was a  
10 lawsuit filed against the three gun shops in  
11 suburban Cook County, Lyons, Riverdale, and Des  
12 Plaines, I believe, is the third one. Basically it  
13 was a lawsuit against those towns saying because of  
14 the way they regulate or don't regulate the gun  
15 shops, that led to guns on the streets that have  
16 killed so many people.

17 Father Pfleger was intimately involved  
18 with the lawsuit. I think he was one of the driving  
19 forces of it. It was a really unique approach.  
20 When he first filed it, I said, "If you need help,  
21 Father, sign me up. I am on board." They did the  
22 negotiations. We got a call about a week or so ago  
23 from Lyons saying that we were able to come up with  
24 this agreement. They sent it to me. They said,

1 "Are you on board?" And I said, "Yes, I am."

2                   The heart of it is additional  
3 reporting requirements of the gun shop. It allows  
4 Lyons and myself to come into the gun shop twice a  
5 year, unannounced, to check on how they are  
6 operating and check their video footage, to check  
7 their records. They are required to have safety  
8 plans that they haven't been required to have  
9 before. Some of them do it anyway; the other ones  
10 don't.

11                   They are required to have a "do not  
12 sell" list. That would require, frankly, law  
13 enforcement to talk with them. If we are made aware  
14 of a person who bought a gun, and then the gun  
15 mysteriously appears at the scene of a crime, and  
16 that person never reported it stolen or anything  
17 along those lines, that person then would be, in our  
18 opinion, someone who should not be allowed to  
19 purchase a gun in the future because there is a  
20 strong indication that they could be involved with  
21 straw sales.

22                   We would then give that name to the  
23 Lyons gun shop. They would then maintain a list of  
24 all of the people that had guns that appeared in

1 crime scenes in the City of Chicago, and they are  
2 not selling them guns anymore.

3 That stuff is huge. Some people might  
4 not understand the impact of that, but in the world  
5 that we live in, that is really, really impactful,  
6 especially given what we talked about earlier.

7 Good luck passing any laws in  
8 Springfield or any of the other jurisdictions --  
9 Washington -- it is not going to happen. This is  
10 something that would really help people. It is very  
11 impactful.

12 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Vice-Chair Sims.

13 COMMISSIONER SIMS: I am just asking a  
14 question on this. It is not my turn, I don't think.

15 In Riverdale, I don't believe that is  
16 the thinking of the Mayor. I would not hold the  
17 Mayor to that. I would hold that strictly to the  
18 chief.

19 But if they are doing that in Lyons,  
20 if that is in Cook County, could we do what Lyons  
21 did on this Board and adopt that?

22 MR. DART: I don't know. I don't know. I  
23 will be honest with you. You guys would have to  
24 check with your lawyers on where the Home Rule comes

1 in or not.

2 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Suffredin.

3 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Commissioner Sims,  
4 we have tried this with our assault weapons ban and  
5 a number of other things. The problem is that these  
6 Home Rule units that have their own regulations --  
7 Riverdale protects Chuck's Gun Shop. Unfortunately,  
8 the fire chief the other night said that he was  
9 speaking on behalf of the Mayor when he showed up.

10 We have not figured out a way that we  
11 can use our ordinances to invade a town like  
12 Riverdale that has its own ordinances that protect  
13 the existence of Chuck's Gun Shop. I presume it is  
14 the largest sales tax generator in their community.

15 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Arroyo.

16 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: Thank you, Mr.  
17 Chairman, and good morning, Sheriff Dart.

18 MR. DART: Good morning, Commissioner.

19 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: Can you explain  
20 briefly why the decrease in the department of  
21 Corrections in full-time positions, yet an increase  
22 in the appropriation?

23 MR. DART: Commissioner, the total number  
24 is down, but the appropriation is up because of the



1 cost of living increase in the union-negotiated  
2 increase. That is why the overall number is up.

3 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: Thank you.

4 My second question is -- we have on  
5 the Cook County side, we have our own Inspector  
6 General. Why is there a need yet for your  
7 department to have its own Inspector General?

8 MR. DART: Because we operate -- our  
9 Inspector General's Office operates exclusively in  
10 suburban towns. I am pretty confident that your  
11 Inspector General, that jurisdiction does not go  
12 there. We work within towns that don't have their  
13 own. They have signed MOUs with us. For those  
14 towns that are interested, we field their local  
15 complaints and we work with them on answering those.

16 We have nine towns that have signed up  
17 for it out of the 130.

18 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: Can we have a list of  
19 those?

20 MR. DART: I actually have it here. I can  
21 read it off to you. Country Club Hills; Crestwood;  
22 Dolton; Maywood; Richton Park; Broadview;  
23 Midlothian; Robbins; and Steger.

24 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: My final question for

1     you --

2                   CHAIRMAN DALEY:  He will provide it to you,  
3     Commissioner, in writing.

4                   COMMISSIONER ARROYO:  Thank you.

5                   Considering the spike in violence in  
6     Chicago, which seems like it is obvious for extra  
7     support, is there any way that you guys are working  
8     together, the Sheriff's Department and the City of  
9     Chicago?

10                  MR. DART:  We have done numerous operations  
11     in the City over the course of the last three or  
12     four years.  The way that we do this is [REDACTED]  
13     [REDACTED] [??tape 5] local  
14     commanders from districts.

15                  For example, if a Commissioner or an  
16     Alderman were to call and say, "We are having a  
17     problem in a particular area," we would then meet  
18     with that commander.  We would sit down and say,  
19     "Okay.  What can we do to help?  And here is what we  
20     can do, and here is what we have done in the past."

21                  In some areas, frankly, we just look  
22     at the numbers ourselves, and we see the same thing.  
23     Frankly, it is not a mystery.  The City of Chicago  
24     and everyone else sees the spike there.  We will do

1 the operations in those areas, period, because it is  
2 in the County.

3 We have discussion on that level.  
4 There has been very little discussion between  
5 myself, the Mayor and very little discussion -- none  
6 between us and the Superintendent. I don't know  
7 why. We have offered to help and we don't hear from  
8 them.

9 But we look at the numbers and where  
10 the violence is up, we go there. We hear from local  
11 people, whether it is the community activists, the  
12 Alderman, Commissioners, we go there as well.

