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THE CLINTON RECORD ON CRIME

FALSE CLAIM: The Clinton Administration doesn't understand the crime problem. The President knows what to say, but he doesn't grasp what needs to get done.

THE FACTS: Over the past three years, the Clinton Administration has made tremendous progress in bringing crime and drug abuse under control. The violent crime and murder rates across the country are falling, tens of thousands of criminals have been prevented from buying guns, over 46,000 police have been funded and more than 20,000 new officers are already on the street. President Clinton is committed to stopping any attempts to roll back the progress we have made in reducing crime and will continue in his efforts to put more cops on the beat and take guns, drugs, and gangs off the streets.

- **The Toughest, Smartest Crime Bill Ever.** After six years of gridlock, President Clinton passed the toughest, most comprehensive Crime Bill in the nation's history. It passed with the strong support of every major law enforcement organization in the country, including the Fraternal Order of Police and the National Sheriff's Association, as well as prosecutors, mayors, and state and local officials. [Source: Department of Justice]
- **More Police Are on the Street.** The President's plan to put 100,000 more police on the streets is working. Already, over 20,000 new police are on the streets of America's communities and more than 46,000 additional officers have been funded. This represents the federal government's largest commitment ever to local law enforcement. Every major law enforcement organization has expressed support for the Crime Bill's COPS program. [Source: Dept. of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]
- **Taking Deadly Assault Weapons off the Streets.** The Crime Bill banned the manufacture and importation of 19 of the deadliest assault weapons and their copies while specifically protecting more than 650 legitimate sporting weapons. Already, in just one year since the ban took effect, the number of assault weapons traced has dropped 18%. [Source: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Firearms Traced for the Period September Through September for Years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995]
- **Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals.** President Clinton stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill which provides for a 5-day waiting period and background checks of prospective handgun buyers. In the two years since its enactment, the Brady Law has stopped more than 60,000 fugitives and felons and other criminals from purchasing handguns. The President has built on the successful Brady Law by making it against the law for those convicted of any offense involving domestic violence -- misdemeanor or felony -- to own or possess a firearm. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96, FY97 Budget]
- **Tougher Laws and More Prisons.** The Crime Bill provides for:
 - A targeted "Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out" provision to put career violent offenders behind bars for life.
 - An expanded death penalty for drug kingpins, murderers of federal law enforcement officers and nearly 60 additional categories of violent crime.
 - Funding for 100,000 more prison cells to help states to ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences. [The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
 - Increased penalties for sex offenders and a registration requirement for violent sexual offenders. [Source: The Attorney General's Report to the President: The First Year of the Violent Crime Control Act of 1994, 9/13/95]
- **Fighting to End Domestic Violence.** The Clinton Administration has done more than any other Administration in history to fight violence against women, domestic violence and sexual abuse. The Crime Bill's Violence Against Women Act combines tough new penalties with programs to prosecute offenders and help women victims. [Dept. of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

FALSE CLAIM: The Clinton Crime Bill was oversold and is seriously flawed.

THE FACTS: The President's tough action to fight crime is working. Violent crime rates have fallen each and every year of the Clinton Administration after four years of increases before President Clinton took office. In fact, the rate of reported violent crimes has fallen four years in a row -- the first time since 1960. [Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 11/19/95]

Crime is Down Across the Country -- This is No Time to Turn Back

- The number of murders fell 8% in 1995 -- one of the largest decreases in more than 30 years. [Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation Release, May 5, 1996]
- The nation's largest cities saw their overall crime fall 6% during the same period. [Source: FBI Release, May 5, 1996]
- The number of violent crimes fell by more than 9% in 1995 -- the largest one-year drop in more than a decade. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 9/17/96]
- In 1995, aggravated assaults dropped 19%, robbery fell 14% and rape declined 18%. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 9/17/96]
- The number of crimes reported to police has fallen 5% since 1992. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics]
- The number of murders fell 25% in New York City, 11% in Chicago, and 19% in San Diego in 1995. [Source: FBI, Uniformed Crime Report, May 5, 1996]

MAYORS, POLICE CHIEFS AND COPS ON THE FRONT LINES ARE STANDING UP FOR PRESIDENT'S CRIME FIGHTING POLICIES

- ★ Dewey Stokes, National President of Fraternal Order of Police, 2/6/95: *"...In the interest of public safety and officer safety, we strongly support the assault weapons ban contained in the Crime Bill which you signed on September 13, 1994."*
- ★ Robert Scully, Executive Director of National Association of Police Organizations, 8/26/96: *"President Clinton has backed cops by signing into law public safety legislation that had been stymied for years; the Crime Bill, the Brady Bill, the assault weapons ban. These public safety laws provide police with the tools and resources we need to do our daily work."*
- ★ Mayor Victor Ashe, President, U.S. Conference of Mayors, 2/1/95: *"I would like to congratulate you on the outstanding job which the Department of Justice has done in implementing the 1994 crime act ... We strongly support the COPS Program."*
- ★ Charles Meeks, National Sheriffs' Association: *"I am writing in support of the continuation of the COPS Program enacted in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 ... This program of policing, will go a long way in helping to reduce crime in our counties."*
- ★ Patrolman John Greg says that his neighborhood in Sharon, PA, *"has quieted down immensely" and "that the biggest measure [of the precinct's] success is you have the kids out playing again and you have people sitting on their front porches again."* [Source: Herald, 7/15/95]
- ★ Police Commissioner Michael Carpentieri of the village of Pawling says, *"I was not only impressed at the speed, but happy with the way they handled it. No bureaucracy, and it was quick and decisive. This is the first time money flowed from a bill so quickly."* [Poughkeepsie Journal, 2/9/95]

FALSE CLAIM: There were 500,000 more victims of violent crime in 1994 than in 1992.

THE FACTS: The number of violent crimes in 1995 are down dramatically compared to 1992. In 1995, violent crimes fell more than 9% -- the largest one-year drop in more than a decade. In fact, there were one million fewer violent crimes in 1995 than in 1994.

Crime is Down Across the Country -- This is No Time to Turn Back

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- The number of murders fell 25% in New York City, 11% in Chicago, and 19% in San Diego in 1995. [Source: FBI, Uniformed Crime Report, May 5, 1996]

FALSE CLAIM: Clinton's Crime Bill is not tough on crime. It has about \$7 billion worth of ineffective social programs like Midnight Basketball and dance programs.

THE FACTS: That simply is not true. The Crime Bill includes:

- **100,000 New Police.** Putting 100,000 new police on America's streets ahead of schedule, which is already helping reduce crime across the country.
- **Expanded death penalty.** Includes the death penalty for drug kingpins and murderers of law enforcement officers.
- **Tougher Punishment.** It increased penalties for sex offenders and imposed a registration requirement for violent sexual offenders.
- **"Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out."** Targeted career violent offenders with a "Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out" policy that keep them behind bars for life after the third offense. Since its enactment, 16 career criminals in thirteen states have either been sentenced to life in prison under the Three Strikes provision, or are awaiting sentencing or trial. [Source: Department of Justice]
- **More Prison Cells.** Provides funding for 100,000 prison cells to help states ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences. [The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
- **Most Comprehensive Provisions to Fight Violence Against Women.** Included a first-ever Violence Against Women Act which triples funding for battered women's shelters and has already provided over \$126 million in state grants to bolster law enforcement, prosecution and victims services. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

* The Crime Bill is giving states and cities the resources they need to fight crime. But it is also giving children hope before they enter into a life of crime. So while Republicans tried to dramatically cut funding for the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act, the Crime Bill:

- **Community Schools Program.** Created the Community Schools Program, which promotes constructive alternatives for young people after school, in the evening, on weekends, and during the summer to prevent involvement in and the victimization of crime.
- **Boys and Girls Clubs of America.** Providing resources to the Boys and Girls Clubs of America to establish and enhance more than 300 new clubs this year throughout the United States. These Clubs are situated in at-risk communities and are expected to reach 100,000 kids through violence prevention and reduction, educational and health programs and youth leadership development. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance Fact Sheet, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, 10/95, updated 7/30/95]
- **D.A.R.E.** Supported the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program which is equipping elementary, middle and high school students with the skills to resist drugs, violence and gangs. More than 27,000 community-oriented police officers from 7,000 communities have taught the D.A.R.E. curriculum to more than 25 million elementary school students. [Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics Fact Sheet, Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.), 9/95]
- **National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign.** Supported the National Citizens Crime Prevention Campaign which is helping residents of urban and rural communities to fight crime, violence and drug use by allowing law enforcement authorities and residents across the nation to share information about effective crime prevention methods. One component of the campaign includes public service announcements, with the campaign's symbol, McGruff the Crime Dog. Efforts like these are providing information that generates both a community and an individual sense of responsibility for preventing crime. [Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics Fact Sheet, National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign, 11/95]

- **National Night Out.** Supported community-based, law-enforcement affiliated crime prevention activities, like National Night Out, which creates community support for anti-crime and anti-drug abuse prevention activities, as well as a high level of community participation. In 1995, a record 28 million people representing 8,800 communities in all 50 states participated in the National Night Out. This year, 9,000 communities across America are expected to participate. [Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance Fact, National Night Out: A Community-Police Partnership Program, 11/95, updated 7/30/95]

FALSE CLAIM: The Clinton Administration does not deserve any credit for crime rate reductions. Crime rates have fallen because incarceration rates are increasing. The total estimated correctional population (probation, jail, parole, etc.) has risen 7.8% since 1992.

THE FACTS: Violent crime across the country has fallen in each and every year since President Clinton took office. In fact, the rate of reported violent crime has fallen four years in a row -- the first time since 1960. Yet, for four straight years before the President took office, the violent crime rate increased. The Crime Bill and the Brady Bill are two reasons why we are finally seeing crime fall across the country. [Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 11/19/95]

- **Community Policing is Working.** In city after city across America, crime is down.
 - ★ *"Backed by residents, community policing has cut crime in some of Americas toughest neighborhoods, such as Englewood in Chicago and the Bronx in New York, as well as among the most crime-prone age groups."* [Source: Christian Science Monitor, 7/20/95]
 - ★ *"Community Policing works, and promoting it is one small thing Washington can do right in the fight against crime."* [Source: Gerald Seib, Wall Street Journal, 9/13/95]
 - ★ *"The decline [in crime] can be explained in part by policy-driven law enforcement effort that capitalize on community crime-fighting initiatives and take the bad guys off the streets."* [Source: John Dilulio Jr., Princeton University, in Wall Street Journal, 9/6/95]
- **Tougher Laws are Putting More Criminals Behind Bars.** With the passage of the Crime Bill, tough action replaced tough talk, giving communities the tools to prosecute and punish more criminals than ever before.
 - * **Three Strikes-And-You're Out.** The Crime Bill made "Three-Strikes" the law of the land. Prosecutors are using this provision to target the small number of violent, repeat offenders who commit a great deal of the crime in this country.

Taking Violent Criminals Off of America's Streets and into Prison for Good

- ★ *Thomas Farmer was sentenced to a mandatory life sentence without possibility of parole under the President's "Three Strikes" law for his part in the armed robbery of an Iowa supermarket. Farmer had urged his accomplices to kill a store employee who was unable to open the store's safe. He had previously been convicted in 1971 of second degree murder; in 1979 of robbery, which he committed while on parole; and in, 1983 of murdering a fellow inmate. Had Farmer been prosecuted in state court, he might have been eligible for parole in just two and one-half years.*
- ★ *Clayton James Phillips was sentenced to two concurrent life sentences without parole for the armed robbery of two St. Mary Parish, Louisiana post offices under "Three Strikes." Phillips had been convicted in state court in 1978 of armed robbery and again in 1989 of attempted first degree murder. Phillips also was sentenced to an additional, consecutive 25 year sentence for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm.*

- **Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals.** The President stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill which has already stopped more than 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals from buying handguns. President Clinton has built on the successful Brady Law by making it against the law for those convicted of any offense involving domestic violence -- misdemeanor or felony -- to own or possess a firearm. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]

The Brady Law is Making a Difference

- ★ In February 1996, a Brady background check prevented Randy Eddy, under a restraining order for murder threats made against his estranged wife, from buying a handgun from a Wichita County, Kansas gun dealer.
- ★ In October 1995, a Brady background check prevented Edward Johnson, a convicted murderer, from purchasing a handgun in Dekalb County, Georgia.
- ★ In April 1995, a Brady background check helped law enforcement officers apprehend Rodney Wharton, a convicted heroin trafficker and fugitive, as he attempted to buy a handgun in Blair County, Pennsylvania. It was later determined that before the Brady Law, Wharton had successfully purchased at least seven other guns without being challenged and traded them to support his crack addiction.

FALSE CLAIM: If President Clinton was really serious in fighting crime, he wouldn't have vetoed a tough anti-crime bill.

THE FACTS: The President vetoed the Republican attempt to gut proven crime fighting programs because it represented an unacceptable retreat in the fight against crime and drugs. That bill was a step back, not a step forward.

- **No New Police on Our Streets.** It tried to eliminate the plan to put 100,000 new police on the street. Instead, the bill's block grant would not have guaranteed a single new police officer on America's streets. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]
- **It Abolished the Drug Court Program.** Drug Courts are a proven success in breaking the cycle of crime and drugs by stripping drug users of their addiction to controlled substances and thereby ending their addiction to crime. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]
- **It Cut Funding for the Federal Drug Enforcement Efforts.** The Republican bill cut \$5 million from the President's request for the Drug Enforcement Agency and also cut federal law enforcement task forces (OCEDTF) of FBI, DEA, and Treasury agents who are busting drug traffickers. This bill also cut funds for the FBI, U.S. Marshals, drug prosecutors, Bureau of Prisons and other drug fighting resources. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]

FALSE CLAIM: This Administration has not provided the leadership the country needs in the fight against crime.

THE FACTS: Under President Clinton's leadership, we passed the toughest, most comprehensive Crime Bill ever after six years of gridlock. The President stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill, which has prevented over 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals from purchasing guns. We've enacted an Assault Weapons Ban, which is taking 19 of the deadliest assault weapons and their copies off America's streets.

★ "Clinton is the first U.S. President in my lifetime who actually listened to the criminologists and cops. He also has more former state and local police and criminal justice officials in policy-making positions than any other president."
James Fife, Criminal Justice Professor, Temple University [Source: Associated Press, 9/17/96]

- **Unprecedented Federal Support.** Directed more federal resources to the state and local level to help them fight crime than any other administration in history. [FY95, FY96 and FY97 Budgets, Department of Justice funded]
- **First-Ever National Police Program.** Created the Community Oriented Policing Program which is putting 100,000 new police on America's streets ahead of schedule and is already helping to reduce crime across the country. The COPS program represents a 20% increase in the nations' police force levels. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]
- **First-Ever Violence Against Women Act.** Won passage of the Violence Against Women Act which tripled funding for battered women's shelters; bolstered local law enforcement, prosecution and victims' services to better address violence against women through \$156 million in state grants; created National Domestic Violent Hotline. The Act also established the first Violence Against Women office at the Department of Justice. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]
- **First-Ever Prison State Grant Program.** Authorized nearly \$8 billion to states to build and expand prisons. In FY96, the Justice Department will give out approximately \$400 million for prison construction grants to states. [Source: Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
- **First-Ever State Criminal Alien Assistance Program.** Directed more funding to states to help them incarcerate dangerous undocumented criminal aliens than any other administration. [Source: Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
- **First-Ever Drug Court Program.** Providing nonviolent, substance-abusing adult and juvenile offenders with sanctions and services necessary to change their destructive behaviors and keep them from cycling through our courts, jails, and probations systems. Drug Courts are a tough, effective and popular alternative to incarceration for non-violent offenders. The Justice Department has already granted 64 grants in 34 states to design, implement and enhance their own Drug Courts. [Source: Department of Justice, Drug Courts Program Office Fact Sheet, 5/96]
- **First-Ever Boot Camp Program.** Providing prosecutors and the courts with a viable sentencing solution for youthful offenders by placing them in a military-style atmosphere that instills self-discipline and provides physical conditioning that was lacking in their lives, while freeing up conventional prison, jail and juvenile corrections space for violent offenders. The Justice Department has already awarded 43 grants to 27 states and three territories to plan and build Boot Camps. [Source: Department of Justice]

FALSE CLAIM: Juvenile crime is up substantially since President Clinton has been in office. We need to start getting tough with juvenile criminals. The President's policies are not tough enough to meet the growing problem of juvenile crime.

