



Board of Director's Meeting Report

"SPECIAL CALLED"

March 4, 2020

600 Jefferson, Conference Room #2, 3:30 p.m.

A special Crime Commission Board of Directors' meeting was called to discuss gun legislation before the General Assembly and the position of the Crime Commission.

Chairman Ben Adams presented Governor Bill Lee's proposal to the General Assembly (1) that would allow the carrying of a handgun – openly or concealed – without a handgun permit and (2) for enhanced sentences for those convicted of stealing guns and convicted felons in possession of guns. The Governor proposes to make theft of a gun a felony (currently a misdemeanor if the value of the gun is under \$1,000) and require mandatory incarceration time of at least 180 days upon conviction.

As part of the Safe Community Plan, the Crime Commission has supported (1) the successful enactment of tougher state sentences for the illegal possession of guns by convicted felons, (2) strong federal and state prosecution efforts for gun crimes and (3) a communication campaign (called FED UP) to communicate the consequences of engaging in gun crime.

The thirty Crime Commission board members participating in the meeting voted unanimously for a statement opposing the proposal on the carrying of a handgun without a permit and supporting enhanced sentences for thefts of guns and felons in possession of guns.

President Bill Gibbons said he would try to contact various other members who did not participate in the called board meeting to determine their position.

Meeting adjourned...

Presented by,
Sam Walker
Executive Assistant
Memphis Shelby Crime Commission