13 We spend a great deal of time in the  
14 City of Chicago. We take a lot of guns off the City  
15 streets as well. We have made our fair share of  
16 arrests as well in the City. Specifically in those  
17 areas, to be honest with you.

18 COMMISSIONER ARROYO: Thank you.

19 I also want to thank you and your  
20 office for the work that you have done with  
21 Commissioner Boykin with the gun coordinator and  
22 what we are going to do with that.

23 MR. DART: Commissioner, thank you so much.  
24 Anything that we can do to work with you, let me

1 know. We would love to.

2 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Vice-Chair Sims.

3 COMMISSIONER SIMS: Thank you, Chairman  
4 Daley.

5 How are you?

6 MR. DART: Good. Doing fine. How is  
7 yourself?

8 COMMISSIONER SIMS: Are you working closely  
9 with the Hospital in regards to substance abuse and  
10 the inmates that you get that are on drugs? I know  
11 there is this new drug that is out there that you  
12 can give an inmate, if they are on drugs or alcohol  
13 --

14 MR. DART: For the heroin. I forget the  
15 name of it. You inject them.

16 COMMISSIONER SIMS: Afterwards, they don't  
17 want the drug. Are you working with the Hospital?

18 MR. DART: We work with Cermak Hospital on  
19 a lot of things. We could be working with them on  
20 that aspect, and I wouldn't know that specific part  
21 of it. We work with them a lot on a lot of issues,  
22 but I am not sure on that specific one.

23 As far as substance abuse, we will  
24 have people that are in our pre-release unit. That

1 is a substance abuse treatment. A group of people  
2 are there specifically for substance abuse  
3 treatment. They know it. We know it. They are  
4 getting treatment. Cermak knows it. All of them  
5 sort of know the same stuff.

6 There is the confidentiality part of  
7 it, too. There are some things we don't know,  
8 obviously. But, by and large, we interact pretty  
9 well together.

10 COMMISSIONER SIMS: I just wanted to make  
11 sure you guys are working together on that.

12 The restorative justice piece that  
13 everybody has been talking about and taking down the  
14 different tiers and giving that money out. I wasn't  
15 clear on that. How did they come up with the \$5  
16 million that they wanted, when you close the jail or  
17 these buildings, that it would be given to the  
18 community? Where did that start?

19 MR. DART: If you find out, you can let me  
20 know. I would appreciate it. I have no idea.

21 I have met with a couple of groups. I  
22 attempted to work with them. They are well-meaning.  
23 At times, it is a little frustrating because they  
24 will cling to a number that I am not sure what it is

1 based on. I will try to explain to them more of  
2 what I believe are the facts and the reality, and  
3 they will still cling to what their set of facts  
4 are.

5 It has been a little bit difficult at  
6 times to deal with them.

7 I know they are well-meaning --  
8 listen, with all of the stuff I do with the mentally  
9 ill and other things, it is abundantly clear that  
10 there are very few sheriffs in the country that are  
11 as thoughtful and progressive on a lot of these  
12 issues. I am feeling some of their consternation,  
13 and I am a little bit puzzled. Because if I could  
14 find the money, [redacted] [??tape  
15 5] wanting to hire more people. My headcount is  
16 down. I am not hiring more people. I will, if they  
17 say that the policing has gotten to be a problem.

18 I don't know where they come up with  
19 their number. We have tried to explain to them that  
20 this isn't like a dollar-for-dollar anything and  
21 stuff like that.

22 Commissioner Suffredin, he nailed it.  
23 Just because the people are on electronic  
24 monitoring, doesn't mean that me and you folks are

1 free and clear, we have no responsibility -- they  
2 are just off. No, we still need people. We are  
3 doing all that work.

4 I don't know. I have been a little  
5 bit frustrated with them at times because it has  
6 been hard to get my arms around what some of the  
7 numbers are that they are talking about.

8 COMMISSIONER SIMS: Have you been to the  
9 church and they prayed over you, too?

10 MR. DART: No. Because you know what? I  
11 was going to go there. Then when they gave me the  
12 list of questions that they were going to present to  
13 me, I started getting a little offended by it.  
14 Because, "A", I am a very, very busy person. I met  
15 with them at least on two occasions. I am scheduled  
16 to meet with them the third time.

17 COMMISSIONER SIMS: I got one on you. I  
18 met with them the third time, and I have been to the  
19 church and been prayed over.

20 MR. DART: I went to Saint Paul for one of  
21 their events. I think they did pray over me at that  
22 one. I was the last person to leave the church.  
23 There was no air conditioning. It was in the middle  
24 of the summer. It was about 110 degrees in there

1 and I stayed in there for two hours. They wanted me  
2 to go to another church. I said, "You know what? I  
3 am really busy. If you want to come and meet me in  
4 my office, I am happy to do it. For the third  
5 meeting, I will be happy to do it." But, as I say,  
6 it is getting a little puzzling and frustrating.

7 COMMISSIONER SIMS: Have they asked you to  
8 sign the check?

9 MR. DART: They wanted me to sign  
10 something, too. I said, "I don't go down that  
11 road."

12 CHAIRMAN DALEY: He never signs a check.

13 COMMISSIONER SIMS: I, too, understand what  
14 they are trying to do. One of the ministers that is  
15 leading this is one of my classmates' brothers, so I  
16 am catching it real hard.

17 I was just trying to figure out -- I  
18 asked them how did they come up with this dollar  
19 amount. I told them that we can't just give you the  
20 money. We have to take care of County government  
21 first and foremost. It has been difficult for us.  
22 I was just wondering --

23 MR. DART: I am having the exact same  
24 difficulty you are. Just like yourself -- you are



1     very sincere in working with them. You believe in  
2     what they are talking about. But then when the  
3     facts aren't fitting their argument, then they want  
4     to dismiss it. That is not helping us. It is kind  
5     of frustrating.

6                 COMMISSIONER SIMS: You know, one program  
7     that you used to have that it would have been great  
8     if we probably could either resurrect it or figure  
9     out how we do that, that was the DARE program. The  
10    DARE program it got you in the schools and it got  
11    you talking to these kids early on, talking about  
12    drugs and talking about guns, and letting them see  
13    what an officer looks like.

