

REPORT ON VISIT TO THE USA AND CANADA

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2017

Los Angeles – Kevin Coffey, Travel Safety Advisor



In Los Angeles we met Mr. Kevin Coffey, a former member of the Los Angeles Police Department who is now internationally recognized as an expert and training consultant in crime avoidance tactics. A pioneer in travel crime investigations, he founded the LAPD's Los Angeles International Airport's Crimes Investigations Detail and has been passionate about exposing others in avoiding the pitfalls of travel, street crime, pickpockets, travel scams, as well as largest rising crime in the United States - identity theft. He provides a wealth of information on multiple personal security and traveller safety issues including travel skills for students. Kevin's website is <https://www.kevincoffey.com/>

Los Angeles Police Department

Kevin introduced us to LAPD members Lt Raymond Marquez, Sgt Angelo Castro, and Officers Javier Berrigan and Garrett Stultz, all of the Community Relationship Division, who briefed us on crime prevention and community safety initiatives in the Los Angeles area.



LAPD endeavours to build bridges of goodwill with the Community so that the public regard police officers as friends who they can trust and are there to help them rather than as persons to fear. It provides information and written material on a wide range of crime prevention issues including brochures and booklets to children eg the prevention of bullying, staying safe online, Halloween safety tips, etc.

We also learned of the LAPD Internship Program and POPP (Police Orientation and Development Program) which is a two-year Associate's Degree program recruiting 12th graders and recent high school graduates into classes at the same site where police recruits are trained. Graduates can apply to join the LAPD, and are regularly considered as top choices for employment as parks department employees, private security officers, police aides, detention officers, sheriff's deputies, and more.

The LAPD has a comprehensive website containing crime prevention information including a "Crime Prevention Tip of the Month" and a "Traffic Tip of the Month".

A community program "IWATCH" helps neighbourhoods and the city to stay safe from terrorist activities and citizens are invited to report suspicious behaviours and activities. A website and phone line is available for reporting on such matters. There is also a LA crime stoppers program.

In many places in the USA, Neighbourhood Watch is now undertaken almost exclusively online via *Nextdoor*, the first private social network for neighbourhoods. Like *Facebook* does for friends and relatives, and *Linked In* does for businesses, it facilitates contact within neighbourhoods online and on a smartphone app. Police and fire departments are integrating Nextdoor into their services so they can work with neighbours to create safer neighbourhoods, using the Network to inform neighbours of high-priority alerts or news via text message.

Chicago – Professor Art Lurigio

Professor Art Lurigio is the Associate Dean for Faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences. He is a psychologist and a Professor of Criminal Justice and Psychology. He has a wealth of knowledge and experience researching substance use and crime and the interface between mental health and the criminal justice systems and has published more than 300 books, chapters, articles and technical reports. Professor Lurigio has very kindly contributed an article for this Newsletter.

Washington DC- Professor Frederic Lemieux, George Washington University



Professor Lemieux is the Program Director of Bachelor in Police and Security Studies; Master's in Security and Safety Leadership; Master's in Strategic Cyber Operations and Information Management at the George Washington University. His research has focused on policing, homeland security, and cybersecurity and he is currently conducting studies on cyber defense and intelligence sharing on cyber threats. He has published seven books and various journal articles examining crime control during major disasters, counter-terrorism, intelligence agencies, and police cooperation.

<https://www.thecipherbrief.com/the-problems-with-response-and-prevention>

<https://www.thecipherbrief.com/a-cyber-strategy>

New York – Red Hook Community Court, Brooklyn

We visited the Red Hook Community Justice Centre in Red Hook, Brooklyn, established by the NY based Centre for Court Innovation, meeting director Mr James Brodick, and joined the Presiding Judge Alex Calabrese, for a morning session in his court. The Centre conceives, plans, and operates programs seeking to test new ideas, solve difficult problems, and achieve system change in the justice area.



Red Hook is a small area of western Brooklyn. In 1988, *Life* magazine declared it “the crack capital of America.” Things hit rock bottom in 1992, when a popular elementary school principal was shot and killed while searching for a fourth-grade boy who had left school.

Since it was established in 2000, the Centre has been extremely effective in reducing crime in the neighbourhood of Brooklyn NY. A 2013 evaluation found that adult defendants who went through Red Hook had a 10 percent lower recidivism rate than those who went through traditional courts and the effect was even more pronounced for juveniles, who saw a 20 percent decrease compared to other systems.

It is a community court which tries to determine the underlying problems leading to the defendant's criminal behaviour, whether it be addiction, homelessness, lack of education or something else. It requires defendants to address their problems while at the same time repaying the community they have harmed. A typical sentence can include mandatory drug treatment, job training, adult education classes, community service or a combination. The community benefits directly not only from the mandated community service—such as painting over graffiti and cleaning local parks—but, more importantly, by having a member of the community get to the root of his or her criminal activity and address it.

The Justice Centre is a multi-jurisdictional court because people in Red Hook face a wide range of problems—from quality-of-life crime to domestic violence to substance abuse issues. These problems do not necessarily conform to the jurisdictional boundaries of the court system. A single family could find itself in Criminal Court, Housing Court and Family Court under the traditional court system. At the Red Hook Community Justice Centre, these are combined bringing all such cases into one courtroom with one judge. The goal is to offer, as much as possible, a coordinated approach to people's problems.



