

REPORT OF POLICING BOARD VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK

14-19 MARCH 2009

1. Background and purpose

At the Corporate Policy Planning and Performance Committee of the Northern Ireland Policing Board (the Board) on 15 January 2009, it was agreed that the Chair, Vice-Chair* plus one representative from each of the political parties should represent the Board at the St Patrick's Day Events in Washington. This recommendation was endorsed by the full Board at its meeting on 5 February 2009. (Dolores Kelly MLA, Alex Maskey MLA, Basil McCrea MLA and Ian Paisley Jr MLA represented the political parties on the Board on the visit.)

Members expressed a view that given the new Administration in office it was important to brief all concerned on all matters policing in Northern Ireland and in particular to update them on the continuing progress that is being made. The programme put in place had a firm focus on policing and justice issues and incorporated meetings with policing and justice institutions in Washington and New York. Members viewed these meetings as an essential forum to learn and share experiences on policing issues and issues of common interest (see key aims below).

Following the murders of Constable Carroll in Craigavon and Sappers Azimkar and Quinsey in Antrim, the visit also provided a forum to provide reassurance to the Irish American audience of the Board's unanimous commitment to policing; and its resolve that those who would wish to wreck the progress made have no mandate within the Northern Ireland community.

The following areas are covered in the remainder of this report:

- Key aims
- Programme of meetings and issues discussed
- Overview of issues discussed
- Visit cost
- Follow-up

2. Key aims

The following key aims were agreed for the visit:

- Represent the Board at the St Patrick's Day Engagements and meetings;
- outline the role, work and achievements of the Board in moving forward the policing agenda since its establishment; and following reconstitution in May 2007;

*The Vice-Chairman withdrew from the visit.

- learn and share experiences on policing matters and issues of common interest with policing and justice institutions and others in Washington and New York;
- outline the challenges ahead for policing in advance of devolution of policing and justice; and reaffirm the importance of a strong independent Board;
- inform Washington and New York political interests on policing matters in Northern Ireland;
- increase the profile of the Board among key influencers and opinion formers and engender support from those with influence internationally;
- provide reassurance that following the murders in Antrim and Craigavon, that there is a resolve and unity within the Board and the wider Northern Ireland community that those who wish to wreck the progress that has and continues to be made, will not succeed; and
- address any negative perceptions of policing.

3. Programme of Meetings

Friday 13 March 2009* / Saturday 14 March 2009 – Board Members travel to Washington

Saturday 14 March 2009	
1500 – 1600	Meeting with Chuck Wexler, PERF*
1900 – 2300	Attendance at the Launch of the St Patrick's Parade, followed by dinner with Mark Tuohy, Terance Gainer, Sergeant at Arms United States Senate, Joseph C Haughey, General Counsel of the Sergeant at Arms Office and retired Deputy Superintendent Chicago Police Department, Michael Madigan, former Federal Prosecutor.
Sunday 15 March 2009	
1230 - 1330	Media Interviews
1500 - 1700	St Patrick's Day Celebration with Chief Pat Burke, Washington Metropolitan Police Department
1830	Dinner with police representatives hosted by Chuck Wexler, Executive Director PERF; Chief of Police and PERF Vice-President, Chief Charlie Deane, Craig Erhart, County Executive, Prince William County; John Jasik US State Department; Jamie C. Keough, Fellow from the Dallas Police Department.
Monday 16 March	
1015 - 1045	Meeting with Ann Vaughan, Appropriations Associate to Congresswoman Nita Lowey.
1100- 1200	Meeting with Amanda Sloat, House Foreign Relations Committee (Mariana Maguire also in attendance)
1300 - 1500	St Patrick's Day Luncheon hosted by the British Ambassador to Washington Sir Nigel Sheinwald.
1630 - 1700	Meeting at Senator Jim Webb's office
1830 -2200	American Ireland Fund Gala Dinner