14                I think during that time you got an  
15    opportunity, too, to find out what was going on in  
16    some of these communities. I know some of these  
17    kids would pull the officers aside and tell them  
18    things. You guys were in there.

19                I think part of what we have all done,  
20    because even when the City was doing the Chicago  
21    intervention network, or the youth delinquency  
22    programs, which is where I came out of, we were in  
23    the schools and we were able to get that  
24    information, and we were able to share that

1 information with the police and able to find out who  
2 the gang leaders were, and we were able to try to  
3 work with them to try to save these kids.

4 I think part of it, when we all pulled  
5 out of that system, I think that made it worse.  
6 Because then we had no way of knowing, other than  
7 what the police and sheriff sometimes did -- excuse  
8 me, you got a little bit rough, but with the DARE  
9 people it was a little bit different.

10 The kids were willing to give up that  
11 information and they were willing to share because  
12 they know they would be protected and they know what  
13 the police officers, if they tell something -- you  
14 know, police officers sometimes are well-meaning, if  
15 you put a kid in a really bad situation without  
16 really thinking about what you're doing.

17 I would like to see us somehow do some  
18 kind of program where you are back in the schools,  
19 talking to these kids about guns and drugs because I  
20 think it worked. I would love to see us at the  
21 County do some kind of program where we are in the  
22 schools and we are finding out that information, and  
23 we are to share that with law enforcement when we  
24 are able to get it.

1 I don't know how we can make that  
2 work. I know there is probably not any money for it  
3 right now, but we need to start thinking about going  
4 back to somehow being in those schools.

5 Commissioner Suffredin asked about  
6 catching the ringleaders. You will never catch the  
7 leaders because once one leader is gone, somebody  
8 else is waiting there to take that lead. That  
9 person has been groomed by that other person. That  
10 creates the infighting within the gangs. That is  
11 why you have so many of them killing each other  
12 because somebody does go to jail.

13 Now the next person in line thinks  
14 they are the heir apparent to the throne. Then you  
15 have all these little minions under those who are  
16 thinking that they should be the one because they  
17 killed somebody over here or they held this corner  
18 down. You will never, ever be able to stop the top  
19 person because it is forever changing.

20 Now the way they do it, it's not about  
21 area. It is about corners. It becomes even less  
22 effective for you guys because it is forever  
23 shifting and you don't know who is on what corner  
24 now, as opposed to where it was territorial.

1           MR. DART: It is interesting. We are in  
2 the schools with our youth service people, but they  
3 are not police. They are working with them on  
4 bullying. They are working with them on drunk  
5 driving.

6           As far as the notion that you are  
7 talking about, you're right. We have sort of pulled  
8 back from that. A lot of numbers that have come out  
9 over the years, like the DARE program as it existed,  
10 didn't show it to be really effective.

11          COMMISSIONER SIMS: I beg to differ with  
12 you on that. When we were in the schools, when we  
13 worked together with you guys -- I worked on the  
14 southeast side of Chicago. We got to see actually  
15 what went down. We got to see kids telling us that  
16 somebody had a gun. When we got to see somebody  
17 tell us there was going to be a gang fight, or if  
18 there was a funeral of a gang member, we went to the  
19 funeral that they weren't taking the body out of the  
20 casket during that time.

21          We got to see how we got to work with  
22 you and give you the guys' information that we had  
23 as well.

24          Nationally, if you look at it,

1     probably not. But if you are looking at it  
2     communitywise, I think you did have good numbers.

3             MR. DART: As I said, I just based it on  
4     the studies that were done throughout the country.  
5     It was less that. It was more of the personnel side  
6     of it, the budget, they being what they are. If you  
7     see it like a model of some nature that is going on  
8     somewhere, I will be willing to look at it. There  
9     is ways to do it, even if you pilot it, start small  
10    with a couple of schools that are maybe experiencing  
11    greater problems than others.

12            I will be happy to give it a trial.  
13    It is one thing, as I say, Commissioner, no one has  
14    cornered the market on great ideas in this area. It  
15    is quite the contrary. A lot of flailing around.  
16    That is why, when we were talking earlier about the  
17    gun effort here, we are not going to return out all  
18    of the old stuff. They continue to complain about  
19    the obvious. No, let's go beyond that.

20            If you have some models that you come  
21    across, let me know and I would love to talk to you  
22    about it.

23            COMMISSIONER SIMS: I know you mentioned  
24    that some of the communities work with your office

1 quite well and some communities that don't. You and  
2 I, we kind of differ on the approach of how you get  
3 in there. I know in the communities that you are  
4 in, in some of my District, it is because -- and  
5 Zelda and I have had conversations and we have  
6 walked that path, how do you get into the  
7 communities. Your approach is you are the Sheriff.

8 MR. DART: You guys are more patient.

9 COMMISSIONER SIMS: Yes, and we are able to  
10 have the conversation with communities that we want  
11 to get into. I know your relationship with Robbins  
12 is kind of --

13 MR. DART: It goes up and down.

14 COMMISSIONER SIMS: It goes up and down,  
15 but I think as long as Zelda and I stay engaged  
16 about it, we can kind of smooth those things over.

17 MR. DART: I think it is up right now. I  
18 am supposed to meet him this week, so it might be  
19 down before the week is up.

20 COMMISSIONER SIMS: I think when you first  
21 went in to Robbins initially, that was even before  
22 you came on board, that is how we started. It was a  
23 conversation to get into those communities. I think  
24 what it is, the Mayor and the police chiefs

1 sometimes have a misconception of why you are coming  
2 in and how you are coming in.

3 I think if the conversation starts in  
4 the beginning, and maybe it is the people that you  
5 have that is sitting down at the table when you are  
6 going into those communities, smooth that over  
7 before it all takes place. I think it is a better  
8 fit.

9 MR. DART: I am open to anything that  
10 works. I do think that we are at the point now, all  
11 they have to do is talk to Mayor [REDACTED]  
12 [??tape 5] Dolton and say, "No. Working with the  
13 Sheriff was an outrageous success. It has brought  
14 nothing but good things. He had no other agenda.  
15 He didn't come in to try to do anything other than  
16 what what we have said."

