we'd appreciate it.

(Brief recess at 10:37 a.m.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Our next panel is entitled

Effective Corrections Management: Sexual Assault,
the Indicators and the Impact on Institutional
Stability. Our three panelists are Director Lappin
from the Federal Bureau of Prisons; Jail
Administrator, Cynthia Malm from Idaho and
Commissioner Kathleen Dennehy from Massachusetts.

We thank all of you for your presence.

If you could please stand and take the oath,
we'd appreciate it.

(Panel sworn)

THE CHAIRMAN: We'll proceed in the order
in which you're listed on the agenda with Director
Lappin going first.

EFFECTIVE CORRECTIONS MANAGEMENT: SEXUAL ASSAULT,
THE INDICATORS AND IMPACT ON INSTITUTIONAL STABILITY

MR. LAPPIN: Good morning, Mr. Chairman,
members of the commission. I appreciate the
opportunity to appear before you today to discuss
effective prison management, particularly some of
the ways to reducing sexual assault within a

correctional setting.

The Bureau of Prisons has a policy that

specifically addresses sexual abuse prevention and

intervention. Our strategy for preventing sexual

assault and abuse is inherent in our overall

management approach. Our objective is to promote a

safe, secure, and humane environment for staff and

inmates and facilitate community reentering for

releasing inmates. We accomplish this by adhering

do sound correction basis and providing

self-improvement opportunities for the improvement

of work towards reducing recidivist.

The Bureau of Prisons operates 112 prisons and

is responsible for nearly 189,000 federal offenders

with approximately 85 percent housed in bureau

facilities, and the remainder in privately operated

facilities, including some state and local

governments. The Bureau of Prisons is a policy

driven agency. Nearly all major aspects of

institutional operations are covered by policy, and

all facilities are mandated by our policy.
We have an elaborate system of checks and balances designed to ensure compliance with applicable regulations, laws, policies and procedures identifying enhancements when needed and promote efficient management practices.

Institution security is ensured through a combination of direct staff supervision of inmates, physical and architectural feature, security technology, and a classification of inmates based on risk factors. Our security classification system contributes significantly to the safety by separating inmates with the propensity for violence and abuse toward others. Inmates are assigned a security level in accordance with their classification score, and they're housed in an institution with corresponding security levels ranging from minimum to high security.

Staff clearly are the key for effective inmate management. And regardless of their specific discipline, all employees of the federal prison system or correctionally disbursed. Each is responsible for safety, security, good order of the
institution, and for serving as a positive role
model.

Staff are expected to be attentive to inmate
accountability and security issues and to maintain
proficiency in each of those areas. Engaging
inmates in programs and keeping them constructively
occupied is critical to ensuring a safe, secure
prison and public safety.

Programming reduces idleness and stresses
related to confinement and helps prepare inmates
for release. Staff are highly visible throughout
the vicinity, continually interacting with inmates.
This promotes a more normalized environment and
places staff in a better position to observe and
respond to inmate behavior. Staff officers in the
housing units facilitate access and identification
of potential issues and concerns.

In many facilities, surveillance via CT TV
cameras augment direct staff supervision. And a
grievance procedure ensures investigation and
timely response to any issue raised by inmates.
Inmates and staff are encouraged to report
incidents of misconduct and other inappropriate behavior. All allegations of staff misconduct are referred to the Office of the Inspector General, which then refers them back to the Bureau of Internal Affairs of those with which they would like us to investigate. Serious cases are referred for criminal prosecution and we do not tolerate any type of abuse of inmates.

Allegations of inmate on inmate sexual assaults or nonconsensual sexual acts are also taken very seriously with full investigation and prompt referral to the FBI in cases involving potential criminal behavior.

The bureau's Internal Inmate Discipline Policy is also brought to bear where the investigation reveals institution rules involvement. Bureau policies specifically on preventing sexual abuse and behavior is designed to do several things: One, staff and the inmate awareness and understanding of the bureau's zero policy, zero tolerance policy, standardization detection and prevention procedures, prompt effective response to
victim needs, prompt intervention and
investigation, discipline and prosecution of
perpetrators.

The policy applies to inmates with a history
of sexual victimization or predation and to those
at risk of being victimized or perpetuating
sexually abusive behavior. It emphasizes the use
of silent retro-basics to better detect incidents
of sexually abusive behavior and deterrence.

All reports of victimization are assumed
credible. Staff receive training on policy
requirements upon hiring and during annual
correctional training yearly thereafter. And those
who are directly involved receive specialized
training. It makes you advised of your rights and
responsibility during orientation facility and
receive an inmate handbook that outlines specific
aspects of the policy.

To ensure the safety of federal inmates held
in facilities under contract with the bureau, the
agency has taken a very active role in
communicating its expectations to the contract.
While laws establish minimal standards of care to which all inmates are entitled, the bureau has always worked to achieve the highest standards with respect to inmate management. The Bureau of Prisons' policies and procedures and practices regarding inmate management have served the agency well in that we've experienced very few sexual assaults.

As an agency we're always looking for ways to involved in each and every day. I look forward to your report. I couldn't agree with the former panel members that we look forward to the report in regards to what we can do to improve or existing systems and programs and provide a safer environment of inmates and inmates.

Mr. Chairman and Commission, again, we appreciate having you here at the federal detention center and we look forward to working with you. We're certainly encouraged by my hearing of the cooperation that I believe will continue that already exist and will continue to develop the
standards that I think are going to be critically important on how the future of our prisons in this country are operated. So again, thank you very much and look forward to questions that you might have of me.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Director.

Ms. Malm?