

1           that general view. I have the utmost respect for  
2           your view and other professionals in your field  
3           too.

4                       MR. RYAN: Thank you.

5                       THE CHAIRMAN: Next we will hear the  
6           testimony of Mr. Stalder.

7                       MR. STALDER: Yes. Thank you, Your  
8           Honor.

9                       And I want to share the comments of my  
10          colleagues relative to the pride that I feel to be  
11          here today participating with you in partnership to  
12          improve the stability of the nation's jails and  
13          prisons for both adults and juveniles and everyone  
14          engaged in our justice system.

15                      I am the president of the Association of State  
16          Correctional Administrator, representing all state  
17          directors in corrections in the United States and  
18          territories. I am also here as secretary of Public  
19          Safety and Corrections in Louisiana, and would be  
20          remiss if I didn't just take 30 seconds to say,  
21          gosh, in the city of New Orleans only 36 percent of  
22          our stop lights work today. You go to the lake

1 view zip code, there are no sewer connections  
2 workings, commercial or residential. The storms  
3 that I know that you all have kept up with so much  
4 devastated our gulf coast from Alabama, across  
5 Mississippi and Louisiana and into Texas.

6 We had just in Louisiana almost a thousand of  
7 our staff who had almost \$12 million in losses that  
8 will not be compensated by insurance companies,  
9 flood insurance, property and hazard insurance. We  
10 ask that you continue to keep us in your thoughts  
11 and your prayers and that that area of our country  
12 continues to be a focus. And now I appreciate your  
13 indulgence in allowing me to say that.

14 We appreciate the partnership we've had with  
15 your executive staff, both Richard and Jack. They  
16 keep to our meetings in Nashville and participated  
17 fully with us in opening debate and discussion  
18 about the commission of your commission and your  
19 congressional mandates and we appreciate very much  
20 the partnership that we've had with them. They  
21 have admonished me that my remarks would limited to  
22 five minutes. One of my goals is for her not to

1 have to hold up the sign that says time is up. So,  
2 I am going to work real hard on that. There are  
3 those here who would tell you that I can't say my  
4 name in five minutes, but I am going to do my best.  
5 I want to -- you'll hear many things today from  
6 many different perspective. I want to isolate two  
7 or three for you.

8           Number one, counting is very important. In  
9 order for us to all work together to partnership to  
10 have safe and stable and productive and organized  
11 institutions in the justice system, we have to have  
12 a good grip on exactly what the problem is. We are  
13 encouraged by and wish to continue to encourage you  
14 to work closely with the Bureau of Justice  
15 Statistics through the Department of Justice to  
16 help get a grip of defining the problem. Let's  
17 build the boundaries. Let's see exactly where  
18 we're at so that we focus our very limited  
19 resources in a surgically precise way to deal with  
20 these problems.

21           The second, your charter, your commission  
22 and your congressional mandate is to advocate

1 standards that will help assure the safety of our  
2 correctional facility. And I want to advocate on  
3 behalf of ASCA and as an individual who has  
4 strongly supported the accreditation of  
5 correctional facilities as a way to promote safety  
6 that whatever standards you should adopt in your  
7 wisdom, the implementation and the ongoing  
8 monitoring of those standards I would hope would be  
9 done through the American Correctional Association  
10 and the Commission on Accreditation for  
11 Corrections. You will hear that later today.

12 I do not believe we should fractionalize the  
13 implementation of standards. We simply can't have  
14 several different independent groups all out trying  
15 to implement the standards that you develop. We  
16 will accept your standards. What we need to is  
17 look not just at their development, but their  
18 operationalization. And that, in my mind, is very  
19 important that the existing structure that's been  
20 established through the Commission on Accreditation  
21 and through the American Correctional Association  
22 continue to be that important link to us.

1                   Third, I want -- Commissioner Horn  
2                   mentioned this, and I want to continue, if I can,  
3                   to emphasize the importance of paying attention to  
4                   indices of instability.

5                   You are looking very specifically at the issue  
6                   of sexual abuse in the justice system. I want you  
7                   to understand, though, that from my perspective  
8                   there are many endicies of instability and they  
9                   have to do with violence and which -- which  
10                  exemplifies itself in sexual abuse, but also in  
11                  many other ways.

12                  And one of the most important things that we  
13                  can do is to help make sure that our facilities are  
14                  not overcrowded. Overcrowding is the seed for  
15                  instability. And that instability will reflect  
16                  itself not only in sexual abuse, but in other forms  
17                  of violence, and in the sustenance of an  
18                  environment that's simply not productive for people  
19                  to get their lives in order and get back on out on  
20                  the street.

21                  Your statute and your mandate from congress is  
22                  to look at how we safeguard inmates and communities

1           and to ensure that you promote in your work the  
2           kinds of strategies that help people return to  
3           communities and live in communities in law abiding  
4           ways that reduce victimization and improve safety  
5           and reduce our cost. And you have the ability to  
6           mandate that that be done. And I hope that that  
7           doesn't get lost in the shuffle.

8                        When you help us put people back on the street  
9           in a productive way, you help us not be overcrowded  
10          and you reduce and minimize one of the most  
11          important indices of the instability that I speak  
12          and that you study and that you advocate. And I  
13          simply wish to let you know that many, many states,  
14          and I have a list and I could read it all, but I  
15          won't trouble you with that, and you know that,  
16          have taken advantage of the Safe Guard and  
17          Community's Grant Program as part of the Prison  
18          Rape Elimination Act Statute. And in doing so,  
19          they help ensure that their institutions which have  
20          very limited resources are not overcrowded and  
21          which, therefore, promotes safety.

22                        Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity

1 to appear.

2 MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mr.  
3 Secretary. We appreciate your testimony. Okay.

4 We will now hear the testimony of Sheriff  
5 Oxley.