17 That has been our record. Whenever we  
18 have gone into towns, we said, "Here is what we are  
19 going to do." We do it and we leave.

20 [REDACTED] [tape 5] then I  
21 went back and forth with the Mayor on this  
22 [REDACTED] [tape 5] on how I had  
23 grander notions, I didn't.

24 COMMISSIONER SIMS: You can't compare

1 Dolton. His background is law enforcement. You  
2 know, I know something that everybody else doesn't  
3 know. His background is law enforcement so  
4 naturally he would be willing. I think you would be  
5 a good fit for Dixmoor.

6 MR. DART: We were.

7 COMMISSIONER SIMS: The Mayor of Dixmoor is  
8 getting that outside conversation maybe from  
9 somebody else -- you don't want them to come in. I  
10 have had that conversation to tell him, "Your police  
11 officers are not trained to really do what they need  
12 to do." She is grateful that you took down the  
13 building. I am grateful that you took down the  
14 building. That was a building that Planning was  
15 trying to work on.

16 The money was never there to get it  
17 down. You stepped in. You used the guys for a good  
18 thing -- to take that building down -- because it  
19 was something that couldn't be done. I did call  
20 from time to time asking, "Can you get the Sheriff  
21 to come and take down these buildings we have got  
22 over here?"

23 That is good. I think if you continue  
24 to do more of that for those communities that really



1 needs your help with some of them out there because  
2 it is a revolving door. The police officers come.  
3 It was mentioned maybe by Commissioner Murphy that  
4 you train those officers. What will happen if you  
5 train those officers, and if something should  
6 happen, they are not staying. Where are they going?

7 MR. DART: They are leaving to make more  
8 money.

9 COMMISSIONER SIMS: They are going north.  
10 They are not staying south.

11 MR. DART: You're right.

12 COMMISSIONER SIMS: They don't even live in  
13 the community. So when you train them, they are  
14 definitely taking flight. They are leaving. The  
15 day that you give them that certificate, a week  
16 later they are going somewhere else.

17 I don't know how we fix that. The  
18 communities are so poor, they don't see them making  
19 the dollars that they want to make.

20 Anything that I can do to help you to  
21 get in the communities to protect the people and to  
22 protect the community, I am willing to help.

23 MR. DART: I am not trying to get off of  
24 it, but you and Zelda have worked pretty well.

1     Anything you and Zelda can do to work on these other  
2     communities, when you want to bring me in and I  
3     can't screw it up, invite me.

4                 COMMISSIONER SIMS:  I tried to nicely say  
5     that.

6                 MR. DART:  I acknowledge it.

7                 COMMISSIONER SIMS:  I think some of them  
8     would really welcome it because they know they  
9     really need it.  They don't get the training.  The  
10    people they get don't come and stay.

11                MR. DART:  I will be really happy to help  
12    you.

13                COMMISSIONER SIMS:  I know you will.

14                MR. DART:  Thank you.

15                CHAIRMAN DALEY:  Commissioner Gainer.

16                COMMISSIONER GAINER:  How are you?  How is  
17    it going?

18                MR. DART:  Okay.

19                COMMISSIONER GAINER:  Okay.  A couple of  
20    questions.  This might have been addressed.  I think  
21    it was vaguely, but I just wanted to clarify this.  
22    When the Hospital came to testify, they had an  
23    additional \$2.5 million in something called  
24    "purchased services not otherwise classified".  It

1     wasn't clear to me what that was. I said, "What is  
2     that?" They said the Sheriff wants to open up a  
3     facility on the grounds of the former boot camp, and  
4     they need to expand and service the people from  
5     Cermak.

6                     Then there was some lack of clarity as  
7     to was that happening, was it not happening. Is  
8     that something that you think you are going to do in  
9     the next year without an expansion of Cermak?

10                    MR. DART: The goal all along was to  
11     literally lift out a group of detainees.

12                    COMMISSIONER GAINER: Totally, high-  
13     functioning.

14                    MR. DART: Just literally lift them out up  
15     from their living unit they are in, and move them  
16     over to the other.

17                    I was puzzled at first because Cermak  
18     said they couldn't provide the care over there.  
19     Doctor Shannon and I sat down and talked. At the  
20     time, we were spread so thin, unless the entire  
21     building is being emptied, we can't cover something.  
22     Even though it's close, it is not close enough for  
23     them. So I understood. This was his effort to try  
24     to accommodate.

1                   COMMISSIONER GAINER:   Totally.   What I am  
2   unclear about -- was that something that was  
3   actually going to happen in the next year?

4                   MR. DART:   I am pretty confident it is.   We  
5   also had a capital part of it that is being executed  
6   this year as well.   It was going to bring up to  
7   speed some of their living units on the compound.   I  
8   am pretty confident we are all set to go.

9                   COMMISSIONER GAINER:   Do you have a sense  
10   or could you get back to us about this?   What this  
11   is going to be for the first year is a contract  
12   before they can hire people and put actual doctors  
13   and nurses that are employed by the County there.  
14   How long do we need the contract for what is  
15   relevant for how much funding there is?   If we can  
16   figure out -- is it half of a year, based on the  
17   fact that there is going to have to be capital  
18   improvements?   Is it a quarter of the year?   What do  
19   we really think so that they can calibrate the  
20   contract?   It is a big jump.   It was about \$3  
21   million.   Do we need all of that as we think about  
22   that, using that for the first year?   That will be  
23   great.

24                   MR. DART:   I got it.   I was just informed I

1     actually have one unit that is ready to go now.

2                 COMMISSIONER GAINER:  Is there an oracle  
3     back there?  The woman who knows everything?

4                 MR. DART:  She runs the place.

5                 COMMISSIONER GAINER:  Nobody is unclear  
6     about that, exactly.

7                 I'm sorry.  What was your answer?

8                 MR. DART:  You had a second question; I'm  
9     sorry.

10                COMMISSIONER GAINER:  How long over the  
11     year, "A", is it happening, and "B", if it is going  
12     to happen, how long?

13                MR. DART:  It will happen.  I will have to  
14     get back to you on how long the contract is to be  
15     needed.

