

*Crime -
Record*

Clinton Administration Crime Policy A Record of Support for State and Local Law Enforcement

The Clinton Administration has led an unprecedented effort to fight crime in our nation's communities. Over the course of the past six years, the Administration has worked to unite federal, state, local and tribal crime-control efforts; direct new resources for crime fighting and crime prevention into state, local and tribal efforts; and work hand in hand with community law enforcement. Six years into this strategy, crime has dropped to its lowest level in a quarter of a century and violent crime rates have fallen more than 21 percent since 1993.

- **Building A Strong and Effective Crime Control Strategy**

With the new laws and programs enacted in the President's 1994 Crime Act, a program to put 100,000 additional police officers on the streets, tougher punishment for violent offenders, the Brady law and other laws to keep guns out of the hands of criminals, crime prevention programs for our youth and a fortified federal, state and local law enforcement team, communities across the country are safer and residents are more secure than they have been for many years. The Clinton Administration plans to build on the most successful programs and make even greater gains in the fight against crime.

- **Preventing Violence Against Women**

The Clinton Administration has taken a strong stance to curb acts of violence committed against women. Since FY 1995 the Department of Justice has provided over \$700 million to states, localities, and tribes to help end the cycle of violence against women. In FY2000 the Clinton/Gore team has requested \$500 million to continue this fight which includes \$218 million for programs in the Department of Health and Human Services.

- **Dramatic Increases in Support for State and Local Crime Control**

During the past six years, the Clinton Administration has increased state and local assistance over 500 percent -- from \$849 million FY 1994 to \$5.1 billion in FY 1999. State and local law enforcement agencies have used this funding to strengthen their forces, buy new equipment, patrol cars, computers and crime-fighting technologies, build new prisons, and deploy new strategies to reduce crime. New personnel and equipment are in place in thousands of communities across the country. And proposed funding for state and local programs in FY 2000 will continue at historically high levels with proposed funding of \$3.9 billion -- a level that is nearly five times the amount allocated for state and local assistance in 1994.

six-fold

100,000 Community Police Officers: The 1994 Crime bill authorized over 8 billion dollars in six years to fund 100,000 officers and support community policing nationwide. To date, the Clinton Administration has funded over 92,000 officers and expects to reach

the goal of funding 100,000 community police officers by the end of this fiscal year. Community Policing has been instrumental in reducing crime rates. Instead of responding to crime after the fact, police are now partnering with the community to address community concerns and stop crime before it occurs.

- **Meeting the Promise of Funding Local, State and Federal Crime Control Efforts: The Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund**

The Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund was a critical piece of the 1994 Crime bill and has been central to the success of the Administration's crime control strategies. This trust fund made certain that the crime bill would not contain a litany of nice sounding programs that would never be funded. The trust fund guaranteed that the programs contained in the bill and the assistance provided for state and local law enforcement would be funded dollar for dollar as it has over the past 5 years.

- **Building a Strong Federal Law Enforcement Program**

The federal government has strengthened its own law enforcement capabilities and strategies. The total budget for the Department of Justice has increased more than 88 percent under President Clinton's leadership. These significant increases in funding will continue to support the expansion of federal prisons, strengthened border control, and the development of high-technology crime-fighting tools.

- **A Budget for the 21st Century: Continuing to Support Crime Strategies that Work**

As our nation prepares for the new century and the new challenges it holds, the Administration plans to build on the successful crime-control strategies put in place in the past six years. The Clinton Administration has an unwavering commitment to assist state and local governments in the fight against crime. The Administration will continue its historic levels of support for state and local law enforcement by targeting spending in those areas that have demonstrated the most results and where particular needs have been recognized.

Continued Support for Community Policing: The President has requested \$600 million to hire and redeploy between 30,000 and 50,000 community policing officers and \$350 million to improve the forensic capabilities of labs, reduce the DNA sample backlog, increase the use of crime mapping and crime analysis technology for law enforcement at the local and regional level.

Breaking the Cycle of Crime and Drugs: The Clinton Administration has proposed a new initiative to use the power of the criminal justice system to break the cycle of crime and drugs for criminal offenders. The initiative proposes \$215 million for state and local programs for rigorous drug testing, sanctions, and treatment for all drug offenders.

Community Prosecutors and Neighborhood D.A.s: The Administration has proposed \$200 million to help communities throughout the country hire more prosecutors and develop community-based prosecution programs.

Community Crime Prevention: The President's budget proposes \$125 million in funding for community crime prevention – including programs to reduce school violence, and provide alternatives to crime and violence for at-risk youth.

State and Local Cybercrime Training: \$1.9 million in new resources for a total of \$3.9 million for the National White Collar Crime Center (NWCCC) to train state and local law enforcement and regulatory agencies about computer crime.