* Chairman only

Tuesday 17 March	
0800 - 1000	Northern Ireland Bureau Breakfast
1100 – 1400	Meeting with Terrance W Gainer, Sergeant at Arms United States Senate
1230 – 1430	Speaker's Lunch hosted by Nanci Pelosi in the House of Representatives. (attended by Chairman and Ian Paisley Jr)
1700	Reception hosted by H E Michael Collins the Irish Ambassador to Washington in honour of the Taoiseach
1830-1845	Chairman and Chief Constable invited to meet with President Obama and the First Lady prior to the Reception in the White House
1900 – 2130	Reception in honour of the Taoiseach and Mrs Cowen hosted by President of the United States at the White House.
Wednesday 18 March 2009	
1100-1500	Travel from Washington to New York
1530 – 1800	Meeting with Assistant Chief, Commanding Officer George Anderson, NYPD Police Academy
1830	Reception at British Consul General's Residence in New York.
Thursday 19 March 2009	
0930 – 1030	Meeting with Richard Aborn – New York Citizens Crime Commission
1100 – 1315	Meeting with Judge Paul Crotty, United States District Judge, US District Senior Judge John Keenan, Christopher Dunn, Association Legal Director (NY Civil Liberties Union) Michael Cardozo, (NY City Law Department Corporation Counsel and Chief Legal Adviser) and John Connorton.
1430 – 1530	Meeting with President Jeremy Travis, Dean Levine, Associate Professor Department of Public Management, Professor Patrick O'Hara, Associate Professor Department of Public Management, Director Scrivner, John Jay Leadership Academy, Continuing and Professional Studies.
1700	Travel to Airport for return flight to Belfast.

A copy of the news releases issued in connection with the visit is attached at Annex 1.

4. Overview of issues discussed

Meeting with Chief Pat Burke, Washington Metropolitan Police Department

Discussions centred on the policing challenges in Washington during last year and in particular the policing of large scale events such as the Presidential inauguration and the papal visit. Lessons for policing were explored as part of these discussions.

Police relations with the federal agencies and intelligence sharing arrangements were also discussed.

Meeting with Chuck Wexler Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) and policing representatives

Members outlined the recent events in Northern Ireland and the approach and resolve of the community that those responsible for the 3 murders will not thwart the political or policing progress made.

Police oversight arrangements formed the main focus of discussion for representatives of the law enforcement agencies present. Discussion also centred on police performance and the use of crime statistics as a performance measurement. Research completed by PERF on the impact of the economic downturn on police crime figures and the correlation with a rise in crime was outlined and discussed.

Future opportunities for collaboration between PERF and the Board were explored. This included discussions with the Board Chairman on assistance on research into international models of police accountability and contributions to the ACPO/APA conference in July 2009.

Meeting with Ann Vaughan; Assistant to Congressman Lowey

Members provided a background briefing on the role and work of the Board and an assessment of the political, community and Board response to the murders of the two soldiers and the first PSNI officer. Members explained and shared their experiences of the policing change process and outlined the challenges ahead.

Members expressed the revulsion felt within the Northern Ireland community following the murders, the unity of response, the resolve of the PSNI to get on with the job of policing and the changing attitudes to policing within communities.

Members also explained how the experience of Northern Ireland in conflict resolution provided a model for learning in other jurisdictions - in terms of the peace process and the reforms made to policing. The benefits of shared learning between policing in NI, the US and other jurisdictions throughout the world was also highlighted and noted.

In response to questions on how the Administration could further assist the peace process, Members outlined the successful injection of funds to assist in reconciliation, educational projects and the benefits of targeted funding for socially deprived areas.

Members also reinforced the importance of the Administration sending a clear message to dissident groups (republican and loyalist) that their attacks on democracy would not succeed; and that all groups must now decommission.

The benefits and need for a special envoy were also presented in terms of providing a conduit for information sharing; and for relating to key parties as and when required.

Meeting with Amanda Sloat, Foreign Relations Committee

Having worked within the first Northern Ireland Assembly Ms Sloat expressed a keen interest in recent developments both in political and policing terms.

Members provided an overview of recent political developments and the process now in place to facilitate the devolution of policing and justice.

Members outlined the reaction to the murders and the attitudinal change to policing in communities. Policing condemnation was now with 'one voice'. Members confirmed the resolve of the police and the Board that the attacks would not impact on progress made and the determination that there would be no return to violence.

Police finances were discussed particularly the cost of policing legacy issues and the impact on current policing arrangements explained.

Updates were provided on police compositional figures and the high level of applicants for each competition. The changing profile of applicants to the service was outlined and the rise in the representation of women in the service and graduate entrants.

Members outlined the benefits of the injection of American Ireland funding for re-generational work and particularly infrastructural areas such as utilities and communications. The continued need for targeted and focused resources was outlined and its importance in building community relations.