16                COMMISSIONER GAINER:  Commissioner  
17     Suffredin covered a bunch of this, but I was kind of  
18     curious, between the comments by the Superintendent  
19     and the head of the FBI when he was here last week  
20     talking about kind of the fetal position of the  
21     police department.

22                What do you observe, and this is kind  
23     of an anecdotal opinion, but what do you observe  
24     when your officers are out and about?  And when you

1     see them coming into the jail, do you think that is  
2     actually a true statement?

3                 MR. DART:  We haven't seen it in our  
4     department.  I can't speak for other departments.  
5     We definitely haven't seen it in our department.  
6     Are we aware that the world changes?  Trust me.  Do  
7     my people make mistakes?  Yes.  We are just like  
8     anybody else.  We make mistakes.  Years ago we told  
9     everybody that this new thing developed.  It was  
10    called a cellphone.  It had a camera technology  
11    thing on it.  You should always think you are being  
12    viewed by the world anyway.  Now I think there is an  
13    even more important reason to do it.

14                It wasn't something where the events  
15    that occurred in Ferguson and Staten Island.  It was  
16    something that we are dramatically changing what we  
17    did.  We have not seen any change in our officers'  
18    behavior.  We haven't.

19                COMMISSIONER GAINER:  There was step  
20    increases for nonunion employees that were  
21    implemented.  Then there was the two percent COLA.  
22    If left to your own devices, to take that pot of  
23    increases and distribute them, is that the way that  
24    you would have done it in your department?

1 MR. DART: No.

2 COMMISSIONER GAINER: How would you do it?

3 MR. DART: I would rather have had whatever  
4 the amount of money you folks determine was the  
5 amount you wanted to set aside for that given to me  
6 and knowing that I had a cap on per person, but that  
7 certain people might not have merited it, I could  
8 just not give it to them.

9 I have been informed now that what I  
10 need to do is I need to go back in and pull it back  
11 from people that I don't believe merited it.

12 At the end of the day, what would have  
13 happened -- make up a number. Let's say you gave me  
14 a million bucks. You would have gotten some of that  
15 million back. "A", you wouldn't let me spend more,  
16 which is cool. "B", there are certain people that  
17 haven't performed up to certain levels. It is  
18 easier for me to do it on the front end. I have a  
19 pool of money --

20 COMMISSIONER GAINER: I get it. Part of me  
21 was asking it because this case up before.

22 Tanya, was there some sort of Shakman  
23 or employment plan rationale that requires everybody  
24 to get a raise whether or not they might have

1     deserved it?

2                 MS. ANTHONY:   I don't believe it was  
3     related to the Shakman employment plan.  That was  
4     presented to the Board, and the Board approved it.

5                 COMMISSIONER GAINER:  I understand how it  
6     got approved.  What I am trying to figure out is we  
7     have constant conversations on the Board.  I get in  
8     the public sector there are jobs that have a salary.  
9     People get those salaries whether or not they would  
10    have done the job for less than the \$30,000 raise or  
11    whatever.  But in a situation in which we are  
12    handing out increases  -- I know that you are new.  
13    You weren't necessarily here when it was the  
14    deciding factor.  Is that something that we are open  
15    to letting people who run large departments look at  
16    differently?

17                CHAIRMAN DALEY:  The two percent,  
18    Commissioner, that goes into effect in December, the  
19    nonunion ones?

20                COMMISSIONER GAINER:  I am talking about  
21    both.  Both.  Both of those things.  The four and a  
22    half percent --

23                CHAIRMAN DALEY:  For nonunion.

24                COMMISSIONER GAINER:  I understand the



1 bargaining steps.

2 MS. ANTHONY: My understanding of some of  
3 the rationale behind the two percent as presented to  
4 the Board was because the unions were getting such a  
5 substantial increase, the managers were pretty much  
6 being surpassed by this ordinance. So it was a  
7 matter of salary --

8 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioners, I think we  
9 still would have the opportunity to pull that back,  
10 if the department wanted to not participate.

11 COMMISSIONER GAINER: I understand that you  
12 got to keep people. You don't want to ignore the  
13 fact that someone who is not in the bargaining unit  
14 mean that they are being penalized because that then  
15 creates a whole bunch of perverse incentives.

16 I guess the question is -- if somebody  
17 is running a department, and the greatest expense is  
18 personnel, and the ability to do the job well is  
19 driven by personnel, don't we want to hand them the  
20 ability to incentivize the right people and also,  
21 you know, and also send a message to the people who  
22 are not actually doing the work?

23 MS. ANTHONY: I will defer that to the  
24 statement that the Chairman just made.

1                   CHAIRMAN DALEY: I think we can. The  
2 Sheriff or any department, the electeds, maybe we  
3 can put that on the Board agenda on the twenty-  
4 eighth to give them the opportunity to decide who  
5 will get the two percent. Take the two percent back  
6 and give them the opportunity.

7                   COMMISSIONER GAINER: Where the budgets are  
8 based on year by year, has that already been given  
9 to people? Has that already showed up on the  
10 people's checks?

11                  CHAIRMAN DALEY: Yes.

12                  COMMISSIONER GAINER: But the two percent  
13 has not because that is not going to happen until  
14 the budget happens?

15                  CHAIRMAN DALEY: The two percent is  
16 December 1. At our last Board meeting before the  
17 vote will be the twenty-eighth. I think we could  
18 look at the possibility of giving the electeds the  
19 opportunity to pull back and determine.

20                  COMMISSIONER GAINER: Tanya, do you know  
21 how much that is for the Sheriff?

22                  MS. ANTHONY: For the Sheriff's Office, I  
23 believe it is near \$2 million.

24                  MS. HERRERA: It is probably about \$200,000

1 just for the two percent -- about \$400,000.

2 COMMISSIONER GAINER: For 2016 alone?

3 MS. HERRERA: Yes.

4 COMMISSIONER GAINER: For the \$400,000, do  
5 you have any interest in having the ability to be  
6 more selective about it?

7 MR. DART: Yes, I do. I understand the  
8 point that was made earlier was very real. We do  
9 have issues frequently where you have this tension  
10 with the people. Union increases and now the  
11 supervisors -- I get that. But I would like to have  
12 the ability to reward the people that are doing a  
13 good job and people who have not met that bar --  
14 maybe not enough where they should be fired, but  
15 they are not meeting the bar.

