



BROOKS BAWDEN LLC

Weekly Update

February 1-4, 2016

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Links to Previous Updates:

- [DOJ Equitable Sharing Fact Sheet](#)
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- [DOJ Equitable Sharing Letter](#)
- [FirstNet RFP](#)
- [Omnibus Summary](#)
- [Body Worn Cameras](#)
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- [Weekly 1/18/16](#)
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Latest News

- The House and Senate are in session this week, with the Senate Homeland Security Committee holding a hearing with state and local law enforcement officials on the frontline response to counter terrorism. They will hear from officials on the importance of effective information sharing, the role of fusion centers, and the need for interoperability. The House Homeland Security Committee marking up six foreign fighter task force bills & two homeland security bills, and the House Energy & Commerce Committee is holding a hearing on FirstNet.
- On the House floor, they will consider legislation to reauthorize various Coast Guard programs, and two trafficking bills. The Senate is not considering any legislation this week that affects the law enforcement or homeland security communities.
- **Colson Task Force** - The final recommendations of the Colson Task Force on Federal Corrections were released on January 26. The recommendations seek to reduce the federal prison population by 60,000 individuals, and save approximately \$5 billion. The task force made six recommendations including changes to mandatory minimums, promote rehabilitation programs, promote participation in risk-reduction programming, use of evidence based practices, and promote accountability and coordination. You can view the report [here](#).
- **GAO: Staten Marijuana Legalization: DOJ Should Document Its Approach to Monitoring the Effects of Legalization** - The Government Accountability Office released a report on February 1 detailing that the DOJ reported monitoring the effects of state marijuana legalization relative to DOJ policy in two ways, 1) federal prosecutions, and 2) collaboration with DOJ components. Despite this, the GAO report shows that DOJ has not documented its monitoring process, as called for in Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government. You can view the GAO report [here](#).
- **DEA and European Authorities Uncover Massive Hizballah Drug and Money Laundering Scheme** - The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) today announced significant enforcement activity including arrests targeting Lebanese Hizballah's External Security Organization Business Affairs Component (BAC), which is involved in international criminal activities such as drug trafficking and drug proceed money laundering. These proceeds are used to purchase weapons for Hizballah for its activities in Syria. This ongoing investigation spans the globe and involves numerous international law enforcement agencies in seven countries, and once again highlights the dangerous global nexus between drug trafficking and terrorism. Continue reading [here](#).
- **National Narcotic Officers' Associations' Coalition Annual Meeting** - The NNOAC is holding its annual conference on January 30 - February 3 in Washington, DC. Federal law enforcement partners, members of Congress, and advocacy groups will brief

on a range of issues affecting the law enforcement community. On Tuesday, NNOAC members will meet with their members of Congress and Senators to further discuss proposed and recent policy changes affecting law enforcement including asset forfeiture, sentencing reform, Byrne JAG, RISS, and other programs.



Ben Bawden giving a legislative update at NNOAC



Ron Brooks giving his NNOAC Executive Director's report

Hearings & Markups Happening This Week

Senate Homeland Security Committee - Full Committee Hearing

[Frontline Response to Terrorism in America](#)

February 2 @ 10:15 am - 342 Dirksen

House Energy & Commerce Committee - Communications Subcommittee Hearing

[Status of the Public Safety Broadband Network](#)

February 2 @ 10:15 pm - 2322 Rayburn

House Homeland Security Committee - [Full Committee Markup](#) - February 2 @ 2:00 - 311 Cannon

[H.R. XXXX](#) - National Strategy to Combat Terrorist Travel Act of 2016

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 2/2

Summary: To require the development of a national strategy to combat terrorist travel, and for other purposes.

[H.R. XXXX](#) - Counterterrorism Advisory Board Act of 2016

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 2/2

Summary: To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a board to coordinate and integrate departmental intelligence, activities, and policy related to counterterrorism, and for other purposes.

[H.R. XXXX](#) - Enhancing Overseas Traveler Vetting Act

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 2/2

Summary: To authorize the development of open-source software based on certain systems of the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State to facilitate the vetting of travelers against terrorist watchlists and law enforcement databases, enhance border management, and improve targeting and analysis, and for other purposes.

[H.R. XXXX](#) - Foreign Fighter Review Act of 2016

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 2/2

Summary: To require a review of information regarding persons who have traveled or attempted to travel from the United States to support terrorist organizations in Syria and Iraq, and for other purposes.

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[H.R. XXXX](#) - Amplifying Local Efforts to Root out Terror Act of 2016

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 2/2

Summary: To authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide countering violent extremism training to Department of Homeland Security representatives at State and local fusion centers, and for other purposes.

[H.R. XXXX](#) - Terrorist and Foreign Fighter Travel Exercise Act of 2016

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 2/2

Summary: To require an exercise related to terrorist and foreign fighter travel, and for other purposes.

[H.R. 4383](#) - DHS Human Trafficking Prevention Act of 2016

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 2/2

Summary: To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to enhance Department of Homeland Security coordination on how to identify and record information regarding individuals suspected or convicted of human trafficking, and for other purposes.