Members also highlighted the continued importance of the Special Envoy Role.

Political Members outlined the working relationships within the Assembly and the process now in place to facilitate devolution of policing and justice. Board Members explained that the future role and power of the Board would remain undiminished in a devolved arena, but that politicians had to negotiate a financial deal for devolution.

Members outlined community perspectives and viewpoints on policing. The need for levels of confidence in some areas to be built and delivered was discussed.

Progress made in recent years was highlighted but the need for further work was explored, particularly in the context of the policing experience of some communities in the past. Positive outcomes through public engagement and delivery of results on public safety issues was deemed essential to building that confidence.

St Patrick's Day Lunch hosted by the British Ambassador

Over 70 key Irish/American interest groups/ Members of Congress and Senate and Administration representatives and representatives from other organisations were in attendance.

British Ambassador and Secretary of State for Northern Ireland addressed the luncheon. Tributes were paid to the PSNI and the work of the Board, and an acknowledgement in the wake of recent events.

Meeting with Senator Webb's office

Due to a conflicting diary commitment the Senator was called away to another meeting. His two staff Members were updated on issues and developments in policing. Members outlined the background to the peace process in Northern Ireland and the role of policing in moving that process forward.

In response to questions on recent events Members provided assurances that those responsible for the murders in Antrim and Craigavon would not succeed in their aim to drag Northern Ireland back to the past.

Opportunities for future funding initiatives were highlighted and the future role for the Administration in supporting the peace process. Given the worldwide interest in the peace and policing change process in Northern Ireland Members also outlined the opportunities to for NI to be used as a model of learning for conflict resolution.

American Ireland Fund Dinner

Over 70 key Irish/American interest groups/ Members of Congress and Senate and Administration representatives and representatives from other organisations were in attendance. Recognition at the event was given to policing and the events in Antrim and Craigavon and the determination of the wider Northern Ireland community that there would be no return to violence.

Members had the opportunity to engage and discuss issue with guests in attendance.

Northern Ireland Bureau Breakfast

Over 300 invited guests attended the breakfast event which provided networking opportunities with US business, congressional and senate representatives and various Irish American interest groups.

Speakers Lunch Hosted by Nancy Pelosi – attended by US President

Over 100 invited guests to the Speaker's lunch including First Minister and Deputy First Minister, Speaker of the Assembly, NI political party leaders and Chief Constable. Senators and Congressional representatives attended the event.

Meeting with Terrance W Gainer Sergeant at Arms United States Senate

A briefing on the role and work of the Board was provided and the progress made in policing over the last number of years. Members provided perspectives on the events in Antrim and Craigavon and the resolve of the Northern Ireland community that Northern Ireland's troubles will not be resurrected by a disaffected minority.

Irish Ambassadors Reception in honour of the Taoiseach

Over 300 invited guests including Members of Congress and Senate, representatives from the British and Irish Embassies, Irish Americans and representatives from other organisations were in attendance.

White House Ceremony

Chairman and Chief Constable met with the President and First Lady. President Obama expressed his encouragement for the work of the Board and the PSNI; and particularly in the wake of the murder of the first PSNI officer Constable Stephen Carroll and the two soldiers.

Chairman and Chief Constable affirmed the resolve of the Board and the PSNI that the progress made to date would not be thwarted by the actions of a few (copy news release and photo to issue at Annex 4).

Meeting with George Anderson, Commanding Officer - NYPD Training Academy

Members received a brief overview of the training approach of the NYPD. The training academy is located at 7 sites within New York City and training comprises 3 months academic training which includes an assessment and academic phase, physical training and defensive tactics.

With a strength of just under 37,000 officers and a budget of \$2billion, the NYPD is the largest police force in the US. The NYPD training branch manages the training of 2400 officers per year. Officers are selected on merit basis and the NYPD have had success in recruiting a diverse and representative workforce which formed a focus for discussion on selection processes.

Members received a detailed briefing and presentation on a NYPD initiative called 'Immersion Training' which has been introduced by the NYPD to improve community relations and community understanding of policing issues. Police/community interventions and relationships after critical incidents were discussed and explored.

The NYPD approach to 'zero tolerance' policing was outlined and the use of the Comstat system to focus on crime statistics and police performance. Of particular interest was the focus on police driven results.