16 COMMISSIONER GAINER: That they be  
17 rewarded?

18 MR. DART: Yes, absolutely.

19 COMMISSIONER GAINER: Mr. Chairman, what do  
20 you think?

21 CHAIRMAN DALEY: We would have to pass an  
22 item on the Board agenda on the twenty-eighth. I'm  
23 not sure of the terminology, but I think we would  
24 have to go to the electeds to determine whether or

1 not the nonunion employees who would be receiving it  
2 on December 1, to go back and make it selective.  
3 Let the departments and the elected officials  
4 determine that.

5 I am trying to figure it out. Maybe  
6 we will have HR come down before the meeting is up  
7 today.

8 COMMISSIONER GAINER: This is not going to  
9 happen. They can get back to us, if there is a  
10 desire to go beyond December 1. What happens if  
11 there is a pool of funds that is given to the head  
12 of the department? Then they can make a decision  
13 how it is allocated. At the end of the year, you  
14 are doing an evaluation of the people anyway. It  
15 gives them some incentive.

16 CHAIRMAN DALEY: I think we would have the  
17 ability to take it back. I am sure we would. I  
18 know we would.

19 COMMISSIONER GAINER: Maybe we can look at  
20 that. Then we will just get back to you guys on it.

21 CHAIRMAN DALEY: We would have to have each  
22 of the electeds determine that, giving them the  
23 authority.

24 COMMISSIONER GAINER: You're right. They

1 do have the authority and the responsibility to run  
2 their department with all of these people. Some may  
3 elect to and some may not. But that is their right,  
4 I guess.

5 Then we are on the human trafficking  
6 stuff. I really appreciate how you put yourself out  
7 there, even sometimes when it is really risky. But  
8 I think that that is great. I am glad that you guys  
9 are still operating. That credit card thing was  
10 genius. Why do we have to keep playing on their  
11 playing field? We should go after them where it  
12 makes more sense. I thought that was really clever.

13 I assume that MasterCard still  
14 maintains that they are not taking that. Or have  
15 they ended that?

16 MR. DART: Correct. Our latest  
17 understanding is none of them have gotten back into  
18 it. The ads are going up for free.

19 I want to make a point. Kirkland &  
20 Ellis has worked with us extensively for free, and  
21 they did an amazing job. The State's Attorney's  
22 Office was involved and did a fantastic job as well.  
23 But Kirkland & Ellis brought a unique specialty to  
24 this that was unreal, for free.

1           COMMISSIONER GAINER: Is it like around the  
2 bankruptcy? Who was it in Kirkland? Kind of in  
3 contracts or the financial practice?

4           MR. DART: A couple of First Amendment  
5 specialists. They were absolutely unreal. They  
6 literally were flying around the country at the drop  
7 of a hat because this was a TRO, a preliminary  
8 injunction. There was no typical court system of  
9 months and months. This was hours and weeks. At  
10 the drop of a hat, they flew to Seattle to depose  
11 the CEO, I believe it was, of backpage.com or some  
12 of their other people, and they were back that same  
13 night for a hearing back in Chicago. All of it for  
14 free. They were amazing.

15           COMMISSIONER GAINER: Putting the ads up  
16 for free; is that just out of pique? Or to maintain  
17 -- just put the ads up for free for them to  
18 maintain? Or is it just for them to disintegrate --

19           MR. DART: They were caught off-guard.  
20 This was probably where they are figuring out what  
21 their business plan is going to be. They are going  
22 to go with this route.

23                       We have noticed that the ads haven't  
24 diminished at all. They have added now where there

1 is actual videos out there that are much more  
2 suggestive than things that they have done in the  
3 past. Whatever monitoring they were suggesting that  
4 they were doing, I don't think it is going on at  
5 all.

6 COMMISSIONER GAINER: So they are just  
7 totally sticking with the party line of this is all  
8 about adults engaging in consensual activity and  
9 that is all it is?

10 MR. DART: They just keep saying First  
11 Amendment, First Amendment, First Amendment.

12 COMMISSIONER GAINER: On another note, what  
13 are your thoughts about the drop-in center in the  
14 eighth police district, the prostitution-diversion  
15 kind of drop-in center? I know Rebecca Janowitz and  
16 others have been working on it. What are your  
17 thoughts on it?

18 MR. DART: I haven't heard of it. Nobody  
19 has talked to me about it yet. The notion of having  
20 opportunities out there is helpful. Here is the  
21 problem we have had. It is interesting.

22 In California, they have had the big  
23 change out there because of overcrowding issues, a  
24 Federal Court case, where they decriminalized

1     certain things.  Other events is they made them  
2     misdemeanors.  There are other ones that they said  
3     are now county offenses -- all of the rest of that  
4     stuff.

5                     A lot of that was very good, but they  
6     didn't think about the back end of it.  Now they  
7     have people who are committing crimes over and over  
8     again, and they cannot basically be arrested.

9                     When we took the felony away from  
10    prostitution, that was our biggest lever we had on  
11    getting people help.  Now we offer help all the  
12    time, and people don't want it.

13                    The problem is going to be in the  
14    execution of this.  This is the first I have heard  
15    of it.  No one has talked to me about a drop-in  
16    center.

17                    COMMISSIONER GAINER:  We will make sure  
18    that they do.  It should be coordinated with the  
19    efforts that you are already doing on the street.

20                    MR. DART:  You would think so.  The big  
21    thing, for your benefit, the real time personal  
22    experience has been -- without any leverage we are  
23    getting very few takers.  We always offer services.  
24    Occasionally they do it themselves, but we always



1 offer services. Knowing now that it is a  
2 misdemeanor and they are going to bond out, they,  
3 across the board, one hundred percent of the time  
4 say they don't want the services.

5 COMMISSIONER GAINER: When the State's  
6 Attorney came, we talked about the whole move away  
7 from a felony. I would like to understand who is  
8 actually taking us up on these offers? Or is it the  
9 people at kind of the end of the line who realize  
10 that this is something that you should not be  
11 continually doing? I will have Rebecca reach out to  
12 all of you so you guys understand what they are  
13 doing out there.

