



BROOKS BAWDEN LLC

Weekly Update

May 7 - 11, 2018

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Latest News

- The House and Senate are in session this week, with the House Appropriations CJS Subcommittee expected to unveil and markup the FY 2019 CJS Appropriation bill this week. This bill includes funding for most law enforcement grant programs. Additionally, the House Judiciary Committee is expected to markup legislation to address certain reentry and prison reform programs. In the Senate, the Appropriations Homeland Security Subcommittee will hear testimony from DHS Secretary Nielsen on the Department's FY 2019 budget request.
- The White House is expected to send Congress a \$15 billion spending rescission package cutting domestic discretionary spending. This rescission package will not touch funding from the recently approved FY 2018 Omnibus, but will target previous unspent funds. Additionally, the White House is expected to send an additional rescission package targeting funding from the recently approved FY 2018 Omnibus. Once a rescission package is sent to Congress, they have 45 days to review, alter, and/or approve the rescission.
- **IACP/Thomson Reuters Excellence in Criminal Investigations Award** - The IACP/Thomson Reuters Excellence in Criminal Investigations Award recognizes exceptional innovation in managing and conducting criminal investigations, with the goal of sharing information to advance the art and science of criminal investigations. Eligible agencies, departments, police units, or task forces must engage or participate in criminal investigations. The nominated investigation must be currently ongoing, or have been completed in the 2017 calendar year. An investigation nominated for this award in a previous year is ineligible.
 - ⇒ Find the application and evaluation criteria [here](#).
 - ⇒ See the 2017 winner [here](#).
 - ⇒ **Nomination deadline: June 1, 2018**
- **Washington State Drug Use & Traffic Safety Report** - The Washington Traffic Safety Commission recently issued a new report indicating troubling facts on drug use and traffic safety since marijuana legalization. The report shows that marijuana-impaired driving fatalities have more than doubled from 2012 to 2016; one in five drivers are under the influence of marijuana; and 64.2% of respondents who reported using marijuana and driving stated they didn't think it impaired their ability to drive at all. You can view the report [here](#).
- **Encryption & Rape Kits Backlog** - On Monday, Attorney General Sessions spoke at the Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies conference in Scottsdale, AZ. In his prepared statement, Sessions stated that Congress may need to require warrant-friendly encryption if tech companies don't voluntarily reconfigure their products. Sessions also addressed the backlog in testing rape kits, and stated that in 2018 they will invest more than \$100 million in state and local labs to reduce backlogs, and provide grant funding to test previously untested rape kits. You can view AG Sessions statement [here](#).
- **ARTICLES OF INTEREST:**

Sessions unveils plan to keep narcotics officers on the job longer in wake of opioid crisis**The Washington Times | Jeff Mordock**

Attorney General Jeff Sessions said Thursday that keeping federal investigators on the job past retirement will bulk up understaffed agencies in the wake of the opioid crisis. Speaking to the National Sheriffs' Association's Opioid Roundtable, Mr. Sessions unveiled a three-prong plan to hang on to experienced narcotics officers. The plan includes raising the retirement age to 60 instead of 57; bringing back already-retired agents to work part-time and contracting former state narcotics officers to work for federal agencies such as the Drug Enforcement Administration. "Why not see how many people we keep?" Mr. Sessions said. "That is like a new, well-trained, experienced person on the job." Mr. Sessions said the length of time it takes for a new agent to get up to speed is too long for a nation facing an epidemic drug crisis. **Continue reading [here](#).**

Kushner-backed prison reform bill finds new life**Politico | Heather Caygle**

A group of bipartisan House lawmakers unveiled a new criminal justice bill Monday, with hopes it can overcome obstacles that derailed an earlier version of the legislation just two weeks ago. The House Judiciary Committee will vote on the prison reform bill Wednesday after its lead authors, Reps. Hakeem Jeffries (D-N.Y.) and Doug Collins (R-Ga.), spent the congressional recess working with President Donald Trump's son-in-law and adviser Jared Kushner and others to tweak the proposal. The bill would authorize funding for training programs to help rehabilitate prisoners. If approved by the Judiciary Committee, the bill could be on the House floor before the Memorial Day recess, according to several sources. Senate Majority Whip John Cornyn (R-Texas) and Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.) introduced a companion proposal Monday afternoon. **Continue reading [here](#).**

Weed the people? Companies relax drug-testing policies in bid to attract more workers**NBC News | Martha C. White**