Members had a detailed discussion on the use of stop and search (stop and frisk) by the NYPD and the approach of the NYPD to counter claims of racial profiling. Commissioner

Anderson explained the intelligence led approach and proactive work by officers in the community to explain to community representatives the rationale for the police approach. Members were also interested in how officers have been able to use technology to defuse cases of mistaken identity which had gone some way to providing community assurance and accountability for actions (eg where a particular profile sent to officers resulted in a wrongful stop - police were able to play back the call sign so that the person apprehended could hear the description of the alleged offender.)

Discussions also focused on policing oversight and the relationship of the NYPD to the Civilian Complaint Review Board, the body with responsibility for investigation of police complaints. Discussions centred on a number of critical incidents and an assessment was provided of the impact of the Sean Bell case on public confidence and steps taken by the NYPD in the aftermath of this shooting to maintain relations with community representatives

The NYPD use of force formed another focus for discussion and in particular the NYPD use of less lethal weapons. Members outlined the oversight and accountability mechanisms in place for PSNI officers and the processes in place when deployment takes place. Members also discussed the approach of the NYPD to gauging public satisfaction with service delivery and the use of localised surveys.

Reception at Consul General Residence

The Secretary of State told invited guests of the resolve of the Northern Ireland community that there would be no return to violence and the peace process had in many ways been strengthened by the terrible events at Antrim and Craigavon.

Tribute was paid to the of the work of the PSNI and the Board in moving forward the policing agenda in recent times.

Meeting with Richard Aborn - New York Citizens Crime Commission

An outline of the role and work of the Crime Commission was provided. Described as a 'think tank' around Criminal Justice the Commission is an independent non-political, non-partisan organisation working to reduce crime to improve the community justice system and the safety of New York City. It comprises prominent members of the New York community and includes Corporate Executives and members of the legal profession.

An overview of the role, work and particular oversight responsibilities of the Board was provided by Members. Discussion continued with reference to the extensive work completed by the Board in the area of police compliance with Human Rights; and more specifically the professional standards in place for police officers through the Code of Ethics.

Members raised issues around police satisfaction levels with NYPD and whether surveys really addressed the nub of public satisfaction with policing.

Police performance and the benefits of Comstart were outlined by Mr Aborn and the challenges of maintaining confidence levels when crime figures are at a lower level.

Challenges in solving low level activity and anti-social behaviour were discussed.

Members explored the credence given to the role and work of community police officers within the NYPD and approaches to building confidence in policing, particularly in the wake of critical incidents. Members were also briefed on the NYPD approach to problem solving and the view that ultimately the 'crime belongs to cops' so the police must take a strong lead on solving crime with or without community support.

The benefits of the use and further advances in mobile data were highlighted. Members expressed an interest in finding out more about this area of work and the benefits for policing.

Meeting with Judge Crotty and Judge Keenan and Representatives from the New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU)

An overview of the institutions that exist to check on / oversee policing was provided by the NYCLU representatives in attendance followed by a discussion on some of the key issues.

An outline of the particular role and work of the Civilian Complaint Review Board was provided. Members were particularly interested in the appointment process to the 13 member Board by the NYC Mayor and Police Commissioner. Questions were specifically raised around the independence of the appointments process.

The role and relationship between the NYC Mayor and the Police Commissioner was also discussed and the remit of the New York City Council (and Public Safety Committee) in oversight arrangements. The NYCLU were interested in the independence of the NI oversight model and the powers of the Board.

Board Members provided an overview of the role and work of the Board and the importance of the Code of Ethics for police standards and disciplinary procedures. Members outlined the tripartite arrangements for policing and the role of the Ombudsman in independent police complaint investigation. Members explained the process to in place to facilitate the devolution of policing and justice and the benefits in delivering more joined up justice and also in terms of control of legislative issues.

The changing nature of police complaints in NI was also outlined as was the role of the Board in the monitoring trends and patterns in police complaints. The use of litigation as a means of bringing transparency and accountability to oversight systems was considered and the approach taken in the US. Members shared experiences of the litigation process in Northern Ireland.

The approach to intelligence gathering and the police oversight arrangements in the US and NI was discussed in some detail. The relationships between the federal agencies was explored and the processes in place to disseminate intelligence material pre and post 9/11.