Judge Calabrese hears cases that would typically go to three different courts -- civil, juvenile and criminal.

Red Hook today is now a far different place. There's a gleaming 40,000-square-foot Tesla showroom just blocks from the courthouse, the city's only IKEA is nearby. Bike-share stations have sprouted up in front of public housing. Part of that has to do with the same gentrifying forces that have changed much of the rest of Brooklyn in the past 15 years.

Supporters say the court has helped too.

Part of the reason for that success rate rests in Red Hook's basic dedication to treating defendants with dignity. A growing body of research around the notion of "procedural justice," pioneered by Yale psychology professor Tom Tyler, shows that *litigants (including criminal defendants) are more likely to abide by a court's rulings if they think that the process used to reach those rulings is fair -- even when the ruling isn't in their favour.* That certainly seems to be the case at Red Hook. "When offenders were asked to describe in their own words how their experiences at the Justice Center differed from their experiences in other courts," the 2013 NCSC study said, "the word they most frequently chose was 'respectful.'"

Australia has a Community Court in South Yarra, Victoria, and this is featured in an Article by ACPC Executive member Tiffany Kappen later in this newsletter.

Boston- Professor Jack Greene, Northeastern University



Jack R. Greene is Professor Emeritus, previously Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice and the former Dean of the College of Criminal Justice at Northeastern University, where he led academic and research programs focused on matters of criminology and justice policy (1999-2008). Recognized as one of the country's leading scholars in the field of policing, he has published six books, a two-volume Encyclopedia of Police Science, and over 100 research articles, book chapters, research reports and policy papers on matters of policing in the U.S. and internationally. He co-edited, *Criminologists on Terrorism* (Cambridge University Press) with Brian Forst and James Lynch (2011).

Dr. Greene has written widely on matters of police service delivery, community approaches to policing, crime prevention and police management. More recently he has shifted his research focus from community-oriented approaches to crime prevention and law enforcement, to the strategic and practical problems the police encounter in community building, preserving human rights and in taking on a new

security role in an era of terrorism. He now writes on terrorism, human rights and the social and legal complexity of police interventions.

Professor Greene strongly encouraged ACPC to continue publication of the Newsletter which enabled people working at the “coal face” to tell others what they were doing and of its effectiveness.

We discussed general matters of policing with Professor Greene including the use of community policing and the focuses of particular police forces in other countries eg Scotland and Sweden.

Montreal - Justice Michael Stober, Quebec Superior Court.

Justice Stober had recently delivered a significant ruling on the secrecy of police surveillance devices. The ruling raised the important issue as to whether police who advanced their investigations with secret surveillance techniques or the help of telecommunications corporations could prevent those methods from being revealed during prosecutions.

Montreal- International Centre for the Prevention of Crime

We visited the Montreal based ICPC which was founded in 1994. ACPC is a member. ICPC members now include a range of national and sub-regional governments from across the world, as well as a Board of international, regional and national organizations, cities, and a wide variety of non-government organizations and associations concerned with issues of crime prevention and community safety. Its work is also supported by an international Scientific Committee of experts in the field.



We briefed ICPC with a report on the work and activities of ACPC, including the seminars and conferences we have convened and the website we maintain and the Newsletter we publish, and informed it of the wide crime prevention related network we have established in the Asia Pacific region and in other parts of the world including Europe and Africa.

We discussed opportunities which we have to share information in the future, including the contact details of those involved in our network.

We were briefed on various initiatives including the forthcoming 12th International Colloquium titled “Crime Prevention Strategies in the 21st Century: Evolving Practices and Policies”, on the Hub Project, Saskatchewan, (a multi-agency team focused on crime prevention by integrating the activities of various community agencies, including the Police Service, local school boards, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Services). The Hub concept closely resembles Denmark’s SSP project, studied by ACPC during a visit to Copenhagen in 2014. South Australia has a similar program, the Multi Agency Protection Service (MAPS) model, managing domestic violence and related child protection matters



We also discussed the Canadian Centre for Community Engagement and the Prevention of Violence, Project Enact, which has the goal of enhancing Africa's capacity to respond more effectively to transnational organized crime, and the Second Africa Forum for Urban Safety Learning Exchange held in Durban, South Africa.

Annapolis Royal Nova Scotia – Provincial Court

We attended the morning's hearings of the Provincial Court of Nova Scotia in Annapolis Royal.

The Nova Scotia Criminal Justice Transformation Group is an action group working toward transformational change in the criminal justice system in Nova Scotia.

Lunenburg Nova Scotia- Meeting with Deputy Mayor Peter Mosher

We met Deputy Mayor Peter Mosher and told him of ACPC's work. The Lunenburg County Crime Prevention Association, founded in January 2012, consists of volunteers who work together with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to create safer communities through education, awareness, and a reduction in crime. It achieves this mission through partnership with the police, the public, private and corporate sectors and all levels of government.

Halifax Nova Scotia- meeting with Professor Tim Stretton

We met Professor Tim Stretton who teaches legal history at St Mary's University. Tim is formerly from Adelaide.