

Mr. WHITENER. We have with us today several witnesses. I would like to inquire at this time if any of the witnesses—Patrick V. Murphy, Director of Public Safety; Chief John B. Layton, Metropolitan Police Department; and Thomas F. Moyer, Assistant Corporation Counsel—have prepared statements. If not, I will ask the three of you to come up at the same time and we will hear from you in a rather informal way, more in the way of a panel discussion.

Gentlemen, you may identify yourselves, unless the reporter probably already knows you.

STATEMENTS OF PATRICK V. MURPHY, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY; CHIEF JOHN B. LAYTON, METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT; AND THOMAS F. MOYER, ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. MURPHY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the opportunity to come before the subcommittee and just state very briefly that I feel this legislation would be of value to us in recruiting additional reserve police officers. It would provide us with the incentives of making uniforms available to reserve police officers and affording them some kind of protection should they be injured while on duty. The incentives, in my view, would attract more men to the police reserve unit and would encourage them to donate even more of their volunteered service to the Police Department.

We have had a reserve corps for a number of years and they have made a very valuable contribution to the department, especially during times when we have had emergencies of one kind or another. These men have assisted in the precincts and have assisted in patrol duty, and with this legislation we feel we could call on the reserve officers for additional assistance.

Chief Layton has had more experience than I have had with the reserve corps, and I would appreciate the opportunity for Chief Layton to express his views.

Mr. WHITENER. We would be delighted to have them.

Chief LAYTON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

As Mr. Murphy has already indicated, we have had since 1950 a reserve corps working entirely on a voluntary basis. There has not been specific legislative authority for it except to the extent the Commissioner is authorized by statute to appoint special officers for special occasions in emergency situations and that sort of thing. Nevertheless, the reserve corps has operated on a voluntary basis. We have given them a fair amount of training, both classroom training and on-the-job training. They are used on a voluntary basis to assist in school athletic events along parade routes on occasions when there are block events and other events such as Christmas parties for children and ball games. On Halloween we have their assistance at fire boxes to prevent false fire alarms. So they have been used in a number of training situations and in addition to that on some special occasions where there is need for greater manpower we have requested and the Commissioner under the statute that I previously mentioned has authorized the reserve corps members to be commissioned for that day as special officers of the force. At that time they have the same powers of arrest as the regular officers have. They were used during the inaugural; during the 1963 rally for jobs and freedom the so-called Free-