The original documents are located in Box 22, folder "Tuesday at the White House Meeting, April 15, 1975 - Law Enforcement Assistance Administration" of the Stanley Scott Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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TUESDAY AT THE WHITE HOUSE
April 15, 1975

AGENDA

1:00 p.m.	Coffee	Family Theater
1:15 p.m.	Welcoming Remarks	Stanley S. Scott Special Assistant to the President
1:25 p.m.	Greetings	William J. Baroody, Jr. Assistant to the President
1:35 p.m.	Introduction of Speakers	Stanley S. Scott
1:40 p.m.	Overall Concerns and Efforts of Law Enforcement Assistance Administration	Richard W. Velde Administrator LEAA Department of Justice
2:00 p.m.	Questions and Answers	
2:40 p.m.	Coffee Break and Photographs	
2:55 p.m.	Panel Discussion - Urban Concerns of the '70s and LEAA	Richard W. Velde Administrator LEAA
		Richard D. Parsons Associate Director Domestic Council
		Charles Work Deputy Administrator LEAA
		Herbert Rice Director of Civil Rights Compliance LEAA
		Cornelius Cooper Regional Administrator Philadelphia Region LEAA

10 or 15 minutes

Two minutes on area of concern

Lawyers - Senate + Prof + Business - Public Officials + Law Enforcement + Officials + Education + Concerned Americans

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SScott:ph

Dear _____: (last name basis unless indicated otherwise)

You are cordially invited to attend a "Tuesday at the White House" meeting on April 15, 1975, starting promptly at 1:00 p.m. This two-way communication session will last until 3:45 p.m., and will be followed by a special tour of the White House.

Leaders of the discussion will include top level officials from The White House and the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

Entrance to the White House will be through the East Gate, where you will be directed to the Family Theater.

Please acknowledge acceptance by telephone to my office, at 202-456-2587 by April 9 with Social Security and phone numbers. Should you desire to send a representative please furnish name, address, telephone and Social Security numbers.

The President sincerely appreciates your interest.

Sincerely,

Stanley S. Scott
Special Assistant
to the President

_____

_____

_____

_____

Attachment (List of Invitees)

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V. President
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Dear Frank:

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Ms. Clio Sawyer
Business Ladies in Session
Post Office Box 2141
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Miss Elvah Turner
Vice President
Business Ladies in Session
2651 Tremainsville Road
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Mrs. Diane Turner
Chairperson, Educational Committee
Business Ladies in Session
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419/247-4734 or 419/536-9055

Mrs. Billie Sewell
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Sheriff Lee Brown
Multnomah County Department
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Andrew Chisolm, Ph.D.
National Association of Blacks
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University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30602

Honorable Bennett Cooper
Commissioner, Department of Economic
and Community Development
30 Wast Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

A. Reginal Eaves, Commissioner
Public Safety Commission
Atlanta, Georgia

Charles M. Hill, Director
Wisconsin Counsil on Criminal Justice
122 W. Washington
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Sheriff William Lucas
Wayne County
525 Clinton Street
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Duplicate

Charles M. Hill, Director
Wisconsin Counsil on Criminal Justice
122 W. Washington
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Honorable Benjamin Ward
Commissioner, New York Department
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I THINK WE ALREADY HAVE HIM

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Chief Hubert Williams
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Dr. Claudewell Thomas
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Mr. Saul Arrington
Administrator
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Eleanor Holmes Norton (Mrs.)
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New York Commission on Human Rights
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Dr. Alonzo C. Crim
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Dear Alonzo:

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Mr. Robert Woodson
Director
Criminal Justice Program
National Urban League
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TOTAL: ~~67~~ 66

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I appreciate this opportunity to be with you to present an overview of LEAA's efforts in the prevention and reduction of crime in the nation. I also am looking forward to the question-and-answer period when I can discuss with you in greater detail a number of matters that are of vital importance to all of us--individually and collectively.

LEAA has been in existence for nearly seven years and has distributed more than $4 billion to state and local governments to help them improve their criminal justice and law enforcement capabilities. Tens of thousands of programs and projects have been funded with this money, millions of manhours have been applied to determine effective, efficient, and economical ways to fight crime. There are projects to improve the management and administration of courts, to deploy policemen more effectively, to find jobs for offenders, to sharpen the skills of criminal justice personnel, to give prosecutors better tools to fight crime, and to break the jail-street-crime-jail cycle of the drug addict through rehabilitation efforts.

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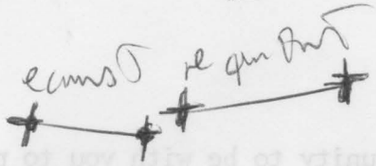
① Control Complaint

② J.D. Cross Reference



Petition –

Bob Woodson –

J.D. Flow:

① ✓ for J.D.

