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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Friday, June 3, 1994

THE ADMINISTRATION'S ANTI-GANG MEASURES: GIVING AMERICA'S YOUTH REAL ALTERNATIVES TO GANGS

- Gangs operate on the currency of crime and violence. They rob our citizens of dignity and safety. They deprive America's young people of opportunities for real success, giving them instead false sense of hope. Curbing gang activity and gang involvement among youth is one of our greatest national challenges, requiring our highest commitment.
- The Crime Bill can provide effective weapons in the Administration's battle to reduce gang crime and violence. Some Administration-supported Crime Bill programs include:
 - * Juvenile Drug Trafficking and Gang Prevention Grants aimed at reducing the participation of young people in gangs and drug-related crimes through a variety of programs, such as youth training in nonviolent dispute resolution.
 - * GREAT, the Gang Reduction Education and Training Project, allots \$40 million for 50 projects nationwide directed at reducing gang activity. This fund, which will go to local law enforcement and prevention organizations, as well as to ATF, represents an expansion of the GREAT program currently run by the Treasury Department.
- In addition, a key Administration effort in reducing gang terror is the Administration's Anti-Violent Crime Initiative. Focused on developing locally-based strategies and providing additional resources which target gang-related violent crime, the initiative combines the best efforts of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to reduce gang-related crime.
- Part of that effort is the creation of an anti-gang information network, which will allow localities to share information about interstate gang activities and the effectiveness of different law enforcement techniques designed to decrease gang crime and recruitment.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Tuesday, June 7, 1994

ANTI-TERRORISM MEASURES IN THE CRIME BILL

- The Clinton Administration is committed to protecting Americans from crime at home and abroad. The Administration-supported proposals in the Crime Bill ease the prosecution of, and increase the penalties against, individuals who commit terrorist acts.
- Terrorists who use weapons of mass destruction against United States nationals or facilities abroad would face stiffer penalties. The death penalty could be used when a terrorist act results in the death of a U.S. national.
- Several provisions in the Crime Bill would greatly assist the prosecution of individuals who aid terrorist acts:
 - * The legislation would improve cooperation among nations in combatting acts of terrorism against ships and in airports.
 - * It would become a crime to knowingly provide a terrorist with materials, facilities or safe houses.
 - * It will be easier to prosecute terrorists for less violent, auxiliary offenses that make their crimes possible. Provisions in the Crime Bill would increase the penalties for using fraudulent travel documents, a means by which many criminals are able to commit international terrorist acts.
 - * By lengthening the statute of limitations for terrorist offenses committed abroad, the Crime Bill will further enable prosecutors to gather adequate evidence in foreign countries.
- With these stricter measures against terrorists, we can send a message that violent acts against American citizens will not be tolerated -- anywhere in the world.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Wednesday, June 8, 1994

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF VICTIMS OF CRIME

- Just as the President's comprehensive anti-crime program ensures the punishment of those who commit crimes, it also remembers crime's victims. Strong, pro-victim measures are one of the hallmarks of the Administration-supported Crime Bill.
- The Crime Bill encourages states to empower victims by giving them the right to be heard in sentencing; a victim of a violent crime or sexual abuse would have as much voice as an offender in sentencing and parole hearings.
- Victims would gain greatly expanded restitution rights and increased access to victim counseling and other assistance. Under Administration-supported provisions of the Senate Crime Bill, restitution for victims of sexual assault includes the cost of lost income, child care, transportation and other expenses related to the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault offenses.
- In addition, victims of gender-motivated violent crimes may seek redress under a new Federal civil rights remedy in the Senate Crime Bill. Victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse are protected under several other Administration-supported Senate Crime Bill provisions, including:
 - * Creation of a Federal remedy for interstate domestic abuse and a requirement that protective orders issued in one state are recognized and enforced in other states;
 - * Extension of the Victim Shield Law and other prohibitions against the introduction of evidence to show provocation or invitation by a victim of sexual assault; and
 - * Coverage of the cost of HIV testing and counseling for victims of serious sexual assault.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

Thursday, June 9, 1994

"SOMETHING TO SAY 'YES'" TO: THE PRESIDENT'S YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS CRIME REDUCTION PROGRAM

