FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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(Washington, DC) Today, Charleston County Sheriff Al Cannon and other representatives of the Major County Sheriffs of America (MCSA) attended the rollout of President Trump’s Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice at the Department of Justice in Washington, DC. The Commission is the first such effort since 1965 to look at Law Enforcement challenges in the 21st century. Cannon is the MCSA’s representative to the Executive Advisory Board (EAB) of the National Domestic Communications Assistance Center (NDCAC). Former Attorney General Jeff Sessions appointed Sheriff Cannon to the NDCAC EAB, where the sheriff serves as the board chair. SLED Chief Mark Keel, representing the Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies, also sits on the EAB. The center is one of the FBI's primary means of providing support to state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies who encounter technology challenges while investigating crimes. Cannon has been one of the law enforcement leaders addressing the issue of gaining lawful access to evidence contained in digital devices. Cannon and representatives of other law enforcement associations met with Attorney General William Barr in the fall to discuss this important issue. Also attending the meeting was John and Revé Walsh, founders of The Center for Missing and Exploited Children, who reported that 70% of the tips that the center receives annually (17 million tips) come from Facebook, and should the popular site implement end-to-end encryption, those tips would be lost. Facebook, which had planned to introduce the enhanced security in the fall of 2019, has postponed doing so until sometime in 2020. Sheriff Cannon stated that law enforcement is seeing the most dramatic changes in crime since he began policing in 1971, and the complications related to advances in technology and obtaining and processing digital evidence is one of the most important challenges.