THE FACTS: Juvenile crime is down under President Clinton. The juvenile crime arrest rate decreased 2.9% in 1995 -- the first decline in seven years. The juvenile murder arrest rate declined 15.2% last year -- the largest one year decrease in more than 10 years. Since 1993, the juvenile murder rate has dropped an incredible 22.8%. [Department of Justice, 1995 Uniform Crime Report, 8/8/96]

These are positive signs -- but we still have a long way to go in our efforts to reduce youth violence. This President is working hard to get children off the streets and into the classroom or home. We can reach kids before they turn to a life of crime. But while working to keep kids off the streets and out of a life of crime, the President is calling for the prosecution of juvenile offenders as adults -- juveniles who commit adult crimes should face adult consequences.

Keeping Kids In School and Out of Harms Way

- **Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act.** Strengthened the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Initiative, which provides school security, drug prevention and education programs in 97% of America's school districts. The President successfully fought off an attempt by Congressional Republicans to dramatically cut the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program.
[Source: Based on House-passed FY96 Labor/HHS Appropriations Bill; Department of Education release 2/9/96]
- **School Uniforms.** Encouraged school to adopt school uniform policies, which promote discipline and respect, and developed a manual to be distributed to 16,000 school districts to assist them in establishing these policies.
- **Curfews.** Encouraged cities across the country to adopt curfew programs to decrease juvenile delinquency and victimization. Curfews, when backed up by a community of support and are part of a larger plan to help fight juvenile crime, can play an important role in keeping our children safe.
- **Truancy Programs.** Providing \$10 million in grants to schools and community groups to design and operate their own truancy programs to keep our children in school and off the streets -- out of harms way.
- **Youth Crime Interdiction.** Working with 17 cities and their police chiefs, local prosecutors, and federal investigators and prosecutors to trace firearms found on youths back to the crime gun traffickers. For the first time, every time a gun is used in a crime and seized by law enforcement, it will be tracked through a national tracing system. Law enforcement will use that trace information to help identify and local illegal gun traffickers who, especially, peddle guns to kids.

Getting Tough on Juvenile Offenders Who Continue to Test the System

- **"Zero Tolerance" Gun Policy.** Keeping dangerous weapons out of our children's classrooms by enforcing a "Zero Tolerance" gun policy in schools.
- **National Gang Tracking Network.** Announced funding for the first step of a National Gang Tracking Network. This computerized network will provide federal, state, local and municipal law enforcement agencies with the ability to share and exchange gang information quickly and efficiently.
- **Juvenile Violence and Anti-Drug Legislative Package.** President Clinton has sent legislative proposals to Congress to help stop the rise of youth violence and drug use, including: [Anti-Gang and Youth Crime Control Act of 1996]
 - * Trying juvenile offenders as adults for violent and drug crimes
 - * Reinstating the ban on guns in schools
 - * A \$75 million grant program for juvenile drug and gun courts
 - * Increasing the penalties for drug dealers who sell drugs to children, or use children to sell drugs

Combating Gang Violence

- **A National Strategy to Combat Violent Crime.** The Clinton Administration has developed a coordinated national strategy to prosecute and dismantle gangs, using tools like the Racketeer Influence and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) and Violent Crimes in Aid of Racketeering (VCAR) statutes that have been used effectively against organized crime. Through cooperative efforts with local communities, the Justice Department and local prosecutors have successfully prosecuted some of the most significant drug gangs across the country, like the "Gangster Disciples" in Chicago, the "Latin Kings" and "Los Solidos" in Connecticut, the "Mexican Mafia" and the "Eight Street Crips" in Los Angeles.
- **Gang Prosecutions Are Up.** Since the end of 1992, the number of gang-related RICO prosecutions has more than doubled. Today, nearly 40% of the RICO prosecutions are gang-related. [Source: Anti-Violent Crime Initiative: The Attorney General's Progress Report to the President, 9/96]

Taking Violent Gangs off the Streets and Putting Them Behind Bars

- ★ During the last two years in Chicago and Rockford, nearly 100 members of the "Gangster Disciples" have been sentenced to terms ranging from five years to life imprisonment. The gang members have been charged with a 25-year conspiracy to distribute cocaine, crack, heroine and marijuana and to extort protection money, through violence and intimidation, from street dealers in and around Chicago. The defendants were also charged with operating a continuing criminal enterprise which, over the past quarter century, has been responsible for retail sale of enormous quantities of narcotics, generating millions of dollars in revenue in the process. (U.S. Attorney, FBI)
- ★ In 1995, the leader of a violent street gang known as "C&C" based in the Bronx, New York, was convicted after a trial on racketeering charges including eight murders, two attempted murders and three kidnappings. Another defendant, a professional hit man, was also convicted on charges in connection with one of the murders. C&C's principal business was to extort heroin dealers in a neighborhood in the Bronx by requiring them to pay thousands of dollars of "rent" money to C&C every week for the "right" to sell heroin in the neighborhood. The leader also supervised a vicious security force that collected the "rent," enforced the gang's rules and committed numerous acts of violence ordered by the leader. In total, over 20 C&C members pled guilty or were convicted at trial of a host of racketeering, violent crime and narcotics offenses. Four of these defendants face life imprisonment. The crime rate in the neighborhood where C&C operated dropped over 40% after the C&C gang was taken off the streets. (RICO)

[Source: Anti-Violent Crime Initiative: The Attorney General's Progress Report to the President, 9/96]

100,000 POLICE

FALSE CLAIM: President Clinton has not put anywhere close to 100,000 police on the street. The Administration has grossly exaggerated the number of actual police on the street.

THE FACTS: We are keeping our promise to add 100,000 new police on the street. This increase will represent an almost 20% increase in the nation's police force levels when fully implemented. Critics said the Clinton Administration would never fund even 20,000 cops in six years. Yet, in just two years, over 20,000 new police are on the beat in America's communities and funding for more than 46,000 additional police has been approved. This is unprecedented federal, state and local cooperation to give communities the crime-fighting resources they need. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]

- **We're Ahead of Schedule.** The funding of 46,000 additional police by October 1996 is actually ahead of schedule as originally mandated by the Crime Bill which was passed by a bipartisan majority in Congress. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]
- **We're Working Hard to Put the Most Qualified and Well-Trained Police on the Street.** Some conveniently forget that it does take time to find qualified professionals to be community policing officers, to engage in necessary background checks and to rigorously train these crime-fighters.

The COPS Program is Already Making a Difference in America's Communities

- ★ Charles Meeks, National Sheriffs' Association: *"I am writing in support of the continuation of the COPS Program enacted in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 ... This program of policing, will go a long way in helping to reduce crime in our counties."*
- ★ *"Backed by residents, community policing has cut crime in some of Americas toughest neighborhoods, such as Englewood in Chicago and the Bronx in New York, as well as among the most crime-prone age groups."* [Source: Christian Science Monitor, 7/20/95]
- ★ *"Community Policing works, and promoting it is one small thing Washington can do right in the fight against crime."* [Source: Gerald Seib, Wall Street Journal, 9/13/95]

FALSE CLAIM: Nearly 60 percent of eligible communities chose not to apply for the COPS program, citing their inability to pick up the cost of the program after the three-year grant comes to an end. This program is just another unfunded federal mandate.

THE FACTS: The widespread impact of the COPS program is obvious to almost everyone. In less than two years, COPS grants have been awarded to more than half the policing agencies in the United States. As a result, the over 46,000 officers already funded will be serving 87% of the American public. Furthermore, the COPS office has outstanding requests for more than 4,000 law enforcement agencies for over 20,000 additional community policing officers. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 5/24/96]

This is not an unfunded mandate. Localities have the option of participating in the COPS program. The federal government does not force them to apply. But over half of all law enforcement agencies in the country did choose to apply and now have new police on their streets. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 5/24/96]

BRADY LAW

FALSE CLAIM: The Brady Law and gun control, in general, does not stop crime. It's ineffective.

THE FACTS: If it wasn't for the Brady Law, an additional 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals would be walking the streets of America with handguns. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]

- **Disarm Domestic Violence Offenders.** President Clinton is building on the successful Brady Law by signing legislation that will prohibit those convicted of any offense involving domestic violence -- misdemeanor or felony -- from owning or possessing a firearm. This legislation would amend the 1968 Federal firearms statute so that if a person is convicted of any crime of domestic violence -- not just a felony -- s/he forfeits the right to possess a firearm.
- **Brady Law Moves Towards Instant Check.** Right now, the Brady Law provides for a 5-day waiting period and background check on prospective handgun buyers, it requires that a National Instant Criminal Background Check System be established by November 1988. The Brady Bill authorized \$200 million to help states upgrade their criminal history records. Through the Crime Bill, \$112 million has been awarded to states to develop a national instant check system. Before this funding, few states had the resources to develop their own instant check system. [Source: Department of Justice; FY95 and FY96 DOJ Budgets]

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">★ In February 1996, a Brady background check prevented Randy Eddy, under a restraining order for murder threats made against his estranged wife, from buying a handgun from a Wichita County, Kansas gun dealer.★ In October 1995, a Brady background check prevented Edward Johnson, a convicted murderer, from purchasing a handgun in Dekalb County, Georgia.★ In April 1995, a Brady background check helped law enforcement officers apprehend Rodney Wharton, a convicted heroin trafficker and fugitive, as he attempted to buy a handgun in Blair County, Pennsylvania. It was later determined that before the Brady Law, Wharton had successfully purchased at least seven other guns without being challenged and traded them to support his crack addiction. |
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- **Law Enforcement Leaders Support the Brady Law**
 - ★ Gilbert Gallegos, National President of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP): *"It is clear on this second anniversary of the Brady Act that the waiting period has prevented thousands of criminals from obtaining firearms and has saved lives. Members of the FOP continue to be impressed with the cooperation between the ATF and local law enforcement in implementing the Brady Act."*
 - ★ David Walchak, President, International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP): *"The IACP strongly pushed for Congress to pass legislation allowing for a five-day waiting period to conduct thorough background checks on all prospective handgun purchasers. The IACP continues to strongly support the Brady Act."*
 - ★ J. Tom Morgan, District Attorney, DeKalb County, GA: *"I believe the Brady Bill has reduced the number of crimes those felons would have committed. It shows criminals do go to stores to buy guns, and they obviously don't buy handguns to go duck hunting."* [Source: New York Times, 3/12/95]

ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

FALSE CLAIM: The Assault Weapons Ban is not taking assault weapons off the streets. Manufacturers are just reconfiguring them. The solution is not to ban them, but to provide instant background checks.

THE FACTS: In fewer than two years since the President signed the Assault Weapons Ban into law, the number of assault weapons traced has dropped a full 18%. [Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Firearms Traced for the Period September Through September for Years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995]

- **Supported by Every Major Police Organization.** The Assault Weapons Ban is supported by every major law enforcement organization in the country. They know that assault weapons are the guns of choice for gangs, drug dealers and murderers, not sportsmen or hunters. Between January 1994 and September 1995, 36% of law enforcement officers who were killed with firearms that could be identified, were killed by assault weapons or guns sold with magazines affected by the assault weapons ban. [Handgun Control, Inc., "Cops Under Fire," 11/29/95]
- ★ Dewey Stokes, National President, Fraternal Order of Police, 2/6/95. *"No position taken by the FOP is more strongly rooted in conviction than that taken on semi-automatic assault weapons. While it is true that these weapons do not differ in terms of function and capability from other semi-automatic weapons, it is equally true that semi-automatic weapons are eight times more likely to be used in crime than conventional weapons. Therefore, in the interest of public safety and officer safety, we strongly support the assault weapons ban contained in the Crime Bill..."*
- **Assault Weapons Need to be Banned, Not Run Through Background Checks.** Assault weapons are the guns of choice for drug dealers and gang members, not sportsmen or hunters. They are designed for one reason only: close-quarter, rapid-fire killing. Too many police officers have lost their lives outgunned by violent criminals armed with assault weapons. Too many children have been killed by violent criminals spraying a rain of bullets from these weapons.

FALSE CLAIM: The Assault Weapons Ban merely keeps law abiding citizens from purchasing firearms they are entitled to buy under the 2nd Amendment.

THE FACTS: Not one sportsmen or hunter has lost their rifle because of the Assault Weapons Ban. The Ban specifically exempts more than 650 types of hunting and sporting weapons so that the rights of law abiding citizens to own guns for legitimate purposes is protected. Cop killing assault weapons, like the Uzi, are the weapons of choice for drug dealers and gangs -- not hunters and sportsmen.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

FALSE CLAIM: The Violence Against Women Act sounds great, but it hasn't done much. There have only been 18 federal prosecutions since the Act has been in existence. States should be handling these crimes, not the federal government.

THE FACTS: The fact of the matter is that the vast majority of violence against women cases are already brought at the state and local levels. That's why the Administration provided \$26 million in FY95 and \$120 million more in FY96 in state grants to support state and local law enforcement.

[Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

- **Without the Law, Some Criminals Would Go Unprosecuted.** In some instances, criminals travel across state lines and the federal government has an obligation to use its jurisdiction to bring that criminal to justice. Already under the Act, a domestic abuser was sentenced to life in prison for interstate domestic violence and kidnapping. Without the Act, this case would have likely gone unprosecuted. [Source: Statement of Janet Reno, Attorney General Before the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate Concerning the Violence Against Women Act, May 15, 1996; Violence Against Women Act News, Vol. 1: July 1996, Violence Against Women Office]

The Violence Against Women Act -- Working with States to Put Abusers Behind Bars

- ★ In California, Ricky Steele was prosecuted for savagely beating his girlfriend in Oregon and then forcing her to drive with him to Las Vegas. While driving through California, a witness saw the girlfriend try to escape and called 911. California Highway Patrol officers made the arrest. California officials were worried about their ability to prosecute Steele successfully, as there was no clear assault in California. Officials in Oregon indicated that Steele was not likely to get more than a year in prison if found guilty under its state law for assaults. Both states consulted federal officials and it was decided to prosecute Steele in federal court under the Violence Against Women Act. Steele was sentenced to over seven years in jail.
- ★ In Ohio, Derek Page was arrested after severely beating his former girlfriend, stabbing her with claw end of a hammer several times, breaking her femur bone, punching her with his fists until her eyes were shut and injuring her feet so that she could not walk. After the beating, Page took his victim, who was close to death, 150 miles to a hospital in Pennsylvania in order to avoid prosecution in Ohio. Local prosecutors in Ohio faced difficult evidentiary problems and in Pennsylvania, authorities could not proceed because no criminal conduct had occurred in the state. Officials in Ohio turned to federal prosecutors who prosecuted the case and obtained a conviction. Page has been held in custody without bond since his arrest nine months ago and is awaiting sentencing.

The Violence Against Women Act Will Continue to Make a Difference

- **Helping States Fight Domestic Violence.** In 1995, \$26 million went directly to the states through STOP grants. Every state has been awarded funds to develop and strengthen law enforcement and prosecutorial strategies and improve victims services in cases involving violent crimes against women. Approximately \$100 million more is being sent to states in FY96.
- **Providing Support to Women in Need.** Established the National Domestic Violence Hotline -- 1-800-799-SAFE -- to reach every community in the nation. This national toll-free hotline will serve as a lifeline to victims of domestic violence across the country, providing referral information to victims in need. In its first three months, the hotline responded to over 20,000 calls from women across the country. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

FALSE CLAIM: This Administration is not serious about protecting women from violence. More than halfway through 1996, it only released \$473,000 of the \$175 million appropriated by Congress for FY96.

