

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Mrs. Fischer. You have been a very fine witness and I appreciate your testimony.

Our next witness is Mr. John A. Patterson, Jr., of the Chevy Chase Citizens' Association.

**STATEMENT OF JOHN A. PATTERSON, JR., FIRST VICE PRESIDENT,  
CHEVY CHASE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION**

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Patterson?

Mr. PATTERSON. Good morning, Senator Bible.

The CHAIRMAN. Good morning.

Mr. PATTERSON. My name is John A. Patterson, Jr., first vice president of the Chevy Chase Citizens' Association. I am appearing here today as a substitute witness for F. McKey Smith, who is ill, chairman of the Public Protection Committee of the Chevy Chase Citizens' Association, an organization with a membership of approximately 3,000 out of approximately 10,000 residents, and a large number of them approximately are residents of apartment houses and do not have the same interest possibly as property owners do, of the leading business and professional people in our community.

Mr. Smith was to appear here today as the result of a meeting of the executive committee of the Chevy Chase Citizens' Association which had empowered him to make the following comments reflecting our policy upon H.R. 7525, the omnibus crime bill, now before the Senate District Committee.

The delicate balance of the pendulum of justice has been thrown completely out of balance in the District of Columbia by the *Mallory* decision and the ensuing restrictions placed upon the Metropolitan Police Department to interrogate and question suspects of crimes or witnesses to crimes. This delicate balance must be restored if there is to be a return to normalcy in the Nation's Capital, permitting the law-abiding citizen and his family to walk the streets with a reasonable degree of safety, free from molestation from assailants, murderers, and rapists.

The result of almost 6 years of the *Mallory* decision, which has hampered police activities in bringing criminals to justice, is coldly and shockingly emblazoned in the headlines, which reveal the facts of repeated criminals being allowed to mingle in our society with meager or no punishment, and the sharp reduction in the rate of crime clearance by the police department.

Six years of justice by this 20th-century equation has turned our once-proud city with a remarkably low crime rate into a haven for criminals and lawbreakers and a showcase of sin beset by police-mocking felons. Washington, D.C., has become a global symbol of lawlessness and acquired the reputation, deserving or not, of being soft on crime.

To dramatically demonstrate the effect of the *Mallory* decision, I wish to point to the following statistical evidence. The *Mallory* decision was made in June of 1957. From 1952 to 1957, a period of 5 years, there had been a marked drop in crimes of violence and felony offenses in the District of Columbia. Since June of 1957, the trend has completely reversed itself and the incidence of crime has again skyrocketed, even more markedly upward than the descent from 1952.