

**Chairman Jerry Moran Opening Statement**  
**Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related**  
**Agencies**

**Hearing to Review the FY2019 Budget Request for the Federal Bureau of Investigation**

**May 16, 2018**

*(As prepared for delivery)*

Good afternoon, I call this hearing to order. Welcome to the open session of today's Commerce, Justice, and Science Subcommittee hearing on the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Fiscal Year 2019 budget request. Immediately following today's open hearing, the subcommittee will meet in closed session. Our witness today is FBI Director Christopher Wray. Welcome, Director Wray, and thank you for coming to testify about the Bureau's 2019 request.

I would like to begin by thanking the men and women of the FBI who work every day to protect this nation and keep its citizens safe.

The FBI's mission is broad and multifaceted. It includes protecting and defending the United States against terrorism and intelligence threats, fighting cyber-crime, and combating traditional criminal activities such as violent crimes, public corruption and white-collar wrongdoing.

In order for the Bureau to succeed, we must make certain that the necessary resources are available and that the FBI is supported with the tools and capabilities needed to tackle today's constantly evolving threats. We also expect the FBI to be nimble and sophisticated in order to carry out its important responsibilities.

The Administration has requested \$8.9 billion for the FBI in its 2019 budget request. Like many agencies, this request was created before the recently enacted fiscal year 2018 appropriations measure was finalized and became law. As we consider the FBI's funding needs, it is important that we are mindful of the world we live in and remain cognizant of the complexities and rapidly changing landscape of today.

Technology is developing and evolving all around us, paving the way for growth and opportunity. However, the reality is that as we get smarter and more sophisticated, so do our adversaries. That is why it is of the utmost importance that this subcommittee discuss and better understand the FBI's funding priorities to make certain the Bureau is equipped to prevent and combat the ever-changing landscape of criminal activity, both at home and abroad.

To that point, I am proud of the FBI's work in Kansas and across our nation. The FBI, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, and other federal partners, along with several local Kansan law enforcement authorities, have had a number of successes in recent months.

Together they thwarted a plan to attack an apartment complex that contained a mosque in an effort to kill Somali Muslim immigrants; indicted six defendants charged with conspiracy to distribute heroin; disrupted a conspiracy to steal trade secrets from a Kansas biopharmaceutical research facility; and busted drug traffickers in an international money laundering scheme.

These are just a few examples of the great work performed by FBI personnel in Kansas, and I know that my colleagues could all share similar stories from their home states.

One issue I hope you will further elaborate on is the FBI's work at the National Bioforensic Analysis Center. I understand the Bureau is considering entering into a cost-sharing agreement with the Department of Homeland Security to sustain the facility and ensure the FBI is able to continue its bio-forensic operations.

I hope you will explain the FBI's need for continued use of the N-B-Fac, as well as the different funding options the Bureau is considering.

While the focus of this hearing is the FBI's fiscal year 2019 budget request, I suspect that you may hear about a number of issues unrelated to the Bureau's resource needs. It is my hope that we are able to concentrate on evaluating and discussing the FBI's FY 2019 budget request.

With the FBI's broad and complex mission, it is imperative that there is an appropriate balance of fulfilling the Bureau's diverse responsibilities while targeting the highest needs and the greatest criminal threats. I look forward to hearing how the FBI prioritizes these matters and plans to stay ahead of our adversaries.

Lastly, in your testimony, Director Wray, if there are additional needs not addressed in the Bureau's request, I encourage you to discuss them.

I now would like to recognize our CJS Ranking Member, Senator Shaheen.

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