THE FACTS: Shutting the government down twice in one year is going to have ramifications on government programs. The \$174.5 million in STOP and other Violence Against Women grants was appropriated in each of the seven continuing resolutions passed between October, 1995 and April, 1996. Almost all of the FY96 grant programs could only be implemented once the Omnibus Budget Bill was passed and signed by the President on April 26, 1996.

- **The Justice Department Provided Nearly Two-Thirds of the FY96 Violence Against Women Funding to States within Four Months after the Budget was Passed.** Since the FY96 budget was passed and signed into law in April, the Clinton Administration announced that more than \$104 million in STOP grants to combat domestic violence and sexual assault have gone to 43 states and five territories by September. These grants will be used to train police, hire new prosecutors and provide assistance to victims. [Source: Department of Justice, Violent Against Women Office, Release, 8/9/96]
- **Releasing the Funds After Each Continuing Resolution Would Have Been Costly and Burdensome.** It would have been nearly impossible to begin the FY96 grant-making process until the budget was resolved. It would have required the Department of Justice to make as many as seven different grants to the states to account for the seven continuing resolutions. This would have been an extremely costly and burdensome process for both the states and Justice Department as each state would have been saddled with filling out paperwork with each separate application and each separate Continuing Resolution.

FALSE CLAIM: The Violence Against Women Act is a pork program. Of the \$1.6 billion allocated over five years, only \$200,000 of it will go to research on national trends in domestic abuse.

THE FACTS: The Violence Against Women Act's priority has been to make a difference in the lives of women and families across the country. We have worked hard to provide prosecutors with the tools needed to prosecute domestic violence and sexual assault.

Research remains vital to creating new and innovative solutions to violence against women. The fact is that the Act required that nine studies be conducted in the area of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Already six of those reports have been completed and transmitted to Congress.

HELPING GIVE VICTIMS THE SUPPORT THEY DESERVE

- In West Jordan, Utah, Sgt. Gary Cox, a 16-year veteran police officer has been the impetus to build a shelter for victims of domestic violence in the South end of Salt Lake Valley. He is using STOP funds to hire victim advocates for the shelter.
- In Delaware, STOP grant funds are being used by the Wilmington Police Department to hire a civilian victim service outreach worker to help victims secure protection orders and to follow the victim through the prosecution phase of their case.

FALSE CLAIM: According to the FBI, 1,500 women are killed in domestic disputes each year -- not the 4,000 as claimed by some Violence Against Women advocates.

THE FACTS: Even one death is one too many. And violence against women comes in many tragic forms.

• **Violence Impacts Many Women and Many Families**

- * In 1993 and 1994, women age 12 or older annually sustained almost 5 million violent victimizations by an intimate. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]
- * During 1992 and 1993, women annually reported to interviewers about 500,000 rapes and sexual assaults. Friends or acquaintances of the victims committed over half of these rapes or sexual assaults. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]
- * About 60% of all violence against women was perpetrated by offenders the victim knew; about 15% of violence against women was committed by their relatives; and 30% by someone well-known to the victim. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]

★ **The Stakes Are Too High to Ignore This Problem.** A recent study found that children who are abused and who witness violence at home are substantially more likely to commit violent act themselves. Given these high stakes, we must make every possible effort to reduce domestic violence in America. [Source: American Psychological Association]

Drug Prosecutions

FALSE CLAIM: Under the Clinton Administration, drug prosecutions are down and his Attorney General has ordered federal prosecutors not to seek mandatory minimums for drug pushers.

THE FACTS:

- **Drug Prosecutions Are Up.** During the Clinton Administration, the number of federal criminal drug prosecutions has risen by 3%. The Clinton Administration has sought the death penalty twice (55) as many times as the Bush Administration (28) and more involve drug criminals (34). There are now over 50,000 convicted drug dealers in federal prisons -- the highest number in history. [Source: Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney's Office]
- **Drug Convictions of the Most Dangerous Drug Traffickers Are Up.** *Under the Clinton Administration, we are putting more of the most dangerous drug dealers behind bars for longer periods of time.* Convictions of hard-Core drug traffickers have increased from 4% to 7% between 1992 and 1995. And criminals who trafficked in large quantities were sentenced at a higher rate in 1995 than in 1992 -- 40% compared to 32%. [Source: Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney's Office; Letter from AG Reno to Chairman Hatch, 9/25/96]
- **Record Number of Drug Dealers in Prison.** There are now about 50,000 convicted drug dealers in federal prisons -- the highest in history. [Source: Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney's Office; Bureau of Prisons]

Combating Criminal Gangs

- **A National Strategy to Combat Violent Crime.** The Clinton Administration has developed a coordinated national strategy to prosecute and dismantle gangs, using tools like the Racketeer Influence and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) and Violent Crimes in Aid of Racketeering (VCAR) statutes that have been used effectively against organized crime. Through cooperative efforts with local communities, the Justice Department and local prosecutors have successfully prosecuted some of the most significant drug gangs across the country, like the "Gangster Disciples" in Chicago, the "Latin Kings" and "Los Solidos" in Connecticut, the "Mexican Mafia" and the "Eight Street Crips" in Los Angeles.
- **Gang Prosecutions Are Up.** Since the end of 1992, the number of gang-related RICO prosecutions has more than doubled. Today, nearly 40% of the RICO prosecutions are gang-related. [Source: Anti-Violent Crime Initiative: The Attorney General's Progress Report to the President, 9/96]

FALSE CLAIM: The Clinton Administration has gone out of its way to protect the rights of criminals. Nothing has been done to help victims.

THE FACTS:

Victims' Rights Constitutional Amendment. President Clinton and his Administration have a longstanding commitment to ensuring that our criminal justice system is responsive and protective of the rights and concerns of victims. Towards that end, President Clinton has called for a constitutional amendment that will provide rights for the victims of crime. He is calling upon the bipartisan Congressional leadership, the House and Senate Judiciary Committees, and law enforcement to work with the Administration to provide constitutional rights for victims.

Guaranteeing the Rights Victims Deserve. Victims have no constitutional right to learn about the release of the accused or convicted offender. They have no right to attend the trial. They have no right to speak at parole hearings. When a defendant's federal constitutional rights are even remotely implicated, a victim's assertion of a state or federal statutory right or state constitutional right is often automatically rejected. Our Constitution does not provide a single express right for crime victims. It is time to ensure that victims are given constitutionally protected rights such as the right:

- * To have notice of, and not to be excluded from, public court proceedings.
- * To be heard by the trial court on release of the accused, the sentence, and acceptance of any plea, if present at the proceedings.
- * To have notice and to attend and be heard in relation to parole hearings.
- * To be given notice of any release or escape from custody of the defendant.
- * To restitution from the defendant.
- * To reasonable measures to protect the victim from violence and intimidation by the defendant.
- * And to notice of these rights.

This Is the Right Thing to Do. President Clinton wants a level playing field for victims in our criminal justice systems (federal, state, military, juvenile) -- and a constitutional amendment is the only guarantee that this goal can be fully achieved. Unlike other constitutional amendments proposed in the last few years, no alternative short of a constitutional amendment will ensure that victims' rights are truly "rights."

In addition, the President is directing the Attorney General to:

- * Ensure maximum victim participation in the federal criminal justice system.
- * Adopt a nationwide automated victim notification system.
- * Work with the states to enhance implementation of victims' rights at the state level.

A Consistent Record in Support of Victims' Rights. Today's announcement is another example of President Clinton's strong record on victims' rights. As the Arkansas Attorney General, he submitted legislation providing compensation for victims. As Governor, he signed legislation to guarantee the right of victims to be present in the courtroom, to establish a victim/witness coordinator to assist victims and their families in coping with the criminal justice system, and to provide compensation for victims and their families. And as President, he signed the 1994 Clinton Crime Bill, which contained numerous pro-victim provisions including the Violence Against Women Act, and he recently signed the 1996 Anti-Terrorism Act, which also contained important pro-victim provisions.

Judges

- **Mainstream Judges.** President Clinton believes that the public interest is best served by the appointment of federal judges with a commitment to the rule of law and a respect for the limited role of the federal courts in our constitutional system. He looks for judges with the temperament and integrity to apply the law fairly and impartially to the facts of each case. The President has not applied ideological litmus tests to the appointment of federal judges nor has he insisted on adherence to a rigid ideological orthodoxy. He has appointed only those men and women who have proven that they will apply the law as they find it and leave policy choices to the legislative and executive branches.

The President's appointments to the federal bench have been widely praised as "well-qualified, mainstream lawyers." *US News* itself said that "centrism is carrying the day." [Source: Prof. Sheldon Goldman, *US News* 2/12/96]

- The *Legal Times* says of President Clinton's judges: "From the beginning, his philosophy toward judicial selection has differed from that of his two immediate predecessors [who] engaged in a crusade to put committed conservatives on the bench. President Clinton's criteria, by contrast, seem less ideological. He has primarily sought two attributes in his judicial candidates -- undisputed legal qualifications, and gender and ethnic diversity." [Source: 9/11/95]
- A recent report by the Knight-Ridder Newspapers states flatly that objective studies of the voting records of President Clinton's appoints "contradict Republican Bob Dole's charge that Clinton has filled the federal bench with lenient, liberal judges who are soft on crime" and instead show that the Clinton judges "'exhibit moderate decisional tendencies.'" [Source: 5/8/96]
- *Insight Magazine* came to the identical conclusion in an extensive article about the Clinton record of judicial appointments finding that "there is slender evidence that Clinton appointees are outrageously protective of the rights of the accused." [Source: 4/29/96]
- The *USA Today* likewise found that Senator Dole's attacks are "out of order." Tony Mauro wrote that all objective analysis points to the conclusion that President Clinton's appointments "are markedly moderate" -- slightly more liberal than President Reagan's choices but much "more conservative than those appointed by President Carter. Overall, Clinton's judges are about as liberal as Gerald Ford's." [Source: 5/7/96]
- Al Hunt of the *Wall Street Journal* noted that prior to the advent of the election year even Republicans had acknowledged that the President had nominated "mainstream appointees." [Source: 5/9/96]
- Linda Greenhouse of the *New York Times* recently noted that while conservatives have been screaming incessantly about activists run amok, "liberal Democrats have spent much of the last three years complaining that liberals need not apply for Clinton judgeships." Ms. Greenhouse noted that "40 percent of the 53 judges named by the Administration during 1995 are former prosecutors. The Clinton nominees comprise a moderate, mainstream group. . . . All but a handful received strong bipartisan support in the Senate." [Source: 3/23/96]

- And the audience for Senator Dole's first major address on this issue -- the nation's newspaper editors -- overwhelmingly rejected the critique. In the weeks that followed his speech before the American Society of Newspaper Editors, editorial board articles ran 14 to 1 against the Senator's unfounded attack on the President's record. The editors accused Senator Dole of raising "phony issue" while distorting the President's record and that of his appointees. (editorials available)
- In a comprehensive report at the mid-point of President Clinton's first term, the *New York Times* reported, "Political scientists, legal scholars and nonpartisan groups like the American Bar Association who have studied the new judges' records also said Mr. Clinton's choices were better qualified than those of Mr. Reagan or President George Bush.

"The new judges were deliberately chosen to fit squarely in the judicial mainstream and were, by and large, replacing liberal Democrats." [Source: 10/17/94]

- **Over two-thirds of the President's judicial appointments have been rated "well qualified" by the ABA, a higher percentage than any of his three predecessors.** These high marks have been won at the same time the President has succeeded in diversifying the federal bench to an unprecedented degree.

Attacked by Liberals

- But it's the beginning of an election year and Republicans are criticizing President Clinton for appointing "soft-headed, bleeding heart" judges. At the very same time, the liberal Alliance for Justice has issued a report critical of the President for "pursu[ing] consensus" and failing to nominate ideological liberals. Prominent liberal federal judge Stephen Reinhardt recently complained that "President Clinton doesn't care much about what the philosophy of the judiciary is." [Source: *Wall Street Journal*, 3/15/96] Judge Reinhardt also said earlier that "[t]hose of us who waited for three decades for a Democrat to be appointing liberal judges, especially to the Supreme Court, have been deeply disappointed." [Source: *New York Times*, 10/17/94]
- "Left and right both gripe about Clinton's taste in judges," says *US News*. [Source: 2/12/96]

Clinton Judges' Record on Crime

- **Tough on Crime.** Other than obviously isolated and unrepresentative cases, Republicans have produced no credible evidence that Clinton judges are any less tough on crime than appointees of Presidents Reagan or Bush.
- Professor Robert Carp of the University of Houston has studied *all* decisions by Clinton appointees in criminal cases and compared them to *all* criminal law decisions by judges appointed by Presidents Bush, Reagan, Carter, Ford and Nixon. His conclusion? **"There is no empirical evidence that [Clinton judges] are inordinately disposed toward criminal defendants."** [Source: CNN Inside Politics 4/1/96] In a paper delivered last month, Carp stated that President Clinton's judicial appointees "exhibit moderate decisional tendencies."
- That's the conclusion of someone who looked at all the cases, instead of scanning them for a handful that will make headlines.

- Many of the President's appointees come to the bench with prosecutorial backgrounds -- almost 40% of the men and women Clinton put on the bench had served as federal or state prosecutors.
- **Death Penalty.** Clinton judges have upheld the death penalty against constitutional challenges.
- **And sentences for those convicted of violent and firearms offenses in the first 2 fiscal years since President Clinton took office are up dramatically --** increasing from 74.5 months to over 88 months. [Source: U.S. Sentencing Commission annual reports]

Clinton's Record on Crime

- The very fact that Republicans are reaching for unfair and unrepresentative cases reflects their frustration that more Americans trust President Clinton on the crime issue than they do Congressional Republicans. [Source: *Wall Street Journal*/NBC News poll January 12-16, 1996].
- **A Record of Accomplishment.** The President won passage of a comprehensive crime bill that is helping to put 100,000 new cops on the beat. His bill also expanded the death penalty and put three-time violent felons in prison for life without parole. The President has stood with the police on every major crime issue -- from the Brady Bill limiting handguns to the ban on assault weapons. And the President has pushed for adoption of the toughest anti-terrorism bill in history, which many Congressional Republicans tried to gut even as they attacked a few isolated decisions by Clinton judges.
- **Congressional Republicans voted against** putting more police on the beat, against ___ new death penalty crimes, against three-strikes-and-you're-out, against bans on cop-killer bullets, against the introduction of taggants into explosive materials, and against gun laws that are saving the lives of police men and women across the country. The President wanted to step up surveillance of terrorists. Congressional Republicans only want to conduct inquisitions of the police and other law enforcement officers.
- Now these same Congressional Republicans -- who have been on the wrong side of every vote important to cops -- are resorting to the phony issue of whose judges are tougher on crime.

The Congressional Record Doesn't Lie

- **Almost all Clinton judges were confirmed unanimously** by the Judiciary Committee and the Senate.
- In fact, only three of the 185 lower court federal judges whom President Clinton has appointed to the bench have even been the subject of contested votes. Even these three judges received significant Republican support. Rosemary Barkett (CA11-Fl.) was confirmed 61-37; Lee Sarokin (CA3-NJ) was approved by a margin of 63-35; and James Dennis (CA5-La.) won a contested vote by 54-46.
- Senator Dole, Senator Hatch and all of the other Republican critics have voted for 182 of the 185 Clinton judges now on the Courts of Appeals and District Court.

- The point is that Presidents and Senators all recommend, nominate and approve judicial nominees based on their record of accomplishments and their understanding of the law. We do not ask for and do not receive any assurances or promises about what nominees will do once they are on the bench. Every President will disagree with individual cases that his appointees make once they are on the bench, just as President Clinton vehemently disagreed with Judge Baer's initial ruling.