- Too many disadvantaged youth and young adults turn to criminal activity because they find no meaningful alternatives in areas of concentrated poverty. By improving the employment and long-term career prospects of youth and young adults, we can break the cycle of poverty, crime, and violence.
- As the President said in the State of the Union address, we must "give young people something to say 'yes'" to. The House Crime Bill contains the President's Y.E.S. initiative, a highly targeted program to prevent crime by improving the labor market prospects of at-risk youth in high crime and economically distressed areas.
- The Y.E.S. proposal includes a highly leveraged but flexible direct job creation component providing employment opportunities primarily for youth and young adults ages 16-25. Key program features include:
 - * Careful targeting to disadvantaged youth living in high crime, high poverty neighborhoods, including public housing;
 - * Neighborhood-wide interventions, intensive programming and a wide range of services to address the employment-related needs of participants;
 - * Linking participation to good behavior, such as completing school, paying child support and avoiding involvement in criminal activity or substance abuse;
 - * Emphasizing private sector job placement, while also supporting some public sector employment directed toward placing participants in private sector positions; and
 - * Leveraging other Federal, state, local, and private sector resources with matching commitments from the community.
- Proposals for ten grant awards (renewable up to four years) will be evaluated on the basis of: creativity in leveraging resources; ability to link the program effectively to permanent private sector placements for participants; evidence of need based upon the incidence of crime, poverty rate and other factors; and program design and implementation plan quality.
- Rigorous evaluation will track and assess the effectiveness of the programs, including the extent to which they reduce crime, enhance employment and earnings, promote entrepreneurship, reduce dropout rates, and increase educational attainment.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Monday, June 13, 1994

WHAT THE CRIME BILL *REALLY* DOES

- Today's Wall Street Journal editorial, "What the Crime Bill Docs", tries desperately to minimize the bipartisan, comprehensive, well-supported crime bill by ignoring critical provisions of the bill and distorting others. Here are the editorial's fictions contrasted with facts about the President's Crime Bill.
- **Fiction:** The editorial argues that the bill is primarily an expansion of "our social welfare programs."
- **FACT:** The vast majority of money in the President's Crime Bill is spent on two anti-crime approaches: 1) putting more police on our streets, and 2) ensuring swift and certain punishment of criminal acts. The third approach -- prevention programs that we already know work to help prevent crime in the long-term -- make up roughly a third of the total spending. The President's plan is smart, tough, and effective anti-crime legislation, pure and simple.
- **Fiction:** The Crime Bill will do little to get "muggers, drug kingpins, and murderers off the street."
- **FACT:** On the contrary, most of President Clinton's comprehensive Crime Bill is aimed at curbing violent crime on the streets now. That's one reason why law enforcement officials across the nation support the Administration's Crime Bill so enthusiastically. Some of the short-term crimefighting efforts implemented by the Crime Bill include:
 - * Nearly \$9 billion earmarked to add 100,000 new police officers to America's streets -- that's a twenty percent increase in the number of cops patrolling neighborhoods, responding to community concerns, and getting criminals off of the streets;
 - * A "Three Strikes and You're Out" life imprisonment provision aimed at career offenders who do the most harm to society;
 - * Additional funds to hire more Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents to remove drug kingpins and drug dealers from our communities;
 - * Discretionary authority to prosecute hardened young criminals, 13-years-old and older, as adults for serious violent offenses; and

- * A ban on assault weapons -- the weapons of choice for drug dealers, gangs, and terrorists -- which continue to kill police officers out-gunned by the firepower such weapons produce.
- **Fiction:** The Crime Bill makes it difficult for states to build more prison space by "steal[ing] money from the states and then hand[ing] it back . . . with a host of strings attached."
- **FACT:** The President's Crime Bill doesn't steal money from the states. Rather, it takes the savings from a reduction in the Federal workforce of over 250,000 employees and uses it to fight crime, pure and simple. Many of those saved dollars will help states lock up violent criminals quickly through a state prison grant program. The Administration's plan will provide states with the resources they need to create additional prison space, as well as encourage them to improve their criminal justice systems by adopting reasonable and flexible "truth in sentencing" provisions which ensure that violent criminals do their time behind bars.
- **Fiction:** While stating that the death penalty is "a good thing," the editorial argues that \$30 billion is "a steep price to pay to get it."
- **FACT:** Reinstating a workable death penalty is only one component of a comprehensive, bipartisan plan attacking crime on a number of critical fronts. We already know that old, single-minded approaches don't work. Simply reinstating the death penalty without doing anything else won't reduce crime. We have to do other things that work -- such as increase the number of cops on the streets, help states build more prison space, and add funds for more prosecutors -- things that will be paid for by the funds saved from reducing the Federal workforce over the next five years.
- The President's anti-crime strategy is a plan America needs and supports. It strikes an effective balance among more law enforcement, certain and appropriately severe punishment, and strenuous efforts to keep young people from travelling down the criminal path. All of these things are crucial to our efforts to reduce crime in our country.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Tuesday, June 14, 1994