Meeting with John Jay College

Members updated on the recent events in Northern Ireland and the political and community reactions. Members confirmed that the police response had been measured and proportionate; and that police remained resolved to the delivery of community policing. Members also noted that the 'response to the response' had evidenced a political maturity which was essential in sending a clear and united message that the dissidents whilst small in number will not succeed. Members also noted that there needed to be movement on loyalist decommissioning.

A brief was provided on the current position with implementation of the Patten Reforms including community representation in the service (now at 25%); progress with the establishment of a police college and the opportunities for future international support to Northern Ireland.

Members were briefed on the operation of the Garda McCabe fellowship by the John Jay College and the memorial lecture delivered each year.

Details of the training delivered to police officers in the US was outlined and the outcomes from a specific initiative where the police and community train together. Discussions also focused around the definition of community and building sustainable partnerships. Ms Scrivner outlined work progressed by John Jay on Public Safety Leadership Development. The challenges of engaging communities and securing community support were also explored.

Members provided a briefing on the changes to national security in Northern Ireland, the management and dissemination of intelligence and the five underpinning principles agreed at St Andrews – which had been human rights proofed by the Board's Advisors.

The role of the media and creating a better understanding of policing issues was discussed. The college course on media and communications was outlined as a means of improving understanding and building police / community relations.

Measurement of public confidence in policing was also discussed and the use of Comstat as a means of driving police performance.

4. Cost

	£
Travel Costs*	13932.00
Accommodation**	7510.00
Subsistence***	1609.00
Total	23051.00

* Travel costs include return flights, return train travel and travel to/from meetings in Washington/New York for 5 Board Members and 2 Board officials.

**The delegation stayed at the Georgetown Inn, 1310 Wisconsin Avenue, Washington DC and Fitzpatrick Hotel, Lexington Avenue, New York City.

*** Subsistence includes the cost of meals and refreshments during the visit including dinner hosted by the Board with PERF.

5. Overview and follow up

Whilst the political and economic agenda in the US has shifted focus, there remained a strong interest in Northern Ireland issues, particularly in the context of the recent murders.

During the visit Members had the opportunity to engage a wide range of key Irish/American interest groups, Members of Congress and Senate and Administration representatives. These engagements allowed Members to explain and share experiences and provided a forum for key messages associated with the aims and objectives of the visit to be presented. A list of contacts made during formal and informal meetings/events attended have been attached at Annex 2.

Given the events prior to the visit, reassurances on the current political position and commitments to policing and justice were sought in all Board meetings and engagements. Members were able to provide that reassurance.

The Chairman and Chief Constable's meeting with the President and First Lady of the United States provided a platform for messages on the recent murders and commitments to policing to be delivered to the highest level. Ian Paisley Jr also met the President at the Speaker's Lunch.

Contacts have been established with a range of US policing and justice institutions with opportunities for future engagement and projects explored during meetings and contacts.

The following actions are being progressed / proposed as follow up to the visit:

- Letters to be issued to all contacts made
- Literature to be forwarded to interested groups as requested during the visit.
- Potential for Board fellowship/bursary to be explored with John Jay College. The College have a wealth of information and expertise which was unreservedly offered to the Board for any future projects.
- Options for future work to be discussed with delegation Members.

6. Action

At the Board meeting on 2 April 2009, Members agreed that the report should be published on the Board's website and follow up actions will be brought back to Committee as appropriate.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS DIRECTORATE.

File Ref: 107576

A copy of the news release issued after the Board meeting on 2 April 2009 can be found at <http://www.nipolicingboard.org.uk/article/id?=9587>

Annex 1**NEWS RELEASE – issued 16-3-09****Policing Board Visit : focus on policing and justice**

The Policing Board Chairman and a cross party delegation of Policing Board Members have embarked on a 5 day visit to Washington and New York for a series of meetings and engagements including representing the Board at the White House on St Patrick's Day. The firm focus for the visit is policing and justice issues.

Speaking about the visit, Board Chairman, Professor Sir Desmond Rea, said:

“Given recent events, Board Members will use this visit to send a very clear message to the Administration and the wider Irish American audience of their commitment to effective, efficient and impartial policing; and affirm the unity and resolve that those who would wish to wreck the progress that has been made have no mandate or support within the Northern Ireland community.

With a new Administration in office there is a one off opportunity to engage the political representatives in Washington on the issues of policing and justice in Northern Ireland.