14 We all know to some degree there is a  
15 desperate need for services for all of these women.  
16 What is the plan and how can they do that? I will  
17 have them reach out to you.

18 Okay, Tom. I appreciate it.

19 MR. DART: Thank you very much.

20 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Steele.

21 COMMISSIONER STEELE: Thank you, Mr.  
22 Chairman.

23 Hello, Mr. Sheriff. How are you?

24 MR. DART: Fine. How are you?

1                   COMMISSIONER STEELE: Thank you for being  
2 here, and allowing me to say a few things to you.

3                   Thank you for the many wonderful  
4 projects that you have helped to redevelop at the  
5 Sheriff's Department. I think we are moving in a  
6 better direction with the RCA program. The day  
7 reporting program, those kinds of things I think you  
8 kind of put them back into the community where they  
9 need to be, and helping to work with the folks in  
10 the neighborhood, with those types of outreach  
11 programs, where they have the services.

12                  People want to have access to work  
13 with your department, to get themselves back on the  
14 right track again. We are doing the right thing.  
15 Thank you. I appreciate what you are doing there.

16                  Tell me a little bit more about what  
17 we are doing with the boot camp building?

18                  MR. DART: The boot camp building -- the  
19 Facilities Management folks have been so helpful.  
20 They are always helpful, but they have been  
21 particularly helpful with that.

22                  We have taken the structure and we  
23 have turned it into the first in the country mental  
24 health treatment center.

1                   You folks know this. When I am  
2 talking with many other people, they don't  
3 understand it. Because the nature of the jail is  
4 that you don't know how long people are there. They  
5 are waiting on trial. It could be today; it could  
6 be tomorrow. The case could be thrown out, whatever  
7 it is. There is a little bit of guesswork involved  
8 here.

9                   With the mental health population, we  
10 can guess better than others. The whole program  
11 was, we believe people who are severely mentally ill  
12 are getting ready to leave our custody, and most  
13 likely go back to the street. We move them out to  
14 the center. It doesn't look like a jail. It is  
15 something like a college setting that has gardens  
16 and the rest of the stuff. Have them live out  
17 there. While they are living out there, they can  
18 get around-the-clock treatment, job services,  
19 discharge planning that is going to be connected to  
20 them and to the community, and have this pathway out  
21 to the community, and then have the support system  
22 out into the community for them.

23                   That whole structure has been  
24 converted for that purpose. Facilities has done

1     amazing things to get it up to speed right now. We  
2     still have a couple of capital things that need to  
3     be done so we can have people living out there full-  
4     time.

5                     My goal all along was to have them  
6     live out there full-time. But because of the issue  
7     -- Commissioner Gainer has brought this up -- with  
8     Cermak not having the staffing to do it out there,  
9     we basically bus the people out there in the  
10    morning. They spend all day out there, and then we  
11    bus them back.

12                    It has been transformative for the  
13    people out there, and they will be the first to tell  
14    you.

15                    We are almost to completion. We are  
16    the first in the country to do something like this.  
17    Others are picking up on it now, trying to get out  
18    in front of it because all of the Sheriffs are  
19    starting to wake up and find out that you have  
20    become the new mental health provider for your  
21    State.

22                    COMMISSIONER STEELE: Thank you for sharing  
23    that.

24                    What is the average time frame for an

1 individual to spend at that site? Is it ninety  
2 days? Thirty days?

3 MR. DART: To be honest with you, it is not  
4 defined. It is one of those ones where we don't  
5 know the ups and downs of their cases.

6 The goal is to have them out there for  
7 at least thirty days, but the longer the better. It  
8 is the thing that frustrates me to now end, but it  
9 is the nature of it. It is not anyone's problem  
10 because you don't know if they are coming or going.  
11 You want to have them out there so you can fully get  
12 them up to speed, where they are at, and not have to  
13 leave midway through it. When it's time to go, they  
14 go.

15 But because of the bond we build out  
16 in the community, many of them are coming back to us  
17 to sit through the group sessions. It doesn't cost  
18 us anything extra. We are working with them still.  
19 We are staying connected with them.

20 It is something where the optimum  
21 period of time will probably be closer to sixty or  
22 ninety days, but we don't necessarily get the  
23 optimum time.

24 COMMISSIONER STEELE: The last question in

1     that area. With those individuals who have mild  
2     mental health issues, how have you potentially  
3     looked at the consideration of having animal support  
4     with those individuals, having dogs or any other  
5     type of thing that they can care for which kind of  
6     keeps them very mildly -- we have lowered the  
7     mildness --

8             MR. DART: I love it. The problem that we  
9     have run into -- seriously, if anybody you are  
10    working with or taking with has some ideas on this,  
11    please let me know. I have run this out now two or  
12    three times.

13            The problems that we keep facing are  
14    the very things that I brought up a few minutes ago.  
15    Because of the transient nature of the population,  
16    there are people that agree to it, but there might  
17    be some other ones that have a different view on it.  
18    We couldn't do the dog program because we couldn't  
19    commit to the people there that they would be long  
20    enough to learn how to do it. We would be cycling  
21    people in who wouldn't have the proper training and  
22    all of the rest of it.

23            If somebody has a different vision --  
24    the concept I love. I would love to pull it off. I

1 just need someone who is smarter than me to figure  
2 out how to do it.

3 COMMISSIONER STEELE: There is a legitimate  
4 way. I have worked it with the veterans. It really  
5 has changed some of the veterans' lives. Generally,  
6 most of these veterans keep them, but they have some  
7 temp dogs that they work with and they are able to  
8 be temporarily with the individuals for sixty days,  
9 a minimum period of time that really has been  
10 transformative with those individuals.

11 I can certainly connect you with them.

12 MR. DART: Please let me know.

13 COMMISSIONER STEELE: Thank you for your  
14 comments on that.

15 The last issue for you -- we have had  
16 some issues or concerns about individuals trying to  
17 apply to become Sheriffs. Going through the testing  
18 process it generally comes to one key area,  
19 psychological, that generally takes the people down  
20 a different road to get approved to get into the  
21 Sheriff's Department.

22 What can we do -- and are we doing --  
23 to make sure that we have a level playing field for  
24 all individuals to get to be considered part of the

1 department?