Judges and Politics

- It is in the country's best interest to keep politics out of the selection of federal judges as much as possible and, even in an election year, for as long as possible. In 1992, a Democratic-controlled Judiciary Committee and Senate confirmed 66 Bush judges, including 11 Court of Appeals judges.
- **President Clinton's open and non-ideological approach** to picking judges has gone a long way to decreasing the toxic political rhetoric that had in recent years been injected into the confirmation process. Everyone talks about making the judicial selection process less political. President Clinton did something about it.
- Now presidential election year politics threatens to bring that poisonous rhetoric right back. Let's take a pledge not to make the federal judiciary a political football in an election year.

- ◆ James Dobson, in a letter to members: "The National Endowment for the Arts, led by a chairman to be appointed by the new president, will continue to support obscene and sacrilegious paintings, sculpture and photographs. The Chairperson is Jane Alexander, and she has done as expected." [James Dobson's Focus on the Family, letter to members, 7/94]

PRESIDENT WANTS TO FUND PORNOGRAPHIC ART

- ◆ FRC's Washington Watch: "Funding battles are also battles over... federal subsidies for pornographic art..." [Family Research Council's Washington Watch, 6/95]

ADMINISTRATION CULTURAL POLICY IS RADICAL

- ◆ Christian Coalition spokesperson: "The cultural policy of the Administration is one that is on the side of cultural radicalness." [Washington Post, 8/20/93]

CRIME/DRUGS:

CLINTON SAT ON SIDELINES WHILE DRUG USE HAS INCREASED

- ◆ Sen. Dole: "[W]hile drug use has gone up during the past two- and-half years, the Clinton administration has sat on the sidelines, transforming the war on drugs into a full-scale retreat. The President has abandoned the moral bully pulpit, cut the staff at the Drug Czar's office by nearly 80 percent, and appointed a Surgeon General who believes the best way to fight illegal drugs is to legalize them. He has presided over an administration that has de-emphasized the interdiction effort, allowed the number of federal drug prosecutions to decline, and overseen a 'source country' effort that the General Accounting Office describes as badly managed and poorly coordinated." [Dole Press Release, 9/12/95]

CLINTON HAS MISMANAGED THE WAR ON DRUGS

- ◆ Sen. Dole: "Through neglect and mismanagement, bad policy and misplaced priorities, the Clinton administration has transformed the war on drugs into a full-scale retreat. Drug interdiction is down. Drug prosecutions are down. The General Accounting Office tells us that the anti-drug effort in the 'source' countries is badly mismanaged. And, perhaps most importantly, the bully pulpit has been abandoned. Regrettably, the Administration's most memorable voice on this issue has been a Surgeon General who believes the best way to fight illegal drugs is to legalize them." [Dole Press Release, 11/2/95]

CLINTON CUT DRUG CZAR STAFF

- ◆ Sen. Dole: "Shortly after taking office, President Clinton cut staffing for the Office of National Drug Control Policy -- the "Drug Czar's" Office -- by more than 80

percent." [Washington Times, 9/22/95]

DRUG INTERDICTION HAS BECOME A LOW PRIORITY

- ◆ Sen. Dole: "Drug interdiction, the process by which drugs are seized before they reach our borders, has become a low priority." [Washington Times, 9/22/95]

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION NEGLECTS COMPREHENSIVE DRUG STRATEGY

- ◆ Sen. Dole: "The Clinton administration has placed too much emphasis on treatment for hard-core users.... [T]reatment for hard-core addicts is, at best, a hit-and-miss proposition. It is no substitute for a comprehensive strategy that focuses on reducing the supply of illegal drugs." [Washington Times, 9/22/95]

CLINTON'S DRUG POLICY IS JUST DO NOTHING

- ◆ (NEW) Livingston: "Since Bill Clinton took office, drug use among teenagers has skyrocketed," said U.S. Rep. Bob Livingston (R-Metarie). "This White House has taken national drug policy from 'Just Say No' to 'Just Do Nothing.'" [RNC Press Release, 5/30/96]

DRUG USE BY YOUNG PEOPLE IS UP UNDER CLINTON

- ◆ Tauzin noted that statistics about the use of illegal drugs by young people are sobering:
 - For the third straight year, drug use among America's youth is up. Some 48.4 percent of the class of 1995 had tried drugs by graduation day. (Senate Judiciary Committee, 12/19/95)
 - Recent marijuana use jumped 137 percent among 12-13 year olds since 1992 and 200 percent among 14-15 year olds. In 1994, 2.9 million 12-17 year olds claimed to have used marijuana within the past year — 1.3 million more children than in 1992. (National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services)
 - Among high school seniors, 35 percent say they have experimented with marijuana on an annual basis. (Senate Judiciary Committee, 12/19/95)
 - Among 10th graders, LSD use is up 62 percent over the 1992 level. (Senate Judiciary Committee, 12/19/95)
- [RNC Press Release, 5/30/96]

CLINTON HAS ELIMINATED 227 AGENTS FROM DEA

- ◆ The RNC notes: "[Duncan] Hunter (R-CA) said Clinton's recent rhetoric also can't make up for the fact that Clinton abandoned the war on drugs. One of his first acts as president was to cut the Office of Drug Control Policy by 80 percent, from 146 to just 25 workers. In his three years in office, Clinton has also eliminated 227 agent positions from the Drug Enforcement Agency, and the first budget he submitted attempted to eliminate 93 agents from the U.S. Border Patrol. In addition, his Attorney General Janet Reno promptly proposed reductions in the mandatory minimum sentences for drug trafficking and other drug-related federal crimes."

GINGRICH CALLS PRESIDENT'S CRIME RECORD 'PATHETIC'

- ◆ In July, Gingrich called President Clinton's record on crime "pathetic": "Bill Clinton trying to wear a sheriff's badge is like Michael Dukakis riding a tank." [AP, 7/1/95]

GINGRICH SAID 25% OF WHITE HOUSE STAFF USED DRUGS

- ◆ On "Meet the Press" last December, Gingrich said that a senior law enforcement official he did not name had told him that "in his judgment, up to a quarter of the White House staff, when they first came in, had used drugs in the last four or five years." Gingrich later said he wished he hadn't made the allegation, but offered no apologies for the comment. "It was a comment which produced a larger effect than I intended," said Gingrich. But he added, "I stand by precisely what I said on 'Meet the Press.'" [LA Times, 12/6/94; AP, 12/9/94]

CLINTON NEGLECTING DUTIES ON DRUG PREVENTION

- ◆ Lamar Alexander: "President Clinton has been missing in action in the fight against drugs. For nearly three years his Administration has neglected its duty to prevent drugs from entering the country while it has been indifferent to those who use drugs. Abandoning the fight against drugs is the least-examined but most inexcusable failure of the Clinton Administration." [Alexander Iowa radio ad]

CLINTON DRUG POLICY IS MESSAGE OF INDIFFERENCE

- ◆ Lamar Alexander: "President Clinton has been neither tough nor compassionate when it comes to drugs. His neglect of the drug problem sends a message of indifference to the efforts to reduce the tide of drug use that are [sic] going on across the country. He has dramatically reduced efforts to stop cocaine shipments coming over the border. His Justice Department has scaled back its prosecution of federal drug crimes. He has dropped international drug trafficking as a top foreign policy concern." [Alexander press release, 12/12/95]

CLINTON REDUCED MANDATORY MINIMUMS FOR DRUG TRAFFICKERS

- ◆ The FRC writes the administration has, "Reduced mandatory minimums for drug traffickers." [Family Research Council's Washington Watch, 5/95]

CLINTON CUTS SPENDING IN DRUG PROGRAMS DESPITE INCREASED DRUG USE

- ◆ FRC's Washington Watch: "Drug abuse among teenagers has risen significantly in recent years according to a nationwide survey by the National Institute on Drug Abuse....Moreover, cocaine, crack, heroin, and LSD use among teenagers is also rising and may soon rival the high rates of the others." [Family Research Council's Washington Watch, 5/95]
- ◆ FRC's Washington Watch: "Despite these trends, the Clinton Administration is

leading an all-out retreat in the drug war. During the past two years, President Clinton has overseen the wholesale dismantling of government agencies that are at least partly responsible for the successes of the 1980s." [Family Research Council's Washington Watch 5/95]

CRITICAL OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAM

- ◆ In FRC's Washington Watch newsletter: "Not only did the Clinton Administration call for drug legalization, but it also issued a 1993 report advocating needle-exchange programs even though these programs fail." [Family Research Council's Washington Watch, 5/95]

CLINTON SUPPORTERS FAVOR DRUG LEGALIZATION

- ◆ The FRC quotes Reverend Walter Shropshire who stated that he believed government could "create a safer environment for all of us" if drugs were legalized. [Family Research Council's Washington Watch, 5/95]
- ◆ In FRC's Washington Watch Newsletter, the FRC quotes the President's former law school professor and mentor Steven Duke, advocating the legalization of some drugs in his 1993 book *America's Longest War: Rethinking Our Tragic Crusade Against Drugs*. [Family Research Council's Washington Watch, 5/95]

PRESIDENT IS NOT COMMITTED TO THE WAR ON DRUGS

- ◆ Family Research Council: "The Clinton administration's actions and its advisors' reputations suggest a general lack of commitment to the drug war. With drug abuse on the rise, the President must lead the nation in an all-out effort to turn the tide of drugs away from our shores and especially away from our children." [Family Research Council's Washington Watch, 5/95]

CRIME BILL FAILS TO TEACH MORALITY

- ◆ Ralph Reed: "We are very concerned that the crime bill discriminates against the free exercise of religious beliefs. It would make it almost impossible to impart young people the best values of Western civilization." [Washington Times, 8/8/94]

LIBERALS ABANDON THREAT OF PUNISHMENT IN THIS LIFE AND AFTER-LIFE

- ◆ Gary Bauer: "Almost all of the research, when you boil it down, has concluded that crime is kept under control by a combination of fear of punishment in this life and fear of punishment in the next life... Liberals, with their usual abandon, have continued to undermine both concepts in this bill." [Washington Times, 8/8/94]

CLINTON MISSED MARK ON CRIME BILL

- ◆ Beverly LaHaye writes: "When the House of Representatives passed its version late in August, President Clinton praised it as 'the toughest and smartest crime bill' in American history. He claimed it this was 'the way Washington ought to work.' I think Congress and the President missed the mark." [Concerned Women for

CLINTON ADVISOR DEFENSE ACCUSED RAPIST

- ◆ (NEW) The RNC notes: "Dick Morris, a top advisor to Bill Clinton, recently worked on the defense team of a defendant accused of the brutal rapes of two teenage girls." [RNC Press Release, 5/30/96]

CRIME IS NOT FOUGHT WITH SOCIAL PROGRAMS

- ◆ Haley Barbour: "America's values tell you the answer to the epidemic of senseless, violent crime is tough law enforcement and stiff prison sentences. Washington values think solutions such as billions for social programs like midnight basketball will result in safe streets." [RNC Chairman Haley Barbour, Conservative Political Action Conference, 2/23/96]
- ◆ (NEW) The RNC notes: "...Clinton's 1994 crime bill stuck taxpayers with the bill for more than \$6.5 billion in spending for such pet projects as midnight basketball, arts and crafts, gender sensitivity training and interpretive dance programs." [RNC Press Release, 6/10/96]

GUN CONTROL DOES NOT STOP CRIME

- ◆ Haley Barbour: "Bill Clinton's Washington values tell him gun control laws will stop crime, but at the same time criminals who commit crimes with guns are not prosecuted or punished to the full extent of the law by the Clinton administration." [RNC Chairman Haley Barbour, Conservative Political Action Conference, 2/23/96]

CLINTON CAN TAKE NO CREDIT ON CRIME RATE REDUCTIONS

- ◆ In the RNC's response to the President's State of the Union, Republicans say, the "Crime rates have fallen in spite of Bill Clinton's best efforts." They cite:
 - Crime rates have fallen because incarceration rates are increasing. The total estimated correctional population (probation, jail, parole, etc.) has risen 7.8% since 1992. (The State of Violent Crime in America, The Council on Crime in America, 1/96)
 - During the 1980s, California, under Gov. Deukmejian (R-CA) tripled its prison population, a bigger increase than any other state, and experienced a decline in serious crime of 13 percent relative to that of the nation. (National Center for Policy Analysis, 6/23/95)
 - The states, under the leadership of GOP governors, have implemented tough truth-in-sentencing and three-strikes-and-you're-out provisions which have reduced crime. [RNC's Response to the 1996 State of the Union]

CRIME BILL PREVENTION PROGRAMS ARE WASTEFUL

- ◆ In the RNC's response to the President's State of the Union, Republicans quote a Seattle Times piece, "What was all the money for, then? All the usual liberal social programs and political pork. There was money for government-sponsored dance programs, arts and crafts, a midnight basketball league and programs to promote 'self-esteem.'" [Thomas Sowell, Seattle Times, 8/17/94; RNC's Response to the 1996 State of the Union]

COPS PROGRAM DOES NOT FUND 100,000 COPS

- ◆ In the RNC's response to the President's State of the Union, Republicans quote a Washington Post piece, "The program would never have supplied enough to pay salary, benefits, pensions and other costs, so the cities would have had to come up with a lot of upfront money many say they don't have." [Washington Post, 2/14/95; RNC's Response to the 1996 State of the Union]

The RNC notes: "Last month, in response to Clinton's radio address, Bob Dole pointed out Clinton's repeated exaggerations that he's putting 100,000 police officers on the street as the result of the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). Clinton senior advisor George Stephanopolous shot back that 43,000 cops would be on the street as of the following week. When Attorney General Janet Reno was pressed in a briefing, she said, "What I am advised is that there are 17,000 officers that can be identified as being on the streets." (Janet Reno's weekly media availability, May 16)." [RNC Press Release, 6/10/96]

MOST CITIES DO NOT WANT THE COPS FUNDING

- ◆ (NEW) Rep. Duncan Hunter (R-CA): "One of Clinton's self-proclaimed highlights of his 1994 Crime Bill was the 100,000 police officers he claims the bill put on the streets. In truth, nearly 60 percent of eligible communities chose not to apply for the program, citing their inability to pick up the cost of the program after the three-year grant comes to an end." [RNC Press Release, 6/10/96]
- ◆ The RNC notes: "According to a 5/28/96 story in the San Diego Union-Tribune, it costs about \$80,000 a year to field one police officer. That means the federal funding stretched out over three years wouldn't even cover the cost of the first year of an officer's career." [RNC Press Release, 6/10/96]

GAO SAYS POLICE CANNOT AFFORD PROGRAM

- ◆ In the RNC's response to the President's State of the Union, Republicans note: an "October 1995 GAO investigation found that 58% of law enforcement jurisdictions haven't applied for the COPS program, citing the inability to pick up the tab for the entire program after the three-year grant cycle ends, and the numerous restrictions on the use of funds." [RNC's Response to the 1996 State of the Union]

SILENT ON HABEUS CORPUS REFORM

- ◆ In the RNC's response to the President's State of the Union, Republicans say that "Clinton's crime bill was silent on Habeus Corpus reform." [RNC's Response to the 1996 State of the Union]

NOTHING FROM CLINTON ON EXCLUSIONARY RULE REFORM

- ◆ In the RNC's response to the President's State of the Union, Republicans say that "Clinton's crime bill said nothing regarding 'good faith' exceptions to the exclusionary rule."

