Opening Statement
by
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Technology Innovation, and the Internet
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Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member Schatz, Senator Nelson, and Members of the Committee, thank for the opportunity to appear before you today and to talk briefly with you about how Shield Group Technologies views the future of mobile technology. While it may not command the headlines and attention that other issues do at the moment, your work can have a very real, very long-term impact on the lives and futures of the American people.

We are in the midst of a period in our technological history when there are profound questions about the impact that certain technologies have on our lives: Intrusions on our privacy, technology's effect on our children's growth and development, and its ability to be used by hostile powers and individuals, are a few among numerous concerns that Americans rightly have.

But equal to these legitimate concerns is the extent to which mobile technology – apps for short -- are not being utilized to anywhere near their potential to positively impact our daily lives. While there are excellent apps for banking, shopping, booking reservations and media, --- the utilization of mobile technology has barely scratched the surface in its overall ability to positively impact us all. The simple truth is, that for many Americans apps are used mostly for personal entertainment. If you have any question about this, take a look sometime when you are flying home at what the person next to you is doing with their mobile device. Chances are good they are furiously trying to set players or check results of their fantasy team or swapping colored candies in some type of game. Now, that's OK, I use apps for entertainment also– but there is so much more potential for mobile technology.

What we've done at Shield Group Technologies is to develop ways for law enforcement and government to better use mobile and connected technologies to keep us safer and communicate better.

Our StudentProtect app is the most powerful app technology available today for students, parents, teachers and staff to provide threat and security tips and information to school administrators and law enforcement for its *real time* use by law enforcement. It is not just a simple tip-forwarding app that simply sends an email somewhere. It's a powerful technology that provides law enforcement and school administrators with information and intelligence that allows them to use it quickly and efficiently to *prevent* violence in our schools. Information and intelligence *before* a threat becomes a reality, is critically important in the prevention of school shootings and other acts of violence. With StudentProtect students and other users can provide intelligence and information that is routed and assessed by multiple law enforcement agencies and school officials simultaneously. It has powerful GPS functionality that tags where the intelligence originates from; and, it also allows school administrators and law enforcement to send *out* security information based on a wide variety of parameters including by a specific geo-graphic area. This technology has led to the apprehension of multiple perpetrators of threats as well as the ability for school administrators and law enforcement to intervene with behavioral and mental health assistance.

There is much more about StudentProtect than I have time for in this opening statement, so for those of you that do not have enough reading material in your daily lives, we've provided committee staff with a PDF of a Power Point presentation for you.

Our other app technologies include ConnectProtect which unites residents directly with law enforcement for 2-way, geo-targeted communication, information and crime-reporting; and our state-of-the-art SecureShare mobile technology, which provides law enforcement with a secure and encrypted means of distributing sensitive intelligence to law enforcement officers in the field without

the use of email – which when I turn on the news every day now I hear something about it not a safe or secure means of communicating sensitive information.

Mr. Chairman, America's ability to use mobile technology is accelerating at an amazing pace.   The public sector, which is the area we operate in, is its fastest growing sphere. It's more than just entertainment. The adoption of mobile technologies by law enforcement and Federal, State and local government can serve to save effectively share information and save taxpayers money by vastly increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the services delivered.

I wanted to end by thanking you, Mr. Chairman, and the members of the Committee for this opportunity, as well as the local government and law enforcement professionals that serve Americans every day. We are proud to work with these men and women around the country, and particularly in our and Senator Nelson's home state of Florida. There, I especially want to acknowledge Sheriff Ric Bradshaw of Palm Beach County. His constant challenges for innovative solutions for better law enforcement has been a constant source of ideas and challenges that have helped us to meet the demands of law enforcement agencies everywhere.

Thank you, again.