Many leading political figures in the United States have cited the peace process in Northern Ireland as a lesson in conflict resolution which can be used to bring people together and help countries around the world to both avoid and resolve conflicts. It is clear that, despite the killing of 2 soldiers and 1 police officer, the public and political response since is that the message of peace and reconciliation is stronger than ever. This visit is being used as a platform to reinforce that message, and to emphasize the unity of this Board.

Policing in Northern Ireland has played a central part in moving the peace process forward. At this time, there is a need to provide assurance on the progress in building community confidence in policing; and the commitment to deliver the final piece of the policing jigsaw through the process now in place to facilitate devolution of policing and justice.”

For further information please contact the Board's Press and Public Relations office on 028 9040 8565/07801 738795

Notes to Editors

1. The Board delegation comprises Chairman, Professor Sir Desmond Rea, Dolores Kelly MLA, Alex Maskey MLA, Basil McCrea MLA and Ian Paisley Jr MLA.

The programme for the delegation includes:

- Attendance at the St Patrick's Day Event at the White House and events associated with St Patrick's week in Washington.
- Meeting with policing representatives from the Police Executive Research Forum.
- Meeting with the British and Irish Ambassadors to Washington.
- Meeting with Congressional Representatives.
- Meeting with policing representatives in New York.

Notes to Editors ends.

Annex 2

Board Contacts during Washington/New York Visit 2009

Name	Position
Amanda L Sloat PH.D.	Professional Staff Member Committee on Foreign Affairs
Ann Carroll	US EPA office of Brownfields & Land Revitalization
Ann Vaughan	Appropriations Associate to Congresswomen Nita Lowey
Ann-Catherine Blank	Specialist Assistant US Department of State
Billy Trangese	Staff Member to Congressman Richie Neal
Brian Cowen	Taoiseach
Charlie T Deane	Chief of Police Prince William County Police Department
Christine C Quinn	Speaker New York City Council
Christopher Dunn	Associate Legal Director New York Civil Liberties Union
Chuck Wexler	Executive Director Police Executive Research Forum
Craig S Gerhart	County Executive 1 County Complex Court
Danielle V Porcaro	Community Liaison New York City Council
Dan Rooney	American Ireland Fund
Dean Levine	Associate Professor Department of Public Management John Jay College

Name	Position
Ellen Scrivner	John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Elton Gallegly	Member of Congress
George W Anderson	Assistant Chief NYC Police Academy
H E Michael Collins	Ambassador of the Republic of Ireland
J Gaffey	President The Gaffey Group
Jamie C Keough	Fellow from the Dallas Police Department
Jeremy Travis	President John Jay College
Joan T NcNamara	Commander Los Angeles Police Department
Joe Crowley	Congressman and Member of the Friends of Ireland Group
John Keenan	US District Senior Judge
John Murphy	Chief Executive Officer Co-operation Ireland
John V Conorton Jr	Hawkins Delafield & Wool LLP
Joseph R Guccione	United States Marshall US Department of Justice
Kathleen F Hagan	Executive Vice- President Entrepreneurial Resources Group
Kieran McLoughlin	President & CEO The American Ireland Fund
Mariana G Maguire	Staff Associate Sub-Committee on Europe House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Mark Tuohey	Former Advisor to the Independent Commission on Policing for Northern Ireland
Mark Daly	Senator Seanad Eireann
Michael A Cardozo	New York City Law Department

Name	Position
Monica V E Gallivan	Quest Diagnostics
Nancy Pelosi	Speaker of the House of Congressional Representatives
Niamh Lynch	Director, Irish Institute Boston College
Pat Burke	Chief Washington Metropolitan Police Department
Patricia Randolph Williams	Attorney-Advisor Environmental Protection Agency
Patrick O'Hara	Associate Professor Department of Public Management John Jay College
Paul A Crotty	United States District Judge
Paul McGarry	Fannóg Thuaiscreat Éireann agus Cúrsaí Idirnáisiúnta
Richard M Aborn	New York Citizen Crime Commission
Richie Neal	Congressman & Member of the Friends of Ireland Group
Sir Nigel Sheinwald	British Ambassador to Washington
Stu Frome	Section Chief US Department of Homeland Security
Terrance W Gainer	Sergeant at Arms United States Senate
Tony R Culley-Foster	Chairman Northern Ireland-United States Chamber of Commerce, INC
Willie McCarter	Executive Director Cooley Distillery