ON CULTURAL ISSUES:

PRESIDENT IS NOT DISCOURAGING PRE-MARITAL SEX

- ◆ James Dobson in a letter to his supporters writes: "The Clinton administration plans to revise the 12-year-old Republican message of "Just Say No" to premarital sex by placing a greater emphasis on birth control and disease prevention, in effect adding a new line: "But if you say 'yes,' be sure to use a condom." [James Dobson, Focus on the Family, direct mail, 10/93]

CLINTON WILL BE LENIENT TOWARDS PORNOGRAPHERS

- ◆ James Dobson claims that his predication about the Clinton administration's policy towards pornographers has come true. "The Justice Department will liberalize its approach to pornography and the prosecution of its producers and distributors. Attorney General Janet Reno's redefinition of child pornography illustrates DOJ's changing policy toward obscenity." [James Dobson, Focus on the Family direct mail, 7/94]

JANET RENO DEFENDS CHILD PORNOGRAPHERS

- ◆ In a letter to supporters, Beverly LaHaye accuses Janet Reno and the Administration of defending 'perverts' who distribute child pornography. [Beverly LaHaye, Concerned Women for America, direct mail, 11/93]

ADMINISTRATION DEFENDING PEDOPHILES; CHILDREN AT RISK

- ◆ Beverly LaHaye: "The Clinton Justice Department filed a brief in the U.S. Supreme Court defending the 'rights' of a convicted pedophile to possess, produce, or distribute pictures and videos blatantly created to entice the lust of pedophiles for young children." [Beverly LaHaye, Concerned Women for America, 11/93]
- ◆ Beverly LaHaye: "If this administration further weakens our nation's child exploitation and pornography laws, children in America will be at risk, and families

The Clinton-Gore Administration Anti-Drug Record

Drug Use is Down

- Overall drug use has been cut in half since its peak in the 1970's and youth drug use is on the decline for the third straight year. Illicit drug use among young people age 12-17 declined by 13% from 1997 to 1998, and the average age of first-time use went up. Overall use of marijuana and other illicit drugs also leveled off among teenagers in 8th, 10th and 12th grades from 1998 to 1999. [SAMHSA, National Household Survey on Drug Abuse 1993-1998; National Institute on Drug Abuse, Monitoring the Future Survey 1992-1999; ONDCP, 2000 Annual Report]

Largest Anti-Drug Budgets Ever

- Drug control funding has risen from \$12.2 billion in 1993 to \$18.5 billion in 2000 (including the requested Plan Colombia FY2000 supplemental). [FY 2001 budget, p. 117]

Drug Arrests Up 46 Percent

- Nationally, the number of drug-related arrests (including arrests for sale, manufacture and possession) increased by 46 percent between 1992 and 1998. More than half a million more violators were arrested in 1998 than in 1992. [FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, Crime in the United States]

Drug Seizures at Record Levels

- In 1999, 1,175 metric tons of marijuana were seized, more than three times the amount seized in 1992. Federal cocaine seizures reached a record level of 132 metric tons in 1999, a 10 percent increase over 1992 levels. And federal officials seized 1,919 meth labs in 1999, a 38 percent increase over 1998. In four years, the DEA alone has seized and shut down 5,547 meth labs. [DEA, Federal Drug Seizure System; ONDCP, 2000 Annual Report]

Credible, Experienced Leadership in the War Against Drugs

- President Clinton is the first President to make the Director of National Drug Control Policy a Cabinet level position, and the first to nominate a Drug Czar with a drug interdiction background. General Barry McCaffrey was a four star general serving as Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Armed Forces Southern Command coordinating national security operations in Latin America. President Clinton ended the practice of using ONDCP as a dumping ground for political appointees -- 40% of the Drug Czar office in the Bush White House was filled with political appointees. And the President has increased ONDCP funding to \$461.4 million. [ONDCP 2000 Annual Report, p. 94]

Drug Courts Have Reduced Drug Use and Criminal Behavior

- Drug courts, established by President Clinton and Vice President Gore in the 1994 Crime Bill to treat non-violent offenders, have reduced drug use of participants. Recidivism among drug court graduates is under 4 percent, compared to an estimated 45 percent among all defendants convicted of drug possession. The number of drug courts has grown from a dozen in 1994 to more than 416 in October 1999. [OJP, Looking at a Decade of Drug Courts, 6/99; ONDCP, 2000 Annual Report]

Stopping Drugs at the Border

- Before 1993, there was no comprehensive plan to control the 2,000 mile Southwest border. President Clinton has implemented the Southwest Border Initiative, a cooperative effort by federal law enforcement agencies including the DEA, the FBI, U.S. Customs Service, and U.S. Attorneys offices, and has targeted more resources to the area. U.S. Customs budget for Southwest border programs increased 72% since FY 1993. The number of assigned DEA special agents increased 37% since FY 1990. The number of assigned INS agents almost doubled since FY 1990. [ONDCP, 2000 Annual Report, p. 74]

Working with Allies to Stop International Drug Trafficking

- President Clinton is working with source nations to bolster their abilities to reduce drug cultivation and production. Coca leaf eradication in Bolivia, Colombia and Peru increased by more than five times between 1992 and 1998. The amount of cocaine available for consumption in the U.S. has dropped by 31% since 1992. [ONDCP 2000 Annual Report; State Department Int'l Narcotics Control Strategy, 3/99]

The Clinton-Gore Administration Anti-Drug Record: National Drug Enforcement Efforts

Drug Arrests Up Almost 50 Percent

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Drug Related Murders Down Almost 50 Percent

- The drug related murder rate has been cut almost in half since 1992. Drug related murders are now at their lowest level in over a decade. [FBI Uniform Crime Reports, 1990-99]

More Convictions for Drug Offenses

- In 1998, there were nearly 22,000 federal convictions for drug offenders, including over 20,000 for trafficking and over 1,200 for possession and other charges. That's up from over 18,000 convictions in 1992. [Bureau of Justice Statistics, Compendium of Federal Justice Statistics, 1992 and 1998]

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- Drug enforcement officials also seized more than \$1.6 billion in drug dealers' assets and properties in FY 1995 -- including cash, realty/business, vehicles, and jewelry. [Justice Department Asset Forfeiture Program FY 1995 and 1996]

First Ever National Methamphetamine Strategy

- President Clinton developed a comprehensive strategy to combat the trafficking and abuse of methamphetamine, one of the country's most dangerous drugs. The President fought for and signed the Comprehensive Methamphetamine Control Act of 1996, which increased penalties for trafficking in meth while expanding control over chemicals used to produce meth, and the Methamphetamine Trafficking Penalty Enhancement Act of 1998, which further stiffened sanctions for trafficking this dangerous drug. [ONDCP, 1999 National Drug Control Strategy; Donnie Marshall, Acting Administrator of the DEA, Testimony before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, 7/29/99]
- In 1993, the DEA seized a total of 218 methamphetamine labs; in 1999, the DEA seized more than 1,200 meth labs. [Donnie Marshall, Acting Administrator of the DEA, Testimony before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, 7/29/99]

Success Story: Getting Drug Traffickers Off the Streets

- On September 20, 1999, five members of the drug trafficking organization known as the Seventh Ward Soldiers were each sentenced to life in prison, plus additional time of 5-20 years, following their jury convictions for selling crack cocaine and murdering and shooting other drug dealers and witnesses. Police records indicate that since these gang members were taken into custody, the community they previously terrorized has experienced a 42% decrease in the number of shootings and 42.8% decrease in the murder rate. [ONDCP, 2000 Annual Report]

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TOUGH AND SMART

President Clinton's Record Fighting Crime

MORE POLICE ARE ON THE STREETS

- The President's plan to put 100,000 more police on the streets is working. Already, almost 20,000 new police are on the streets of America's communities and more than 44,000 additional officers have been funded. This represents the federal government's largest commitment ever to local law enforcement. Every major law enforcement organization has expressed support for the Crime Bill's COPS program. [Source: Dept. of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]

KEEPING GUNS OUT OF THE HANDS OF CRIMINALS

- President Clinton stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill which provides for a 5-day waiting period and background checks of prospective handgun buyers. In the two years since its enactment, the Brady Law has stopped more than 60,000 fugitives and felons and other criminals from purchasing handguns. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]
- In fewer than two years since the President signed the Assault Weapons Ban into law, the number of assault weapons traced has dropped a full 18%. [Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Firearms Traced for the Period September Through September for Years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995]

TOUGHER LAWS AND MORE PRISONS

- President Clinton's Crime Bill included a targeted "Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out" provision to put career violent offenders behind bars for life.
- Since its enactment, 16 career criminals in thirteen states have either been sentenced to life in prison under the Three Strikes provision, or are awaiting sentencing or trial. [Source: Department of Justice]
- His bill also expanded death penalty for drug kingpins, murderers of federal law enforcement officers and nearly 60 additional categories of violent crime.
- President Clinton's Crime Bill expanded the death penalty to include drug kingpins, murderers of federal law enforcement officers and nearly 60 additional categories of violent crime.
- The Crime bill provided funding for 100,000 more prison cells to help states to ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences. [The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
- The President's Crime Bill increased penalties for sex offenders and a registration requirement for violent sexual offenders. [Source: The Attorney General's Report to the President: The First Year of the Violent Crime Control Act of 1994, 9/13/95]

FIGHTING TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- The Clinton Administration has done more than any other Administration in history to fight violence against women, domestic violence and sexual abuse. The Crime Bill's Violence Against Women Act combines tough new penalties with programs to prosecute offenders and help women victims. [Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

Included a first-ever Violence Against Women Act which triples funding for battered women's shelters and already has provided \$26 million in state grants to bolster law enforcement, prosecution and victims services. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

KEEPING KIDS IN SCHOOL AND OUT OF HARMS WAY

- **Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act.** Strengthened and expanded the Safe and Drug-Free School Act, which provides school security, drug prevention and education programs in 97% of America's school districts. The President successfully fought off an attempt by Congressional Republicans to dramatically cut the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program.
[Source: Based on House-passed FY96 Labor/HHS Appropriations Bill; Department of Education release 2/9/96]
- **School Uniforms.** Encouraged school to adopt school uniform policies, which promote discipline and respect, and developed a manual to be distributed to 16,000 school districts to assist them in establishing these policies.
- **Curfews.** Encouraged cities across the country to adopt curfew programs to decrease juvenile delinquency and victimization. Curfews, when backed up by a community of support and are part of a larger plan to help fight juvenile crime, can play an important role in keeping our children safe.
- **Truancy Programs.** Providing \$10 million in grants to schools and community groups to design and operate their own truancy programs to keep our children in school and off the streets -- out of harms way.
- **Youth Crime Interdiction.** Working with 17 cities and their police chiefs, local prosecutors, and federal investigators and prosecutors to trace firearms found on youths back to the crime gun traffickers. For the first time, every time a gun is used in a crime and seized by law enforcement, it will be tracked through a national tracing system. Law enforcement will use that trace information to help identify and local illegal gun traffickers who, especially, peddle guns to kids.

CRIME ACROSS THE COUNTRY IS DOWN

CRIME IS DOWN ACROSS THE COUNTRY – THIS IS NO TIME TO TURN BACK

- The number of murders fell 8% in 1995 -- one of the largest decreases in more than 30 years. [Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation Release, May 5, 1996]
- The nation's largest cities saw their overall crime fall 6% during the same period. [Source: FBI Release, May 5, 1996]
- The number of crimes reported to police has fallen 5% since 1992. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics]
- The number of violent crimes reported to police has fallen 7.4% since 1992. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics]
- The number of murders fell 25% in New York City, 11% in Chicago, and 19% in San Diego in 1995. [Source: FBI, Uniformed Crime Report, May 5, 1996]

MAYORS, POLICE CHIEFS AND COPS ON THE FRONT LINES ARE STANDING UP FOR PRESIDENT'S CRIME FIGHTING POLICIES

- ★ Dewey Stokes, National President of Fraternal Order of Police, 2/6/95: *"...In the interest of public safety and officer safety, we strongly support the assault weapons ban contained in the Crime Bill which you signed on September 13, 1994."*
- ★ Mayor Victor Ashe, President, U.S. Conference of Mayors, 2/1/95: *"I would like to congratulate you on the outstanding job which the Department of Justice has done in implementing the 1994 crime act ... We strongly support the COPS Program."*
- ★ Charles Meeks, National Sheriffs' Association: *"I am writing in support of the continuation of the COPS Program enacted in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 ... This program of policing, will go a long way in helping to reduce crime in our counties."*
- ★ Patrolman John Greg says that his neighborhood in Sharon, PA, *"has quieted down immensely" and "that the biggest measure [of the precinct's] success is you have the kids out playing again and you have people sitting on their front porches again."* [Source: Herald, 7/15/95]
- ★ Police Commissioner Michael Carpentieri of the village of Pawling says, *"I was not only impressed at the speed, but happy with the way they handled it. No bureaucracy, and it was quick and decisive. This is the first time money flowed from a bill so quickly."* [Poughkeepsie Journal, 2/9/95]

UNPRECEDENTED ACTION TO FIGHT CRIME

President Clinton's Record of Historic Firsts

PRESIDENT CLINTON STANDS UP TO GUN LOBBY

The President stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill, which has prevented over 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals from purchasing guns. We've enacted an Assault Weapons Ban, which is taking 19 of the deadliest assault weapons and their copies off of America's streets.

CRIME BILL PROVIDES UNPRECEDENTED SUPPORT TO STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

- The President directed more federal resources to the state and local level to help them fight crime than any other administration in history. [FY95, FY96 and FY97 Budgets, Department of Justice funded]

CRIME BILL ESTABLISHES FIRST EVER PLAN TO PUT COPS ON THE STREETS

- The President created the Community Oriented Policing Program which is putting 100,000 new police on America's streets ahead of schedule and is already helping to reduce crime across the country. Already, over 44,000 COPS have been funded and almost 20,000 are on the street. [Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]

PRESIDENT CLINTON ENACTS FIRST-EVER VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

- The President won passage of the Violence Against Women Act which tripled funding for battered women's shelters; bolstered local law enforcement, prosecution and victims' services to better address violence against women through \$26 million in state grants; created National Domestic Violent Hotline. The Act also established the first Violence Against Women office at the Department of Justice. [Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

PRESIDENT CLINTON ENACTS FIRST-EVER STATE PRISON GRANT PROGRAM

- The President authorized nearly \$8 billion to states to build and expand prisons. In FY96, the Justice Department will give out approximately \$400 million for prison construction grants to states. [Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]

PRESIDENT CLINTON ORDERS FIRST-EVER STATE CRIMINAL ALIEN INCARCERATION GRANT PROGRAM

- The President directed more funding to states to help them incarcerate dangerous undocumented criminal aliens than any other administration. [Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]

PRESIDENT CLINTON INITIATES FIRST-EVER DRUG COURT PROGRAM

- The President is providing nonviolent, substance-abusing adult and juvenile offenders with sanctions and services necessary to change their destructive behaviors and keep them from cycling through our courts, jails, and probations systems. Drug Courts are a tough, effective and popular alternative to incarceration for non-violent offenders. The Justice Department has already granted 64 grants in 34 states to design, implement and enhance their own Drug Courts. [Department of Justice, Drug Courts Program Office Fact Sheet, 5/96]

PRESIDENT CLINTON PUSHES THROUGH FIRST EVER BOOT CAMP PROGRAM.

The President is providing prosecutors and the courts with a viable sentencing solution for youthful offenders by placing them in a military-style atmosphere that instills self-discipline and provides physical conditioning that was lacking in their lives, while freeing up conventional prison, jail and juvenile corrections space for violent offenders. The Justice Department has already awarded 43 grants to 27 states and three territories to plan and build Boot Camps. [Department of Justice]

THE PRESIDENT'S CRIME FIGHTING POLICIES ARE WORKING

VIOLENT CRIME RATES ARE FALLING

- Violent crime across the country has fallen in each and every year since President Clinton took office -- the first time the violent crime rate has fallen three years in a row since 1982. Yet, for four years before the President took office, the violent crime rate increased. The Crime Bill and the Brady Bill are two major reasons why we are finally seeing crime fall across the country. [Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 11/19/95]

COMMUNITY POLICING IS WORKING

- ★ *"Backed by residents, community policing has cut crime in some of Americas toughest neighborhoods, such as Englewood in Chicago and the Bronx in New York, as well as among the most crime-prone age groups."* [Source: Christian Science Monitor, 7/20/95]
- ★ *"Community Policing works, and promoting it is one small thing Washington can do right in the fight against crime."* [Source: Gerald Seib, Wall Street Journal, 9/13/95]
- ★ *"The decline [in crime] can be explained in part by policy-driven law enforcement effort that capitalize on community crime-fighting initiatives and take the bad guys off the streets."* [Source: John Dilulio Jr., Princeton University, in Wall Street Journal, 9/6/95]

TOUGHER LAWS ARE PUTTING MORE CRIMINALS BEHIND BARS

With the passage of the Crime Bill, tough action replaced tough talk, giving communities the tools to prosecute and punish more criminals than ever before.