[H.R. XXXX](#) - DHS Acquisition Documentation Integrity Act of 2016

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 2/2

Summary: To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for requirements relating to documentation for major acquisition programs, and for other purposes.

Senate Homeland Security Committee - Full Committee Hearing

[Canada's Fast-Track Refugee Plan: Unanswered Questions and Implications for U.S. National Security](#)

February 3 @ 10:00 am - 342 Dirksen

House Oversight Committee - Full Committee Hearing

[Securing our Skies: Oversight of Aviation Credentials](#)

February 3 @ 1:00 pm - 2154 Rayburn

House Homeland Security Committee - Full Committee Hearing

[Crisis of Confidence: Preventing Terrorist Infiltration through U.S. Refugee and Visa Programs](#)

February 3 @ 2:00 pm - 311 Cannon

House Judiciary Committee - Immigration Subcommittee Hearing

[Another Surge of Illegal Immigrants Along the Southwest Border: Is this the Obama Administration's New Normal?](#)

February 4 @ 9:00 am - 2141 Rayburn

Legislation on the Floor This Week

House:

[H.R. 4188](#) - Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2015

Status: To be considered by the House on 2/1; Amended and Approved by the Senate on 12/18 as amended; Approved by the House on 12/10

Summary: To authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2016 and 2017, and for other purposes.

H.R. 400 - Trafficking Prevention in Foreign Affairs Contracting Act

Status: To be considered in the House on 2/1

Summary: This bill directs the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development to report to Congress regarding: a definition of "placement and recruitment fees" for purposes of complying with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and how such definition will be incorporated into grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and contracting practices; and a description of actions taken to ensure that officials include the prevention of trafficking in persons in monitoring grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements and contracting practices.

H.R. 515 - International Megan's Law

Status: To be considered by the House on 2/1; Approved by the Senate on 12/17 as amended; Approved by the House on 1/26

Summary: An Act to protect children from exploitation, especially sex trafficking in tourism, by providing advance notice of intended travel by registered child-sex offenders outside the United States to the government of the country of destination, requesting foreign governments to notify the United States when a known child-sex offender is seeking to enter the United States, and for other purposes.

Senate:

Nothing affecting the law enforcement or homeland security community.

Recap of Last Week's Hearings & Markups

Note: For more details on any of the following hearings, we can provide access to hearing transcripts upon request.

Senate Judiciary Committee - Full Committee Hearing - January 27

[Attacking America's Epidemic of Heroin and Prescription Drug Abuse](#)

Summary: This hearing looked at what measures are needed to combat the nation's heroin and opioid epidemic. Potential legislative proposals center around tightening border controls to combat heroin shipments from Mexico and cracking down on excessive prescriptions of painkillers.

Senate Homeland Security Committee - Full Committee Hearing - January 27

[Canada's Fast-Track Refugee Plan: Unanswered Questions and Implications for U.S. National Security](#)

Summary: This hearing examined Canada's new fast track plans to permit Syrian refugees into their country. National security concerns have been raised over the proper vetting of these refugees and the potential for them to enter the U.S. The witnesses at this hearing urged the Canadian government to pump the brakes on their fast-track plan.

Senate Homeland Security Committee - Investigations Subcommittee - January 28

[Adequacy of the Department of Health and Human Services' Efforts to Protect Unaccompanied Alien Children From Human Trafficking](#)

Summary: This hearing examined a recently released bipartisan congressional investigation which revealed that the Department of Health and Human Services failed to protect migrant children from falling prey to human trafficking. The investigation found that the department became overwhelmed with the number of migrant children, and failed to conduct basic checks on the adults that HHS entrusted with the care of these children.

Senate Judiciary Committee - [Executive Business Meeting](#) - January 28

H.R. 1428 - Judicial Redress Act of 2015

Status: Approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee on 1/28; Approved by the House on 10/20

Summary: This bill authorizes the Department of Justice (DOJ) to designate foreign countries or re-

gional economic integration organizations whose natural citizens may bring civil actions under the Privacy Act of 1974 against certain U.S. government agencies for purposes of accessing, amending, or redressing unlawful disclosures of records transferred from a foreign country to the United States to prevent, investigate, detect, or prosecute criminal offenses.

S. 2040 - Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act

Status: Approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee on 1/28

Summary: This legislation would block foreign governments and sponsors of terrorism from claiming "sovereign immunity" for attacks that killed Americans on U.S. soil. It would also allow them to be sued in U.S. courts.

Legislation Considered Last Week

House:

The House was not in session.

Senate:

Nothing affecting the law enforcement or homeland security community.

Legislation Introduced Last Week

Date Introduced	Bill Number	Sponsor	Description
1/28/2016	HR 4396	Frank Pallone	Heroin and Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention and Reduction Act - To support a comprehensive public health response to the heroin and prescription drug abuse crisis.
1/27/2016	S 2469	Richard Blumenthal	A bill to repeal the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act.