



Public Hearing: Protecting Pennsylvania - Law Enforcement Recruitment and Retention

The purpose of this hearing is to examine the factors driving law enforcement workforce challenges and explore practical policy solutions to strengthen the law enforcement pipeline. Testimony should focus on recruitment, training, retention, officer wellness, and other strategies to ensure Pennsylvania agencies can attract and retain the next generation of highly qualified law enforcement professionals while continuing to provide the level of public safety that residents expect and deserve.

August 19, 2026 | 10:00 a.m.

Hearing Overview

- **Pledge of Allegiance**
- **Welcome**
- **Opening Remarks**
 - Chairman David H. Rowe
 - State Representative Eric Weaknecht
- **Testimony from Invited Experts**
- **Member Discussion with Testifiers**
- **Closing Comments & Adjournment**

Testifiers

- **Brett Forry**, Chief of Police, Bern Township Police Department
- **Daniel Zeigler**, Sheriff of Carbon County, Pennsylvania Sheriffs' Association
- **Christopher King**, Lieutenant Colonel, Pennsylvania State Police
- **Brooke Meade**, Special Assistant, Pennsylvania State Police
- **Greg Rowe**, Senior Counsel, Office of the Attorney General

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About the Testifiers



Brett Forry

Brett A. Forry serves as Chief of Police for the Bern Township Police Department in Berks County, Pennsylvania. A Tulpehocken-area native and Penn State University graduate, Chief Forry began his career in public safety as a Park Ranger at Blue Marsh Lake and later served as a Berks County Probation Officer. He subsequently joined the Bern Township Police Department, where he advanced through the ranks before being selected as Chief in 2023. Chief Forry leads the department in its mission to promote public safety, enforce the law, investigate criminal activity, and serve the Bern Township community.



Christopher King

Lieutenant Colonel Christopher King is a senior leader with the Pennsylvania State Police, currently serving as Deputy Commissioner of Administration and Professional Responsibility. A longtime member of PSP, Lt. Col. King has held a variety of leadership and operational positions throughout his career, including serving as director of the Office of Community Engagement. In his current role, he oversees key administrative and professional responsibility functions for the statewide law enforcement agency, with a focus on organizational effectiveness, accountability, and public safety.



Brooke Meade

Brooke L. Meade serves as Special Assistant to the Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP). In this role, she works closely with the PSP Commissioner and command staff on agency operations, legislative matters, and public safety initiatives. Meade has extensive experience with the Pennsylvania State Police, including previous service as Chief of Labor Relations and Director of the Employee Relations Division. She brings significant knowledge of PSP administration, personnel matters, and organizational operations to her current leadership role.



Greg Rowe

Greg Rowe serves as Senior Counsel to the Attorney General of Pennsylvania. He brings extensive experience in criminal justice, public safety, legislation, and policy to the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General. Previously, Rowe served as Executive Director of the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association, where he advocated for prosecutors and helped advance legislative and policy initiatives addressing public safety, victims' rights, drug enforcement, justice reform, and Clean Slate reforms.



Daniel Zeigler

Sheriff Daniel G. Zeigler serves as Sheriff of Carbon County and as a member of the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania Sheriffs' Association. Zeigler joined the Carbon County Sheriff's Office in 2020 as its first captain, was promoted to Chief Deputy, and was appointed Sheriff in January 2022. A Panther Valley High School graduate, he holds a bachelor's degree in Administration of Justice from Penn State University and a master's degree in Public Administration. As Sheriff, Zeigler focuses on improving public safety, strengthening partnerships with law enforcement agencies, and serving communities throughout Carbon County.

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