- **Three Strikes-And-You're Out.** The Crime Bill made "Three-Strikes" the law of the land. Prosecutors are using this provision to target the small number of violent, repeat offenders who commit a great deal of the crime in this country.

Taking Violent Criminals Off of America's Streets and into Prison for Good

- ★ *Thomas Farmer was sentenced to a mandatory life sentence without possibility of parole under the President's "Three Strikes" law for his part in the armed robbery of an Iowa supermarket. Farmer had urged his accomplices to kill a store employee who was unable to open the store's safe. He had previously been convicted in 1971 of second degree murder; in 1979 of robbery, which he committed while on parole; and in, 1983 of murdering a fellow inmate. Had Farmer been prosecuted in state court, he might have been eligible for parole in just two and one-half years.*
- ★ *Clayton James Phillips was sentenced to two concurrent life sentences without parole for the armed robbery of two St. Mary Parish, Louisiana post offices under "Three Strikes." Phillips had been convicted in state court in 1978 of armed robbery and again in 1989 of attempted first degree murder. Phillips also was sentenced to an additional, consecutive 25 year sentence for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm.*

KEEPING GUNS OUT OF THE HANDS OF CRIMINALS

- The President stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill which has already stopped more than 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals from buying handguns. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]

The Brady Law is Making a Difference

- ★ In February 1996, a Brady background check prevented Randy Eddy, under a restraining order for murder threats made against his estranged wife, from buying a handgun from a Wichita County, Kansas gun dealer.
- ★ In October 1995, a Brady background check prevented Edward Johnson, a convicted murderer, from purchasing a handgun in Dekalb County, Georgia.
- ★ In April 1995, a Brady background check helped law enforcement officers apprehend Rodney Wharton, a convicted heroin trafficker and fugitive, as he attempted to buy a handgun in Blair County, Pennsylvania. It was later determined that before the Brady Law, Wharton had successfully purchased at least seven other guns without being challenged and traded them to support his crack addiction.

JUVENILE CRIME

Breaking the Cycle of Juvenile Violence

JUVENILE CRIME IS DOWN UNDER PRESIDENT CLINTON

- The juvenile crime arrest rate decreased 2.9% in 1995 -- the first decline in seven years. The juvenile murder arrest rate declined 15.2% last year -- the largest one year decrease in more than 10 years. Since 1993, the juvenile murder rate has dropped an incredible 22.8%. [Department of Justice, 1995 Uniform Crime Report, 8/8/96]

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GETTING TOUGH ON JUVENILE OFFENDERS WHO TEST THE SYSTEM

- **"Zero Tolerance" Gun Policy.** Keeping dangerous weapons out of our children's classrooms by enforcing a "Zero Tolerance" gun policy in schools.
- **National Gang Tracking Network.** Announced funding for the first step of a National Gang Tracking Network. This computerized network will provide federal, state, local and municipal law enforcement agencies with the ability to share and exchange gang information quickly and efficiently.
- **Juvenile Violence and Anti-Drug Legislative Package.** President Clinton has sent legislative proposals to Congress to help stop the rise of youth violence and drug use, including: [Anti-Gang and Youth Crime Control Act of 1996]
 - * Trying juvenile offenders as adults for violent and drug crimes
 - * A first-ever national strategy to stop the spread of methamphetamine
 - * Reinstating the ban on guns in schools
 - * A \$75 million grant program for juvenile drug and gun courts
 - * Increasing the penalties for drug dealers who sell drugs to children, or use children to sell drugs

PUTTING 100,000 POLICE ON AMERICA'S STREETS

Keeping the Promise

- **100,000 officers, an increase of 20% in the nation's police force.** This increase will represent an almost 20% increase in the nation's police force levels when fully implemented. Critics said the Clinton Administration would never fund even 20,000 cops in six years. Yet, in just two years, nearly 20,000 new police are on the beat in America's communities and funding for more than 44,000 additional police has been approved. This is unprecedented federal, state and local cooperation to give communities the crime-fighting resources they need. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]
- **We're Ahead of Schedule.** The funding of 44,000 additional police by July 1996 is actually ahead of schedule as originally mandated by the Crime Bill which was passed by a bipartisan majority in Congress. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]

THE COPS PROGRAM: MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN COMMUNITIES

- **Over half of the nation's local policing agencies have benefited from COPS.** In less than two years, COPS grants have been awarded to more than half the policing agencies in the United States. As a result, the over 44,000 officers already funded will be serving 87% of the American public. Furthermore, the COPS office has outstanding requests for more than 4,000 law enforcement agencies for over 20,000 additional community policing officers. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 5/24/96]
- **Less Bureaucracy and More Police.** Not one tax dollar was raised to pay for putting 100,000 police on the street or for any other program or initiative in the Crime Bill. In fact, every new officer on the street is paid through the Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund -- money saved by the President's efforts to cut the federal workforce by over 230,000. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 5/24/96]
- **GOP would have gutted effort to put law enforcement officers on the street.** The Republicans' so-called crime bill eliminated the President's plan to put 100,000 new police on the street. Instead, the bill's block grant would not have guaranteed a single new police officer. The last time block grants were made available to states, some funds were misused and wasted to purchase goods and materials which were dubiously related to fighting crime, such as consultants, cars and tanks. [President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95] [need misuse cite]

The COPS Program is Already Making a Difference in America's Communities

- ★ Charles Meeks, National Sheriffs' Association: *"I am writing in support of the continuation of the COPS Program enacted in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 ... This program of policing, will go a long way in helping to reduce crime in our counties."*
- ★ *"Backed by residents, community policing has cut crime in some of Americas toughest neighborhoods, such as Englewood in Chicago and the Bronx in New York, as well as among the most crime-prone age groups."* [Source: Christian Science Monitor, 7/20/95]
- ★ *"Community Policing works, and promoting it is one small thing Washington can do right in the fight against crime."* [Source: Gerald Seib, Wall Street Journal, 9/13/95]
- ★ Chief Steve Olson, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin Police Department: *This is the first time in my 17-year career that I have seen the federal government put together a program that helped small police agencies that did not bury the department in paperwork and had a reasonable turn around period.* [Source: The Attorney General's Report to the President: The First Year of the Violent Crime Control Act of 1994, 9/13/95]
- ★ Robert Scully, Executive Director, National Association of Police Organizations: *"Our members find the COPS office to be one of the most efficient government programs in existence. One example of the COPS office's unprecedented proficiency can be found in the application for law enforcement agencies with jurisdictions under 50,000 residents and no resources to fill out bureaucratic documents -- the application was just one page."* [Source: Letter to Rep. Bill McCollum, House Subcommittee on Crime, 12/4/95]

BRADY LAW

Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals

THE BRADY LAW IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- The Brady Law, since its enactment, has prevented 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals would be walking the streets of America with handguns. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]

- ★ In February 1996, a Brady background check prevented Randy Eddy, under a restraining order for murder threats made against his estranged wife, from buying a handgun from a Wichita County, Kansas gun dealer.
- ★ In October 1995, a Brady background check prevented Edward Johnson, a convicted murderer, from purchasing a handgun in Dekalb County, Georgia.
- ★ In April 1995, a Brady background check helped law enforcement officers apprehend Rodney Wharton, a convicted heroin trafficker and fugitive, as he attempted to buy a handgun in Blair County, Pennsylvania. It was later determined that before the Brady Law, Wharton had successfully purchased at least seven other guns without being challenged and traded them to support his crack addiction.

BRADY LAW MOVES TOWARDS INSTANT CHECK

- Right now, the Brady Law provides for a 5 -day waiting period and background check on prospective handgun buyers, it requires that a National Instant Criminal Background Check System be established by November 1998. The Crime Bill authorized \$200 million to help states upgrade their criminal history records. Before this funding, few states had the resources to develop their own instant check system.

LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS SUPPORT THE BRADY LAW

- ★ Gilbert Gallegos, National President of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP): *"It is clear on this second anniversary of the Brady Act that the waiting period has prevented thousands of criminals from obtaining firearms and has saved lives. Members of the FOP continue to be impressed with the cooperation between the ATF and local law enforcement in implementing the Brady Act."*
- ★ David Walchak, President, International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP): *"The IACP strongly pushed for Congress to pass legislation allowing for a five-day waiting period to conduct thorough background checks on all prospective handgun purchasers. The IACP continues to strongly support the Brady Act."*
- ★ J. Tom Morgan, District Attorney, DeKalb County, GA: *"I believe the Brady Bill has reduced the number of crimes those felons would have committed. It shows criminals do go to stores to buy guns, and they obviously don't buy handguns to go duck hunting."* [Source: New York Times, 3/12/95]

ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN: TAKING DEADLY ASSAULT WEAPONS OFF OF AMERICA'S STREETS

- In fewer than two years since the President signed the Assault Weapons Ban into law, the number of assault weapons traced has dropped a full 18%. [Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Firearms Traced for the Period September Through September for Years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995]

SUPPORTED BY EVERY MAJOR POLICE ORGANIZATION

- The Assault Weapons Ban is supported by every major law enforcement organization in the country. They know that assault weapons are the guns of choice for gangs, drug dealers and murderers, not sportsmen or hunters. Between January 1994 and September 1995, 36% of law enforcement officers who were killed with firearms that could be identified, were killed by assault weapons or guns sold with magazines affected by the assault weapons ban. [Handgun Control, Inc., "Cops Under Fire," 11/29/95]
- ★ Dewey Stokes, National President, Fraternal Order of Police, 2/6/95. *"No position taken by the FOP is more strongly rooted in conviction than that taken on semi-automatic assault weapons. While it is true that these weapons do not differ in terms of function and capability from other semi-automatic weapons, it is equally true that semi-automatic weapons are eight times more likely to be used in crime than conventional weapons. Therefore, in the interest of public safety and officer safety, we strongly support the assault weapons ban contained in the Crime Bill..."*

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

Unprecedented Efforts to Combat Violence Against Women

THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

- The Clinton Administration has done more than any other Administration in history to fight violence against women, domestic violence and sexual abuse. The Crime Bill's Violence Against Women Act combines tough new penalties with programs to prosecute offenders and help women victims. [Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]
- Included a first-ever Violence Against Women Act which triples funding for battered women's shelters and already has provided \$26 million in state grants to bolster law enforcement, prosecution and victims services. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

The Violence Against Women Act -- Working with States to Put Abusers Behind Bars

- ★ In California, Ricky Steele was prosecuted for savagely beating his girlfriend in Oregon and then forcing her to drive with him to Las Vegas. While driving through California, a witness saw the girlfriend try to escape and called 911. California Highway Patrol officers made the arrest. California officials were worried about their ability to prosecute Steele successfully, as there was no clear assault in California. Officials in Oregon indicated that Steele was not likely to get more than a year in prison if found guilty under its state law for assaults. Both states consulted federal officials and it was decided to prosecute Steele in federal court under the Violence Against Women Act. Steele was sentenced to over seven years in jail.
- ★ In Ohio, Derek Page was arrested after severely beating his former girlfriend, stabbing her with claw end of a hammer several times, breaking her femur bone, punching her with his fists until her eyes were shut and injuring her feet so that she could not walk. After the beating, Page took his victim, who was close to death, 150 miles to a hospital in Pennsylvania in order to avoid prosecution in Ohio. Local prosecutors in Ohio faced difficult evidentiary problems and in Pennsylvania, authorities could not proceed because no criminal conduct had occurred in the state. Officials in Ohio turned to federal prosecutors who prosecuted the case and obtained a conviction. Page has been held in custody without bond since his arrest nine months ago and is awaiting sentencing.

THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- **Helping States Fight Domestic Violence.** In 1995, \$26 million went directly to the states through STOP grants. Every state has been awarded funds to develop and strengthen law enforcement and prosecutorial strategies and improve victims services in cases involving violent crimes against women. Approximately \$130 million more will be sent to states in FY96.

HELPING GIVE VICTIMS THE SUPPORT THEY DESERVE

- In West Jordan, Utah, Sgt. Gary Cox, a 16-year veteran police officer has been the impetus to build a shelter for victims of domestic violence in the South end of Salt Lake Valley. He is using STOP funds to hire victim advocates for the shelter.
 - In Delaware, STOP grant funds are being used by the Wilmington Police Department to hire a civilian victim service outreach worker to help victims secure protection orders and to follow the victim through the prosecution phase of their case.
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- **Providing Support to Women in Need.** Established the National Domestic Violence Hotline -- 1-800-799-SAFE -- to reach every community in the nation. This national toll-free hotline will serve as a lifeline to victims of domestic violence across the country, providing referral information to victims in need. In its first three months, the hotline responded to over 20,000 calls from women across the country. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

STATISTICS SHOW: VIOLENCE IMPACTS MANY WOMEN AND FAMILIES

- In 1993 and 1994, women age 12 or older annually sustained almost 5 million violent victimizations by an intimate. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]
 - During 1992 and 1993, women annually reported to interviewers about 500,000 rapes and sexual assaults. Friends or acquaintances of the victims committed over half of these rapes or sexual assaults. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]
 - About 60% of all violence against women was perpetrated by offenders the victim knew; about 15% of violence against women was committed by their relatives; and 30% by someone well-known to the victim. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]
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- ★ **The Stakes Are Too High to Ignore This Problem.** A recent study found that children who are abused and who witness violence at home are substantially more likely to commit violent act themselves. [Source: American Psychological Association]

THE CLINTON RECORD ON CRIME

FALSE CLAIM: The Clinton Administration doesn't understand the crime problem. The President knows what to say, but he doesn't grasp what needs to get down.

THE FACTS: Over the past three years, the Clinton Administration has made tremendous progress in bringing crime and drug abuse under control. The violent crime and murder rates across the country are falling, tens of thousands of criminals have been prevented from buying guns, and nearly 20,000 new police are on the street. President Clinton is committed to stopping any attempts to roll back the progress we have made in reducing crime and will continue in his efforts to put more cops on the beat and take guns, drugs, and gangs off the streets.

- **The Toughest, Smartest Crime Bill Ever.** After six years of gridlock, President Clinton passed the toughest, most comprehensive Crime Bill in the nation's history. It passed with the strong support of every major law enforcement organization in the country, including the Fraternal Order of Police and the National Sheriff's Association, as well as prosecutors, mayors, and state and local officials. [Source: Department of Justice]
- **More Police Are on the Street.** The President's plan to put 100,000 more police on the streets is working. Already, almost 20,000 new police are on the streets of America's communities and more than 44,000 additional officers have been funded. This represents the federal government's largest commitment ever to local law enforcement. Every major law enforcement organization has expressed support for the Crime Bill's COPS program. [Source: Dept. of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]
- **Taking Deadly Assault Weapons off the Streets.** The Crime Bill banned the manufacture and importation of 19 of the deadliest assault weapons and their copies while specifically protecting more than 650 legitimate sporting weapons. Already, in just one year since the ban took effect, the number of assault weapons traced has dropped 18%. [Source: Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Firearms Traced for the Period September Through September for Years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995]
- **Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals.** President Clinton stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill which provides for a 5-day waiting period and background checks of prospective handgun buyers. In the two years since its enactment, the Brady Law has stopped more than 60,000 fugitives and felons and other criminals from purchasing handguns. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]
- **Tougher Laws and More Prisons.** The Crime Bill provides for:
 - A targeted "Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out" provision to put career violent offenders behind bars for life.
 - An expanded death penalty for drug kingpins, murderers of federal law enforcement officers and nearly 60 additional categories of violent crime.
 - Funding for 100,000 more prison cells to help states to ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences. [The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
 - Increased penalties for sex offenders and a registration requirement for violent sexual offenders. [Source: The Attorney General's Report to the President: The First Year of the Violent Crime Control Act of 1994, 9/13/95]
- **Fighting to End Domestic Violence.** The Clinton Administration has done more than any other Administration in history to fight violence against women, domestic violence and sexual abuse. The Crime Bill's Violence Against Women Act combines tough new penalties with programs to prosecute offenders and help women victims. [Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

FALSE CLAIM: The Clinton Crime Bill was oversold and is seriously flawed.