Bus – State office ✓

② Crime index office

③ Hiring system

For LEAA, for you, for the nation--the stakes are high. We are working against the unrelenting pressures of time and a crime rate that is pushing steadily upward--a 17 percent increase last year. On the other hand, we are seeking a freedom from crime that would free us from fear, improve our quality of life, and let us better enjoy our environment, our everyday activities. That is a worthwhile goal.

LEAA, in its efforts to improve criminal justice, is striving to encourage mutual responsibility between citizens and the criminal justice system. That means involving the community--individual citizens, neighborhoods, schools, and churches--in crime reduction efforts. Technology, urban stress, and the pace of change in America has produced a society in which it is difficult for the individual to participate in a responsible and meaningful way. More and more, society is placing greater responsibility on its institutions and less on itself. Much of the alienation in America today may result from the lack of power citizens feel in relation to the institutions they have established to run society in an orderly and balanced manner.

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Additionally, LEAA has been instrumental in establishing concerted criminal justice planning in every state and large urban region. At the state level, the state's criminal justice planning agency coordinates, evaluates, and compares data it receives from regional planning units. It fits that information into a comprehensive state criminal justice plan. The plan then is submitted to LEAA and, upon LEAA approval, states receive grants based on their population. The state planning agency then subgrants the money for local and statewide use. LEAA also disburses money through discretionary awards. This type of funding generally supports special programs or projects that are national in scope or cut across several jurisdictions.

LEAA's role is one of Federal leadership and partnership--not dominance--with state and local governments. LEAA endeavors to enhance and preserve the Federal-state-local partnership by working with the states on funding and program development matters. The states assess their criminal justice needs, set their priorities, and plan their programs. LEAA exerts leadership in such areas as discretionary funding, national priority initiatives, and civil rights compliance. Congress, in establishing LEAA in 1968, set up this system to underscore the fact that Federal advice and aid--not control--is the basis of the program. LEAA controls are restricted to maintaining the integrity of the program and making sure that states and localities adhere to minimum legislative requirements including civil rights compliance and audit.

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In the last few years, citizens have said they want something more from their state and local criminal justice systems than agencies to administer the work of the courts, corrections area and police. These are not theoretical yearnings, but hard, concrete facts, and I believe most of you already know this. Citizens are insisting on equal treatment before the law, they are demanding that constitutional and governmental guarantees be applied evenhandedly.

For blacks, that means getting the same treatment afforded to whites when they come into contact with law enforcement and criminal justice. This is not isolated to those instances when an individual is touched by the criminal justice system as a victim, offender, witness, or juror, but also when he or she seeks a professional role in the system. How both blacks and whites are treated in these two aspects is a measure of our society's progress and goes to the heart of criminal justice.

There are about 23 million blacks in America, representing about 11 percent of the nation's total population. They are involved in the nation's criminal justice system far out of proportion to their representation in the population. Statistics show that blacks are arrested more frequently than whites, they comprise a disproportinate number of those confined in state and local jails, and they are crime victims more often--generally black-on-black crime.

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Statistics paint the same bleak picture for blacks seeking professional criminal justice positions. State police forces in Michigan and Massachusetts are both less than 1 percent black. Only 1.5 percent of all state police officers are black. The International Association of Chiefs of Police tells us that about 6 percent of all law enforcement officers are black. The same is true for courts and corrections.

There are many factors that significantly affect crime, and one of the most crucial is employment--the ability to earn a wage to sustain a decent level of life. Work is a basic activity of most men and women. No matter how much we may disagree on other issues, there is general approval of lifestyles centered on productive, fulfilling, and reasonably remunerative work. Opportunities for work, however, are inequitably divided.

Young people, members of minorities, and residents of urban areas have higher unemployment rates, fewer opportunities for promotion or advancement, and lower earnings than other members of the community.

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Some statistics show that there is a definite correlation between a person's inability to find a job and subsequent criminal behavior. A 1972 LEAA survey of jail inmates shows that at the time of their arrest nearly half of the 141,000 persons being held earned less than what the Federal government defines as the poverty level for persons without dependents--just $2,000 per year. Two out of five were unemployed at the time of admission, and roughly 20 percent of the employed worked parttime only. About half of the inmates were 19 to 29 years old, with the largest single number, roughly one-fourth of all inmates, in the 21 to 24 year old group. Persons 18 or less comprised 9 percent of the inmate population.

