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TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1102 Judiciary Committee Jan. 13, 2025

Dwight Love, Interim Police Chief City of Grand Forks, ND

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Dwight Love and I'm the Interim Police Chief for the Grand Forks Police Department. I am providing this testimony in support of HB 1102.

The Grand Forks Police Department currently has one (1) investigator assigned to cybercrimes. They partner with BCI agents in Fargo, ND to collaboratively investigate offenses to include all crimes involving internet and/or electronic means. This involves having the training, experience and equipment necessary to collect a wide range of digital evidence found on electronic devices used in all crimes from domestic violence to the sexual exploitation of children.

Local BCI agents assigned to Grand Forks would make the investigative process more efficient by adding local access to advanced cybercrimes technologies while reducing travel/distance for the cases that need their assistance. This additional support would help reduce the backlog in cybercrime investigations for our police department and the surrounding regional agencies by reducing the usage of BCI agents located in Fargo, ND.

The Grand Forks Police Department and the City of Grand Forks would welcome the opportunity to integrate BCI agents into our region and within the department. The City would support these BCI agents in various ways such as IT support, office space, etc.

For these reasons, the City of Grand Forks and the Grand Forks Police Department request a DO PASS on HB 1102.

Thank you for your consideration.