THE FACTS: The President's tough action to fight crime is working. Violent crime rates across the country are down after four years of increases before President Clinton took office. The rate of reported violent crimes has fallen each year of the Clinton Administration -- the first three-year consecutive decrease since 1982. [Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 11/19/95]

Crime is Down Across the Country -- This is No Time to Turn Back

- The number of murders fell 8% in 1995 -- one of the largest decreases in more than 30 years. [Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation Release, May 5, 1996]
- The nation's largest cities saw their overall crime fall 6% during the same period. [Source: FBI Release, May 5, 1996]
- The number of crimes reported to police has fallen 5% since 1992. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics]
- The number of violent crimes reported to police has fallen 7.4% since 1992. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics]
- The number of murders fell 25% in New York City, 11% in Chicago, and 19% in San Diego in 1995. [Source: FBI, Uniformed Crime Report, May 5, 1996]

MAYORS, POLICE CHIEFS AND COPS ON THE FRONT LINES ARE STANDING UP FOR PRESIDENT'S CRIME FIGHTING POLICIES

- ★ Dewey Stokes, National President of Fraternal Order of Police, 2/6/95: *"...In the interest of public safety and officer safety, we strongly support the assault weapons ban contained in the Crime Bill which you signed on September 13, 1994."*
- ★ Mayor Victor Ashe, President, U.S. Conference of Mayors, 2/1/95: *"I would like to congratulate you on the outstanding job which the Department of Justice has done in implementing the 1994 crime act ... We strongly support the COPS Program."*
- ★ Charles Meeks, National Sheriffs' Association: *"I am writing in support of the continuation of the COPS Program enacted in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 ... This program of policing, will go a long way in helping to reduce crime in our counties."*
- ★ Patrolman John Greg says that his neighborhood in Sharon, PA, *"has quieted down immensely" and "that the biggest measure [of the precinct's] success is you have the kids out playing again and you have people sitting on their front porches again."* [Source: Herald, 7/15/95]
- ★ Police Commissioner Michael Carpentieri of the village of Pawling says, *"I was not only impressed at the speed, but happy with the way they handled it. No bureaucracy, and it was quick and decisive. This is the first time money flowed from a bill so quickly."* [Poughkeepsie Journal, 2/9/95]

FALSE CLAIM: Clinton's Crime Bill is not tough on crime. It has about \$7 billion worth of ineffective social programs like Midnight Basketball and dance programs.

THE FACTS: That simply is not true. The Crime Bill includes:

- **100,000 New Police.** Putting 100,000 new police on America's streets ahead of schedule, which is already helping reduce crime across the country.
- **Expanded death penalty.** Includes the death penalty for drug kingpins and murderers of law enforcement officers.
- **Tougher Punishment.** It increased penalties for sex offenders and imposed a registration requirement for violent sexual offenders.
- **"Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out."** Targeted career violent offenders with a "Three-Strikes-and-You're-Out" policy that keep them behind bars for life after the third offense. Since its enactment, 16 career criminals in thirteen states [check] have either been sentenced to life in prison under the Three Strikes provision, or are awaiting sentencing or trial. [Source: Department of Justice]
- **More Prison Cells.** Provides funding for 100,000 prison cells to help states ensure that violent offenders serve their full sentences. [The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
- **Most Comprehensive Provisions to Fight Violence Against Women.** Included a first-ever Violence Against Women Act which triples funding for battered women's shelters and already has provided \$26 million in state grants to bolster law enforcement, prosecution and victims services. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

* The Crime Bill is giving states and cities the resources they need to fight crime. But it is also giving children hope before they enter into a life of crime. So while Republicans tried to dramatically cut funding for the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act, the Crime Bill:

- **Community Schools Program.** Created the Community Schools Program, which promotes constructive alternatives for young people after school, in the evening, on weekends, and during the summer to prevent involvement in and the victimization of crime.
- **Boys and Girls Clubs of America.** Providing resources to the Boys and Girls Clubs of America to establish and enhance more than 300 new clubs this year throughout the United States. These Clubs are situated in at-risk communities and are expected to reach 100,000 kids through violence prevention and reduction, educational and health programs and youth leadership development. [Source: Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance Fact Sheet, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, 10/95, updated 7/30/95]
- **D.A.R.E.** Supported the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program which is equipping elementary, middle and high school students with the skills to resist drugs, violence and gangs. More than 27,000 community-oriented police officers from 7,000 communities have taught the D.A.R.E. curriculum to more than 25 million elementary school students. [Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics Fact Sheet, Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.), 9/95]
- **National Citizens' Crime Prevention Campaign.** Supported the National Citizens Crime Prevention Campaign which is helping residents of urban and rural communities to fight crime, violence and drug use by allowing law enforcement authorities and residents across the nation to share information about effective crime prevention methods. One component of the campaign includes public service announcements, with the campaign's symbol, McGruff the Crime Dog. Efforts like these are providing information that generates both a community and an individual sense of responsibility for preventing crime. [Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics Fact Sheet, National Citizens' Crime

Prevention Campaign, 11/95]

- **National Night Out.** Supported community-based, law-enforcement affiliated crime prevention activities, like National Night Out, which creates community support for anti-crime and anti-drug abuse prevention activities, as well as a high level of community participation. In 1995, a record 28 million people representing 8,800 communities in all 50 states participated in the National Night Out. This year, 9,000 communities across America are expected to participate. [Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance Fact, National Night Out: A Community-Police Partnership Program, 11/95, updated 7/30/95]

FALSE CLAIM: The Clinton Administration does not deserve any credit for crime rate reductions. Crime rates have fallen because incarceration rates are increasing. The total estimated correctional population (probation, jail, parole, etc.) has risen 7.8% since 1992.

THE FACTS: Violent crime across the country has fallen in each and every year since President Clinton took office -- the first time the violent crime rate has fallen three years in a row since 1982. Yet, for four years before the President took office, the violent crime rate increased. The Crime Bill and the Brady Bill are two major reasons why we are finally seeing crime fall across the country.

[Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 11/19/95]

- **Community Policing is Working.** In city after city across America, crime is down.
 - ★ *"Backed by residents, community policing has cut crime in some of Americas toughest neighborhoods, such as Englewood in Chicago and the Bronx in New York, as well as among the most crime-prone age groups."* [Source: Christian Science Monitor, 7/20/95]
 - ★ *"Community Policing works, and promoting it is one small thing Washington can do right in the fight against crime."* [Source: Gerald Seib, Wall Street Journal, 9/13/95]
 - ★ *"The decline [in crime] can be explained in part by policy-driven law enforcement effort that capitalize on community crime-fighting initiatives and take the bad guys off the streets."* [Source: John Dilulio Jr., Princeton University, in Wall Street Journal, 9/6/95]
- **Tougher Laws are Putting More Criminals Behind Bars.** With the passage of the Crime Bill, tough action replaced tough talk, giving communities the tools to prosecute and punish more criminals than ever before.
 - * **Three Strikes-And-You're Out.** The Crime Bill made "Three-Strikes" the law of the land. Prosecutors are using this provision to target the small number of violent, repeat offenders who commit a great deal of the crime in this country.

Taking Violent Criminals Off of America's Streets and into Prison for Good

- ★ *Thomas Farmer was sentenced to a mandatory life sentence without possibility of parole under the President's "Three Strikes" law for his part in the armed robbery of an Iowa supermarket. Farmer had urged his accomplices to kill a store employee who was unable to open the store's safe. He had previously been convicted in 1971 of second degree murder; in 1979 of robbery, which he committed while on parole; and in, 1983 of murdering a fellow inmate. Had Farmer been prosecuted in state court, he might have been eligible for parole in just two and one-half years.*
- ★ *Clayton James Phillips was sentenced to two concurrent life sentences without parole for the armed robbery of two St. Mary Parish, Louisiana post offices under "Three Strikes." Phillips had been convicted in state court in 1978 of armed robbery and again in 1989 of attempted first degree murder. Phillips also was sentenced to an additional, consecutive 25 year sentence for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm.*

- **Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals.** The President stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill which has already stopped more than 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals from buying handguns. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]

The Brady Law is Making a Difference

- ★ In February 1996, a Brady background check prevented Randy Eddy, under a restraining order for murder threats made against his estranged wife, from buying a handgun from a Wichita County, Kansas gun dealer.
- ★ In October 1995, a Brady background check prevented Edward Johnson, a convicted murderer, from purchasing a handgun in Dekalb County, Georgia.
- ★ In April 1995, a Brady background check helped law enforcement officers apprehend Rodney Wharton, a convicted heroin trafficker and fugitive, as he attempted to buy a handgun in Blair County, Pennsylvania. It was later determined that before the Brady Law, Wharton had successfully purchased at least seven other guns without being challenged and traded them to support his crack addiction.

FALSE CLAIM: If President Clinton was really serious in fighting crime, he wouldn't have vetoed a tough anti-crime bill.

THE FACTS: The President vetoed the Republican attempt to gut proven crime fighting programs because it represented an unacceptable retreat in the fight against crime and drugs. That bill was a step back, not a step forward.

- **No New Police on Our Streets.** It tried to eliminate the plan to put 100,000 new police on the street. Instead, the bill's block grant would not have guaranteed a single new police officer on America's streets. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]
- **It abolished the Drug Court Program.** Drug Courts are a proven success in breaking the cycle of crime and drugs by stripping drug users of their addiction to controlled substances and thereby ending their addiction to crime. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]
- **It Cut Funding for the Federal Drug Enforcement Efforts.** The Republican bill cut \$5 million from the President's request for the Drug Enforcement Agency and also cut federal law enforcement task forces (OCEDTF) of FBI, DEA, and Treasury agents who are busting drug traffickers. This bill also cut funds for the FBI, U.S. Marshals, drug prosecutors, Bureau of Prisons and other drug fighting resources. [Source: President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95]

FALSE CLAIM: This Administration has not provided the leadership the country needs in the fight against crime.

THE FACTS: Under President Clinton's leadership, we passed the toughest, most comprehensive Crime Bill ever after six years of gridlock. The President stood up to the gun lobby and won passage of the Brady Bill, which has prevented over 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals from purchasing guns. We've enacted an Assault Weapons Ban, which is taking 19 of the deadliest assault weapons and their copies off of America's streets. This Administration has also provided:

- **Unprecedented Federal Support.** Directed more federal resources to the state and local level to help them fight crime than any other administration in history. [FY95, FY96 and FY97 Budgets, Department of Justice funded]
- **First-Ever National Police Program.** Created the Community Oriented Policing Program which is putting 100,000 new police on America's streets ahead of schedule and is already helping to reduce crime across the country. The COPS program represents a 20% increase in the nations' police force levels. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]
- **First-Ever Violence Against Women Act.** Won passage of the Violence Against Women Act which tripled funding for battered women's shelters; bolstered local law enforcement, prosecution and victims' services to better address violence against women through \$26 million in state grants; created National Domestic Violent Hotline. The Act also established the first Violence Against Women office at the Department of Justice. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]
- **First-Ever Prison State Grant Program.** Authorized nearly \$8 billion to states to build and expand prisons. In FY96, the Justice Department will give out approximately \$400 million for prison construction grants to states. [Source: Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
- **First-Ever State Criminal Alien Assistance Program.** Directed more funding to states to help them incarcerate dangerous undocumented criminal aliens than any other administration. [Source: Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994]
- **First-Ever Drug Court Program.** Providing nonviolent, substance-abusing adult and juvenile offenders with sanctions and services necessary to change their destructive behaviors and keep them from cycling through our courts, jails, and probations systems. Drug Courts are a tough, effective and popular alternative to incarceration for non-violent offenders. The Justice Department has already granted 64 grants in 34 states to design, implement and enhance their own Drug Courts. [Source: Department of Justice, Drug Courts Program Office Fact Sheet, 5/96]
- **First-Ever Boot Camp Program.** Providing prosecutors and the courts with a viable sentencing solution for youthful offenders by placing them in a military-style atmosphere that instills self-discipline and provides physical conditioning that was lacking in their lives, while freeing up conventional prison, jail and juvenile corrections space for violent offenders. The Justice Department has already awarded 43 grants to 27 states and three territories to plan and build Boot Camps. [Source: Department of Justice]

FALSE CLAIM: Juvenile crime is up substantially since President Clinton has been in office. We need to start getting tough with juvenile criminals. The President's policies are not tough enough to meet the growing problem of juvenile crime.

THE FACTS: Juvenile crime is down under President Clinton. The juvenile crime arrest rate decreased 2.9% in 1995 -- the first decline in seven years. The juvenile murder arrest rate declined 15.2% last year -- the largest one year decrease in more than 10 years. Since 1993, the juvenile murder rate has dropped an incredible 22.8%. [Department of Justice, 1995 Uniform Crime Report, 8/8/96]

These are positive signs -- but we still have a long way to go in our efforts to reduce youth violence. This President is working hard to get children off the streets and into the classroom or home. We can reach kids before they turn to a life of crime. But while working to keep kids off the streets and out of a life of crime, the President is calling for the prosecution of juvenile offenders as adults -- juveniles who commit adult crimes should face adult consequences.

Keeping Kids In School and Out of Harms Way

- **Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act.** Strengthened and expanded the Safe and Drug-Free School Act, which provides school security, drug prevention and education programs in 97% of America's school districts. The President successfully fought off an attempt by Congressional Republicans to dramatically cut the Safe and Drug-Free Schools program. [Source: Based on House-passed FY96 Labor/HHS Appropriations Bill; Department of Education release 2/9/96]
- **School Uniforms.** Encouraged school to adopt school uniform policies, which promote discipline and respect, and developed a manual to be distributed to 16,000 school districts to assist them in establishing these policies.
- **Curfews.** Encouraged cities across the country to adopt curfew programs to decrease juvenile delinquency and victimization. Curfews, when backed up by a community of support and are part of a larger plan to help fight juvenile crime, can play an important role in keeping our children safe.
- **Truancy Programs.** Providing \$10 million in grants to schools and community groups to design and operate their own truancy programs to keep our children in school and off the streets -- out of harms way.
- **Youth Crime Interdiction.** Working with 17 cities and their police chiefs, local prosecutors, and federal investigators and prosecutors to trace firearms found on youths back to the crime gun traffickers. For the first time, every time a gun is used in a crime and seized by law enforcement, it will be tracked through a national tracing system. Law enforcement will use that trace information to help identify and local illegal gun traffickers who, especially, peddle guns to kids.

Getting Tough on Juvenile Offenders Who Continue to Test the System

- **"Zero Tolerance" Gun Policy.** Keeping dangerous weapons out of our children's classrooms by enforcing a "Zero Tolerance" gun policy in schools.
- **National Gang Tracking Network.** Announced funding for the first step of a National Gang Tracking Network. This computerized network will provide federal, state, local and municipal law enforcement agencies with the ability to share and exchange gang information quickly and efficiently.
- **Juvenile Violence and Anti-Drug Legislative Package.** President Clinton has sent legislative proposals to Congress to help stop the rise of youth violence and drug use, including: [Anti-Gang and Youth Crime Control Act of 1996]
 - * Trying juvenile offenders as adults for violent and drug crimes
 - * A first-ever national strategy to stop the spread of methamphetamine
 - * Reinstating the ban on guns in schools
 - * A \$75 million grant program for juvenile drug and gun courts
 - * Increasing the penalties for drug dealers who sell drugs to children, or use children to sell drugs

100,000 POLICE

FALSE CLAIM: President Clinton has not put anywhere close to 100,000 police on the street. The Administration has grossly exaggerated the number of actual police on the street.