Near-full employment and changing attitudes about cannabis are prompting some companies to drop pre-employment drug screenings for marijuana, experts in human resources say. "It is happening," said Brian Kropp, group vice president at Gartner's HR practice. "In all the conversations we've been having with executives about this issue, more and more of them are dropping it," he said. According to attorney James Reidy, chair of the labor and employment group at the law firm of Sheehan Phinney Bass & Green, an increasingly common viewpoint among employers is: "It's an artificial barrier to employment. ... It's no different than having a beer Sunday night." **Continue reading [here](#).**

Mexican drug lord 'El Chapo' tortured, killed 6 Americans and DEA agent within 9-week span, report says**Fox News | Katherine Lam**

Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman may face murder charges after several former Mexican police officers accused him of killing six Americans and a DEA agent within a nine-week span in late 1984. Three former Mexican police officers told the U.S. Attorney's Office in Los Angeles they witnessed Guzman carry out the killing spree between late 1984 and early 1985. Jorge Godoy, one of the former cops who is now under witness protection, told WFAA that Guzman took pleasure in killing people. "He likes to cut the people," Godoy told the news site. **Continue reading [here](#).**

Hearings & Markups Happening This Week

Senate Homeland Security Committee - [Full Committee Business Meeting](#) - May 7 @ 5:30 pm - S-216 Capitol
[Nomination of Christopher C. Krebs](#), to be Under Secretary, National Protection and Programs Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

House Judiciary Committee - Full Committee Hearing

[Challenges and Solutions in the Opioid Abuse Crisis](#)

May 8 @ 10:00 am - 2141 Rayburn

House E&C Committee - Oversight Subcommittee Hearing

[Combating the Opioid Epidemic: Examining Concerns About Distribution and Diversion](#)

May 8 @ 10:00 am - 2123 Rayburn

House Education and the Workforce Committee - Workforce Protections Subcommittee Hearing

[The Opioid Epidemic: Implications for the Federal Employees' Compensation Act](#)

May 8 @ 10:00 am - 2175 Rayburn

House Veterans Affairs Committee - [Full Committee Markup](#) - May 8 @ 10:00 am

H.R. 5520 - VA Medicinal Cannabis Research Act of 2018

Status: To be marked-up by the House VA Committee on 5/8.

Summary: To authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use the authority of the Secretary to conduct and support research on the efficacy and safety of medicinal cannabis, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3832 - Veterans Opioid Abuse Prevention Act

Status: To be marked-up by the House VA Committee on 5/8.

Summary: To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the executive director of a national network of State-based prescription monitoring programs under which Department of Veterans Affairs health care providers shall query such network, and for other purposes.

House E&C Committee - Health Subcommittee Hearing

[Improving the Coordination and Quality of Substance Use Disorder Treatment](#)

May 8 @ 1:00 pm - 2123 Rayburn

Senate Appropriations Committee - Homeland Security Subcommittee Hearing

[FY 2019 funding request and budget justification for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security](#)

May 8 @ 2:30 pm - 192 Dirksen

House Judiciary Committee - [Full Committee Markup](#) - May 9 @ 10:00 am - 2141 Rayburn

H.R. XXXX - Protect and Serve Act of 2018

Status: To be marked-up by the House Judiciary Committee on 5/9.

Summary: To amend title 18, United States Code, to punish criminal offenses targeting law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

H.R. XXXX - Formerly Incarcerated Reenter Society Transformed Safely Transitioning Every Person Act (FIRST STEP Act)

Status: To be marked-up by the House Judiciary Committee on 5/9.

Summary: To provide for programs to help reduce the risk that prisoners will recidivate upon release from prison, and for other purposes.

House Appropriations Committee - [CJS Subcommittee Markup](#) - May 9 @ 5:00 pm - 2362-B Rayburn

H.R. XXXX - FY 2019 Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations Act

Status: To be marked-up by the House CJS Appropriations Subcommittee on 5/9.

Summary: Bill to be released shortly.

Legislation on the Floor This Week

House:

H.R. 2152 - Citizens' Right to Know Act of 2017

Status: To be considered in the House on 5/9/18.

Summary: This bill requires a state or local government that receives funds under a Department of Justice (DOJ) grant

program and uses such funds for a pretrial services program to annually report the amount of funds received by the pretrial services program and certain information about participating defendants. DOJ must publish the information. Additionally, DOJ must reduce the grant allocation of a state or local government that fails to comply.

Senate:

Note: Due to Senate scheduling and rules, additional items not listed may be added to the calendar for consideration.

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.

The House and Senate were not in session.

Legislation Considered Last Week

House:

The House was not in session.

Senate:

The Senate was not in session.

Legislation Introduced Last Week

- Nothing affecting the law enforcement or homeland security community.



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