2 MR. DART: That is one thing that is  
3 tricky. We put the psychological in because we are  
4 trying to figure out everything we could to make  
5 sure that we are catching anybody that wouldn't have  
6 the proper type of mindset to be in law enforcement.

7 We have all seen and read about these  
8 scenarios that have played out in the real world,  
9 when people sit there and say, "How did they ever  
10 get a badge and gun with that type of disposition?"

11 We put the test in. We have been told  
12 by the experts it is objective, it is well-thought-  
13 out.

14 I would be lying to you if I said I  
15 understand that concept so well, where I would say  
16 absolutely.

17 We are looking into that and seeing if  
18 there is any disparity.

19 COMMISSIONER STEELE: I would like to be  
20 the eyes with you.

21 MR. DART: I promise you I will get back to  
22 you on that.

23 COMMISSIONER STEELE: If you can, please  
24 involve me in anything that I can do to assist you



1 with that.

2 Thank you also for Zelda. She has a  
3 new reporting program that she is bringing forward  
4 into the future. She reports what you guys are  
5 doing at the Sheriff's Department, and in holding  
6 our detainees there. She has given me some examples  
7 of it. I'm very pleased to know that you guys are  
8 going to be doing a lot better reporting system so  
9 that for us and the public to know how many folks we  
10 have under your control on a day-to-day basis.

11 Thank you, Zelda, for doing that work  
12 and getting it down to us.

13 MR. DART: Thank you so much, Commissioner.

14 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Morrison.

15 COMMISSIONER MORRISON: Thank you, Mr.  
16 Chairman.

17 Sheriff Dart, how are you?

18 MR. DART: Thank you, Commissioner. It's  
19 been good to meet you.

20 COMMISSIONER MORRISON: The good part about  
21 being one of the last ones is ninety-nine percent of  
22 everything has already been asked and vetted. It  
23 makes it simple for me.

24 You got a job. You have to be a

1 police officer. You have to be a corrections  
2 person. You have to be a mental health  
3 administrator. You have to be a business person.  
4 And you have 6200+ employees to corral.

5 Last week in here the JTDC folks were  
6 here. They made a statement that over thirty  
7 percent of their staff was out on some form of  
8 leave. We will flesh that out a little bit later.

9 I will ask the same question of the  
10 Sheriff's Office. Of that employee base, how many  
11 folks are active and how many are out on any form of  
12 leave or otherwise.

13 MR. DART: We have about thirty percent  
14 that take advantage of FMLA at different times. As  
15 far as on disability -- we can get you that number  
16 as far as how many are out because of disability-  
17 related issues at any given time, but it is a major  
18 problem.

19 Particularly, it is a problem on our  
20 correctional side of things. Correctional is our  
21 largest group. I don't have the chart in front of  
22 me, and I apologize. I broke down the percentages.  
23 Percentagewise, based on whether you are in  
24 corrections, deputy policy officer, it was our

1 highest percentage that we had that had FMLA,  
2 etcetera.

3 It has been a problem. It is the  
4 reason for our overtime issues, not just FMLA, but  
5 the call-ins.

6 COMMISSIONER MORRISON: If you can send  
7 that over, I would appreciate it.

8 MR. DART: I will get you all the different  
9 columns.

10 COMMISSIONER MORRISON: It is a scenario  
11 that I think the County Board needs to look at  
12 countywide.

13 Thank you for that. It's a pleasure  
14 to meet you.

15 MR. DART: It is nice meeting you. I know  
16 we will get together soon. I apologize. It has  
17 been a little crazy lately.

18 COMMISSIONER MORRISON: Great.

19 MR. DART: Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN DALEY: We have a representative  
21 from HR who is here.

22 MS. STRISKO: I am Rebecca Strisko, Deputy  
23 HR Chief.

24 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Rebecca, the question was

1 brought up about the COLAs for the nonunions. We  
2 know one has gone into effect and one will be going  
3 into effect on December 1. The question was raised,  
4 whatever that percent is on December 1 I believe  
5 with the Sheriff's Office. He was not given the  
6 opportunity to say -- Hey, I believe rather than a  
7 blanket raise for everyone, whether or not he could  
8 say we will pull that back and he be given the  
9 opportunity to say who will get it.

10 MS. STRISKO: The resolution specifically  
11 stated that we were recommending them in the budget  
12 for FY16. It still has to be approved.

13 Our reasoning for doing the rules we  
14 did is because it just added the cost of living. It  
15 is not a merit increase. It doesn't necessarily  
16 have to do with a person's performance. I  
17 understand there could be concerns about that. So  
18 that is something I would like to pull in budget and  
19 legal counsel on to discuss it.

20 CHAIRMAN DALEY: We have the opportunity.  
21 There is another Board meeting, I think it is the  
22 eighteenth. If we choose, maybe we can give them  
23 the opportunity to pull that back, where it will  
24 give them the opportunity whether or not to choose.

1 To let them decide who would get it.

2 MS. STRISKO: That is why we should bring  
3 in legal counsel. I am not sure if the current  
4 resolution, as passed, would allow for that as it is  
5 now.

6 CHAIRMAN DALEY: We can always amend it  
7 because it doesn't go into effect until December 1.  
8 As the Sheriff said, he should be given that  
9 opportunity.

10 Thank you.

11 MS. STRISKO: Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Tom, just before you  
13 leave. You referred to the new division. What are  
14 the plans or the idea?

15 MR. DART: They are vague, to be quite  
16 honest with you. But it was an agreement that part  
17 and parcel of ripping them down there would be a  
18 plan in place. I am pretty confident that there is  
19 some funding to have that plan put in place because  
20 we do not want to get behind the Federal Judge on  
21 this one.

22 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Again, you clarified the  
23 point. You did not hire seventy-seven new  
24 attorneys.

1                   MR. DART: No. We only have sixteen total  
2 on staff.

3                   CHAIRMAN DALEY: I am clarifying that  
4 point. Even though there is a decrease in  
5 headcount, you still have the obligation with the  
6 decrease.

7                   MR. DART: In headcount, yes.

8                   CHAIRMAN DALEY: Thank you so much.

9                   MR. DART: Thank you everybody.

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