THE FACTS: We are keeping our promise to add 100,000 new police on the street. This increase will represent an almost 20% increase in the nation's police force levels when fully implemented. Critics said the Clinton Administration would never fund even 20,000 cops in six years. Yet, in just two years, nearly 20,000 new police are on the beat in America's communities and funding for more than 44,000 additional police has been approved. This is unprecedented federal, state and local cooperation to give communities the crime-fighting resources they need. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]

- **We're Ahead of Schedule.** The funding of 44,000 additional police by July 1996 is actually ahead of schedule as originally mandated by the Crime Bill which was passed by a bipartisan majority in Congress. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 7/96]
- **We're Working Hard to Put the Most Qualified and Well-Trained Police on the Street.** Some conveniently forget that it does take time to find qualified professionals to be community policing officers, to engage in necessary background checks and to rigorously train these crime-fighters.

The COPS Program is Already Making a Difference in America's Communities

- ★ Charles Meeks, National Sheriffs' Association: *"I am writing in support of the continuation of the COPS Program enacted in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 ... This program of policing, will go a long way in helping to reduce crime in our counties."*
- ★ *"Backed by residents, community policing has cut crime in some of Americas toughest neighborhoods, such as Englewood in Chicago and the Bronx in New York, as well as among the most crime-prone age groups."* [Source: Christian Science Monitor, 7/20/95]
- ★ *"Community Policing works, and promoting it is one small thing Washington can do right in the fight against crime."* [Source: Gerald Seib, Wall Street Journal, 9/13/95]

FALSE CLAIM: Nearly 60 percent of eligible communities chose not to apply for the COPS program, citing their inability to pick up the cost of the program after the three-year grant comes to an end. This program is just another unfunded federal mandate.

THE FACTS: The widespread impact of the COPS program is obvious to almost everyone. In less than two years, COPS grants have been awarded to more than half the policing agencies in the United States. As a result, the over 44,000 officers already funded will be serving 87% of the American public. Furthermore, the COPS office has outstanding requests for more than 4,000 law enforcement agencies for over 20,000 additional community policing officers. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 5/24/96]

This is not an unfunded mandate. Localities have the option of participating in the COPS program. The federal government does not force them to apply. But over half of all law enforcement agencies in the country did choose to apply and now have new police on their streets. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 5/24/96]

FALSE CLAIM: Clinton's COPS program is just another example of wasteful bureaucratic spending.

THE FACTS: Not one tax dollar was raised to pay for putting 100,000 police on the street or for any other program or initiative in the Crime Bill. In fact, every new officer on the street is paid through the Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund -- money saved by the President's efforts to cut the federal workforce by over 230,000. [Source: Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 5/24/96]

- **No New Cops.** The Republican's so-called crime bill eliminates the President's plan to put 100,000 new police on the street. Instead, the bill's block grant would not have guaranteed a single new police officer. The last time block grants were made available to states, some funds were misused and wasted to purchase goods and materials which were dubiously related to fighting crime, such as consultants, cars and tanks. [President's Veto Message Re: Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations, 12/19/95] [need misuse cite]

★ Chief Steve Olson, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin Police Department: *This is the first time in my 17-year career that I have seen the federal government put together a program that helped small police agencies that did not bury the department in paperwork and had a reasonable turn around period.* [Source: The Attorney General's Report to the President: The First Year of the Violent Crime Control Act of 1994, 9/13/95]

★ Robert Scully, Executive Director, National Association of Police Organizations: *"Our members find the COPS office to be one of the most efficient government programs in existence. One example of the COPS office's unprecedented proficiency can be found in the application for law enforcement agencies with jurisdictions under 50,000 residents and no resources to fill out bureaucratic documents -- the application was just one page."* [Source: Letter to Rep. Bill McCollum, House Subcommittee on Crime, 12/4/95]

* The Clinton Administration has directed more resources at the state and local level to help cities fight crime than any other Administration in history. [Source: FY 95, FY96 and FY97 Budgets, Department of Justice Funded]

FALSE CLAIM: The few Clinton cops that are out there, aren't even patrolling the streets, but parks and marine sanctuaries or coral reefs, instead. This is not crime-fighting.

THE FACTS: This is nonsense. No Clinton cops are guarding coral reefs. Less than two-tenths of one percent of the number of new police funded through the Crime Bill patrol parks. And, the few that do patrol camps are protecting campers, hikers, boaters and families simply enjoying a day at the park. These are sworn law enforcement officers who have full arrest authority. They are serving a vital function. [Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services]

- **Unfortunately, Violent Crime Does Occur in our Parks.** In 1993, a young child was brutally killed at a campsite in a Florida park. Recently, two women were murdered in Shenandoah National Park in Virginia. It is these types of violence that Park Patrol guards against, as it seeks to ensure that state parks are safe and secure.
 - * Senator Dole recently visited Redondo Beach, CA to praise community policing efforts in ridding Perry Park of criminals and drug dealers.
 - * The 1996 Florida State Law Enforcement Officer of the Year was a marine patrol officer who was involved in a shooting outside Miami.

BRADY LAW

FALSE CLAIM: The Brady Law and gun control, in general, does not stop crime. It's ineffective.

THE FACTS: If it wasn't for the Brady Law, an additional 60,000 fugitives, felons and other criminals would be walking the streets of America with handguns. [Source: Secretary Rubin and Attorney General Reno, Statement on Second Anniversary of Brady Bill, 2/28/96]

- **Brady Law Moves Towards Instant Check.** Right now, the Brady Law provides for a 5-day waiting period and background check on prospective handgun buyers, it requires that a National Instant Criminal Background Check System be established by November 1988. The Crime Bill authorized \$200 million to help states upgrade their criminal history records. Before this funding, few states had the resources to develop their own instant check system.

- ★ In February 1996, a Brady background check prevented Randy Eddy, under a restraining order for murder threats made against his estranged wife, from buying a handgun from a Wichita County, Kansas gun dealer.
- ★ In October 1995, a Brady background check prevented Edward Johnson, a convicted murderer, from purchasing a handgun in Dekalb County, Georgia.
- ★ In April 1995, a Brady background check helped law enforcement officers apprehend Rodney Wharton, a convicted heroin trafficker and fugitive, as he attempted to buy a handgun in Blair County, Pennsylvania. It was later determined that before the Brady Law, Wharton had successfully purchased at least seven other guns without being challenged and traded them to support his crack addiction.

- **Law Enforcement Leaders Support the Brady Law.**

- ★ Gilbert Gallegos, National President of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP): *"It is clear on this second anniversary of the Brady Act that the waiting period has prevented thousands of criminals from obtaining firearms and has saved lives. Members of the FOP continue to be impressed with the cooperation between the ATF and local law enforcement in implementing the Brady Act."*
- ★ David Walchak, President, International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP): *"The IACP strongly pushed for Congress to pass legislation allowing for a five-day waiting period to conduct thorough background checks on all prospective handgun purchasers. The IACP continues to strongly support the Brady Act."*
- ★ J. Tom Morgan, District Attorney, DeKalb County, GA: *"I believe the Brady Bill has reduced the number of crimes those felons would have committed. It shows criminals do go to stores to buy guns, and they obviously don't buy handguns to go duck hunting."* [Source: New York Times, 3/12/95]

ASSAULT WEAPONS BAN

FALSE CLAIM: The Assault Weapons Ban is not taking assault weapons off the streets. Manufacturers are just reconfiguring them. The solution is not to ban them, but to provide instant background checks.

THE FACTS: In fewer than two years since the President signed the Assault Weapons Ban into law, the number of assault weapons traced has dropped a full 18%. [Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Firearms Traced for the Period September Through September for Years 1992-1993, 1993-1994, 1994-1995]

- **Supported by Every Major Police Organization.** The Assault Weapons Ban is supported by every major law enforcement organization in the country. They know that assault weapons are the guns of choice for gangs, drug dealers and murderers, not sportsmen or hunters. Between January 1994 and September 1995, 36% of law enforcement officers who were killed with firearms that could be identified, were killed by assault weapons or guns sold with magazines affected by the assault weapons ban. [Handgun Control, Inc., "Cops Under Fire," 11/29/95]
- ★ Dewey Stokes, National President, Fraternal Order of Police, 2/6/95.. *"No position taken by the FOP is more strongly rooted in conviction than that taken on semi-automatic assault weapons. While it is true that these weapons do not differ in terms of function and capability from other semi-automatic weapons, it is equally true that semi-automatic weapons are eight times more likely to be used in crime than conventional weapons. Therefore, in the interest of public safety and officer safety, we strongly support the assault weapons ban contained in the Crime Bill..."*
- **Assault Weapons Need to be Banned, Not Run Through Background Checks.** Assault weapons are the guns of choice for drug dealers and gang members, not sportsmen or hunters. They are designed for one reason only: close-quarter, rapid-fire killing. Too many police officers have lost their lives outgunned by violent criminals armed with assault weapons. Too many children have been killed by violent criminals spraying a rain of bullets from these weapons.

FALSE CLAIM: The Assault Weapons Ban merely keeps law abiding citizens from purchasing firearms they are entitled to buy under the 2nd Amendment.

THE FACTS: Not one sportsmen or hunter has lost their rifle because of the Assault Weapons Ban. The Ban specifically exempts more than 650 types of hunting and sporting weapons so that the rights of law abiding citizens to own guns for legitimate purposes is protected. Cop killing assault weapons, like the Uzi, are the weapons of choice for drug dealers and gangs -- not hunters and sportsmen.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

FALSE CLAIM: The Violence Against Women Act sounds great, but it hasn't done much. There have only been 18 federal prosecutions since the Act has been in existence. States should be handling these crimes, not the federal government.

THE FACTS: The fact of the matter is that the vast majority of violence against women cases are already brought at the state and local levels. That's why the Administration provided \$26 million in FY95 and \$130 million more in FY96 in state grants to support state and local law enforcement.

[Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

- **Without the Law, Some Criminals Would Go Unprosecuted.** In some instances, criminals travel across state lines and the federal government has an obligation to use its jurisdiction to bring that criminal to justice. Already under the Act, a domestic abuser was sentenced to life in prison for interstate domestic violence and kidnapping. Without the Act, this case would have likely gone unprosecuted. [Source: Statement of Janet Reno, Attorney General Before the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate Concerning the Violence Against Women Act, May 15, 1996; Violence Against Women Act News, Vol. 1: July 1996, Violence Against Women Office]

The Violence Against Women Act -- Working with States to Put Abusers Behind Bars

- ★ In California, Ricky Steele was prosecuted for savagely beating his girlfriend in Oregon and then forcing her to drive with him to Las Vegas. While driving through California, a witness saw the girlfriend try to escape and called 911. California Highway Patrol officers made the arrest. California officials were worried about their ability to prosecute Steele successfully, as there was no clear assault in California. Officials in Oregon indicated that Steele was not likely to get more than a year in prison if found guilty under its state law for assaults. Both states consulted federal officials and it was decided to prosecute Steele in federal court under the Violence Against Women Act. Steele was sentenced to over seven years in jail.
- ★ In Ohio, Derek Page was arrested after severely beating his former girlfriend, stabbing her with claw end of a hammer several times, breaking her femur bone, punching her with his fists until her eyes were shut and injuring her feet so that she could not walk. After the beating, Page took his victim, who was close to death, 150 miles to a hospital in Pennsylvania in order to avoid prosecution in Ohio. Local prosecutors in Ohio faced difficult evidentiary problems and in Pennsylvania, authorities could not proceed because no criminal conduct had occurred in the state. Officials in Ohio turned to federal prosecutors who prosecuted the case and obtained a conviction. Page has been held in custody without bond since his arrest nine months ago and is awaiting sentencing.

The Violence Against Women Act Will Continue to Make a Difference

- **Helping States Fight Domestic Violence.** In 1995, \$26 million went directly to the states through STOP grants. Every state has been awarded funds to develop and strengthen law enforcement and prosecutorial strategies and improve victims services in cases involving violent crimes against women. Approximately \$130 more will be sent to states in FY96.
- **Giving Women in Need the Help They Need.** Established the National Domestic Violence Hotline -- 1-800-799-SAFE -- to reach every community in the nation. This national toll-free hotline will serve as a lifeline to victims of domestic violence across the country, providing referral information to victims in need. In its first three months, the hotline responded to over 20,000 calls from women across the country. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office]

FALSE CLAIM: This Administration is not serious about protecting women from violence. More than halfway through 1996, it only released \$473,000 of the \$175 million appropriated by Congress for FY96.

THE FACTS: Shutting the government down twice in one year is going to have ramifications on government programs. The \$174.5 million in STOP and other Violence Against Women grants was appropriated in each of the seven continuing resolutions passed between October, 1995 and April, 1996. Almost all of the FY96 grant programs could only be implemented once the Omnibus Budget Bill was passed and signed by the President on April 26, 1996.

- **Releasing the Funds After Each Continuing Resolution Would Have Been Costly and Burdensome.** It would have been nearly impossible to begin the FY96 grant-making process until the budget was resolved. It would required the Department of Justice to make as many as seven different grants to the states to account for the seven continuing resolutions. This would have been an extremely costly and burdensome process for both the states and Justice Department as each state would have been saddled with filling out paperwork with each separate application and each separate Continuing Resolution.
- **The Justice Department Has Already Provided Nearly Half of the FY96 Violence Against Women Funding to States.** Since the FY96 budget was passed and signed into law, the Clinton Administration has announced that more than \$77 million in STOP grants to combat domestic violence and sexual assault have gone to 30 states and five territories. These grants will be used to train police, hire new prosecutors and provide assistance to victims. [Source: Department of Justice, Violent Against Women Office, Release, 8/9/96]

FALSE CLAIM: The Violence Against Women Act is a pork program. Of the \$1.6 billion allocated over five years, only \$200,000 of it will go to research on national trends in domestic abuse.

THE FACTS: The Violence Against Women Act's priority has been to make a difference in the lives of women and families across the country. We have worked hard to provide prosecutors with the tools needed to prosecute domestic violence and sexual assault.

Research remains vital to creating new and innovative solutions to violence against women. The fact is that the Act required that nine studies be conducted in the area of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Already six of those reports have been completed and transmitted to Congress.

HELPING GIVE VICTIMS THE SUPPORT THEY DESERVE

- In West Jordan, Utah, Sgt. Gary Cox, a 16-year veteran police officer has been the impetus to build a shelter for victims of domestic violence in the South end of Salt Lake Valley. He is using STOP funds to hire victim advocates for the shelter.
- In Delaware, STOP grant funds are being used by the Wilmington Police Department to hire a civilian victim service outreach worker to help victims secure protection orders and to follow the victim through the prosecution phase of their case.

FALSE CLAIM: According to the FBI, 1,500 women are killed in domestic disputes each year -- not the 4,000 as claimed by some Violence Against Women advocates.

THE FACTS: Even one death is one too many. And violence against women comes in many tragic forms.

- **Violence Impacts Many Women and Many Families**

- * In 1993 and 1994, women age 12 or older annually sustained almost 5 million violent victimizations by an intimate. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]
- * During 1992 and 1993, women annually reported to interviewers about 500,000 rapes and sexual assaults. Friends or acquaintances of the victims committed over half of these rapes or sexual assaults. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]
- * About 60% of all violence against women was perpetrated by offenders the victim knew; about 15% of violence against women was committed by their relatives; and 30% by someone well-known to the victim. [Source: Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Office, 8/96]

★ **The Stakes Are Too High to Ignore This Problem.** A recent study found that children who are abused and who witness violence at home are substantially more likely to commit violent act themselves. Given these high stakes, we must make every possible effort to reduce domestic violence in America. [Source: American Psychological Association]