It would appear that discrimination which channels minority youths into a secondary labor market can also prod them into criminal acts or other illicit activities. Vigorous measures to eliminate such discrimination and reduce economic deprivation is justified by fairness alone. A special urgency is added when one considers that such measures can help the community by reducing crime.

It would be far-fetched to think that law enforcement or criminal justice could eliminate alienation, teach unskilled workers new skills, do away with drug abuse and somehow make up for poverty or a poor education. However, police, courts, and corrections agencies must take these and other factors into account and judiciously use available resources to prevent and control crime.

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Perhaps the greatest untapped resource is the community itself. The community can be an effective partner in the crime reduction effort. It can set out citizen responsibilities in all areas of social life that can contribute to crime reduction. In many instances, only the initiative of the citizenry is needed to increase the community's contribution to crime reduction.

Criminal justice officials must reach out to the community to develop a continuing dialogue and mutual understanding--and it is essential that this effort take place in the black communities in their jurisdictions.

Blacks are aware of the efficiencies--and deficiencies--of their local law enforcement and criminal justice institutions. They are demanding greater protection, improved services, better facilities, and greater consideration for their particular problems. Criminal justice professionals must take steps to ensure that these demands are met.

The community can also help itself. In St. Louis, for instance, Aid to Victims of Crime helps poor, elderly and handicapped victims of violent crime, and their families, largely through volunteer effort. There is included in your information packages an article from The New York Times that describes this project, and I commend it to your attention.

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One of my priorities as Administrator is to stress the enforcement of civil rights compliance responsibilities by LEAA recipients. I have pledged that LEAA will work to assure full compliance with the civil rights laws.

LEAA's Office of Civil Rights Compliance has made progress in this area. It has investigated about 150 discrimination complaints. Most of these have been resolved amicably. LEAA referred to the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice a discrimination complaint filed by the Afro-American Patrolmen's Association against the Chicago Police Department. In an interim order, the court has upheld LEAA's contention that discrimination did exist in certain areas and ordered the police department to rectify the situation. No final order has been issued.

The division also is handling a complaint alleging sex discrimination in the Philadelphia Police Department, and is considering two other unresolved complaints forwarded to it from LEAA. One involves alleged religious discrimination in the Hawaii County Police Department, and a racial discrimination charge against the Austin, Texas, Police Department.

In California, LEAA has filed on behalf of several minority and female organizations complaints alleging discriminatory employment practices by 19 city police departments. Reviews have been conducted in Berkeley, San Francisco, and San Diego. The others are in various stages of litigation.

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LEAA also undertook the first comprehensive Federal compliance reviews of state and local police and correctional agencies. Serious problems in the employment of blacks and women as well as disparities in services were uncovered in some instances. Many of these problems have been resolved.

To implement statutory provisions of civil rights enforcement, LEAA has developed a Federal program to offer technical assistance to states to develop compliance programs. The first grant to strengthen the civil rights capabilities of criminal justice state planning agencies was the creation of the Center for Criminal Justice Agency Organization and Minority Employment Opportunity at Marquette University. The center's task is to help state and local law enforcement agencies recruit and retain minority personnel and women. An LEAA contract with the National Urban League created the Law Enforcement Minority Manpower Project, which is a minority recruiting program. During the project's first two years, 8,900 minority prospects were interviewed for positions in criminal justice agencies and 3,600 were hired.

In anticrime programs that relate not only to the black community, but to the community as a whole, LEAA has funded a program called Crime Prevention through Environmental Design. This program seeks to reduce the incidence and fear of crime through the architectural design and lay-out of residential areas, public housing projects, commercial areas, and transportation systems.

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As a simple example, improved street lighting becomes effective against crime if citizens report what they see to police. But citizens must consciously and actively support such a project, and police must be diligent in responding and conducting surveillance.

The purpose of this effort is to develop guidelines and model programs that can be used by citizens, community groups, city planners, business groups, and criminal justice personnel. These guidelines should be useful in developing crime prevention programs and strategies that can be used to reduce crime and the fear of crime while enhancing the quality of life in various community settings.

Our greatest potential for reducing the incidence of crime lies in preventing the occurrence of a crime. In that regard, the community plays a decisive role in crime and delinquency prevention.

Individual citizens, families, neighborhoods, schools, churches, recreational associations, business, labor and government--they make up the community. If we are serious about reducing crime, then each of those components must volunteer time, energy and imagination.

You, me, LEAA--we are all in the business of attacking wrong--the wrong of crime that claims millions of victims each year, that costs us unknown billions of dollars, that inflicts sorrow, anguish, and suffering on society.

This is a deadly serious business we are in, and we in turn must take it seriously. To do less would be an abandonment of our most cherished liberties.

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