

TESTIMONY

OF

LIEUTENANT COLONEL EDWARD CETNAR, DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT
NEW JERSEY STATE POLICE

BEFORE THE

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND
COMMUNICATIONS

JUNE 23, 2014

Madam Chair, Congressman Payne, and Members of the Subcommittee:

Let me begin by saying thank you to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Subcommittee for the advocacy and support you have consistently shown the New Jersey State Police in our pursuit for effective management and overall preparedness operations in our everyday duties and responsibility to protect and serve the citizenry of New Jersey from all crimes, and all hazards.

My name is Edward Cetnar, and I serve as Lieutenant Colonel, Deputy Superintendent to the Operations Branch. I am pleased to appear before the Subcommittee today to highlight some of our key accomplishments of the past year and to answer questions you may have in regards to “Mass Gathering Security” using our coordinated approach to Super Bowl XLVIII and other large scale events as models.

In preparation for Super Bowl XLVIII, the New Jersey State Police coordinated the activities of over 100 different federal, state, county, and local agencies. This coordination included the development and oversight of 28 Subcommittee Working Groups. The Working Groups covered the many disciplines required to secure an event of this magnitude.

The New Jersey State Police executed a plan to secure Super Bowl XLVIII using an air, land, and sea concept. This approach was the most aggressive security plan ever executed at an NFL Super Bowl. Focusing upon all manner of threats and hazards, from weather to terrorism, the New Jersey State Police developed a security plan encompassing input from over 100 agencies as a means to eliminate the threat of disruption and terrorist attack.

A broad spectrum of planning involved matters of tactical operations, cyber, intelligence, aviation, bomb detection, and emergency management, in addition to many other areas of vulnerability. In addition, the NJSP was also responsible for collaborating and coordinating security efforts with the State of New York, as well as New York City.

As a result of this unprecedented level of collaboration with partners from federal, state, county, and local law enforcement and the private sector, more than 80,000 fans in attendance and more than 160 million viewers worldwide enjoyed America’s premier sporting event.

The New Jersey State Police continues to establish best practices and has employed both preparedness and tactical operations that demonstrate our ability to prepare and respond to any incident, event, or disaster that may impact the State of New Jersey. I thank you for your attention today and for the opportunity to share this testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.