THE CRIME BILL: FIGHTING CRIME IN AMERICA'S CITIES

- Today, Attorney General Reno addresses the National Conference of Mayors in Portland, Oregon. Her message to the nation's mayors is straightforward: Washington knows that America's cities are on the front lines when it comes to fighting crime, and President Clinton's balanced anti-crime strategy ensures that cities will have the resources necessary to launch an effective offensive against crime.
- Several elements of the Crime Bill are devoted to cooperation and coordination between cities and the Federal government to meet the anti-crime challenge. They include:
 - * Nearly \$9 billion earmarked to add 100,000 new police officers to America's streets, in cities both large and small -- that's a twenty percent increase in the number of cops patrolling neighborhoods, responding to community concerns, and getting criminals off of the streets;
 - * A "Three Strikes and You're Out" life imprisonment provision aimed at career offenders who repeatedly terrorize our cities;
 - * Drug Courts for those substance-addicted offenders who can, through mandatory court-supervised treatment, lead productive lives;
 - * Discretionary authority to prosecute hardened young criminals, 13-years-old and older, as adults for serious violent offenses;
 - * Reinstating a Federal death penalty for drug traffickers and bank robbers who murder;
 - * Support for the Local Partnership Act, which authorizes direct payments to qualifying units of local government to fund crime prevention programs;
 - * A ban on assault weapons -- the weapons of choice for drug dealers, gangs, and terrorists -- which continue to kill police officers out-gunned by the firepower such weapons produce; and
 - * Efforts to steer young people away from crime by giving them something to say "yes" to, such as the President's Youth Employment Skills ("YES") program, which targets job training and job creation efforts for youth and young adults in high crime, economically distressed neighborhoods, and the Midnight Sports League, which gives young people a safe, healthy place to go in the evenings. One key advantage to the YES program is that it will reduce the number of young people who require city-provided benefits.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

Wednesday, June 15, 1994

ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO TESTIFIES ON IMMIGRATION PROVISIONS IN THE CRIME BILL

- Today, Attorney Janet Reno testified before members of the Senate Judiciary Committee on key immigration issues in the Administration's Crime Bill.
- As the Attorney General highlighted in her testimony, the Administration has a fair and forceful immigration policy. It's a plan that will regain control of our borders, revitalize and modernize the Immigration and Naturalization Service ("INS"), and encourage legal immigrants to turn in their green cards in exchange for United States Citizenship. To accomplish these goals, we must improve the tools used to enforce our immigration laws.
- The Crime Bill contains a number of important provisions to strengthen immigration enforcement measures and can provide the funding necessary to meet the unique law enforcement challenges that illegal immigration poses. These include:
 - * **Providing the resources necessary to enforce our immigration laws:** It is essential that we have adequate resources to enforce our immigration laws. The INS has watched its resources dwindle and its equipment grow old while the number of illegal immigrants crossing our borders has multiplied. The President's Crime Bill will change that by authorizing appropriations to improve border controls, reform our asylum system, expeditiously deporting criminal aliens and to effectively track and identify criminal aliens.
 - * **Helping states meet the challenges posed by illegal immigration:** A number of Crime Bill provisions assist states particularly burdened by the problem of illegal immigration, such as \$1.9 billion from the Crime Control Fund to reimburse states for the costs of incarcerating criminal aliens.
 - * **Strengthening our immigration laws:** These include increases in the criminal penalties for visa and passport document fraud and alien smuggling, as well as streamlined deportation for aliens who commit serious crimes.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Monday, June 20, 1994

HELPING AMERICANS LIVE "FREE FROM FEAR": PRESIDENT CLINTON AND ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO URGE CONFEREES TO PASS THE CRIME BILL

- In an effort to help the American people reclaim their communities from the plague of violence, drugs and crime, the President and the Attorney General both spent time this weekend urging Congressional conferees to take swift action and pass President Clinton's comprehensive Crime Bill. Passage of the President's anti-crime legislation is crucial to an effective offensive against crime.
 - On Saturday, President Clinton travelled to Chicago where he visited a gang-ridden housing project and underscored the need for Congressional action on the Crime Bill. The President's balanced anti-crime plan will give children the chance to grow up safe and free from fear, give young people "something to say 'yes' to," and give families the "chance to live in safety."
 - Reiterating the President's message, the Attorney General on Sunday spoke to a morning congregation at the Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Arlington, Virginia. As Attorney General Reno noted, the focus of the President's Crime Bill is helping communities, both large and small, all across the nation.
 - Safer streets, safer schools, real partnerships between local citizens and local law enforcement, job opportunities for young, tough punishment for career offenders -- these can be the reality for America's communities. But only with Congress' help. Congressional conferees must act swiftly and Congress must pass President Clinton's Crime Bill if America is truly to be "free from fear."
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Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation
Wednesday, June 22, 1994

**ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO VISITS
MARYLAND MIDNIGHT BASKETBALL PROGRAM**

- Highlighting the difference that the Administration's Crime Bill prevention programs can make in the lives of young people, Attorney General Reno joined scores of teenagers last night for a game of midnight basketball at the Glenarden Community Center.
- A program which was the first of its kind in the nation, the Glenarden Midnight Basketball League is more than just a chance for young people to play basketball. In addition to sports, the Glenarden program offers youths college scholarship opportunities, educational programs and a chance to develop job-related skills.
- The Glenarden Midnight Basketball League has become a model for the nation. Since the program was started nearly a decade ago, 44 communities across the country have emulated the League. With the prevention funds provided by the Administration's Crime Bill, far more communities will be able to help their kids stay off the streets and out of trouble.
- The Attorney General's visit to Glenarden underscores the challenge now facing Congressional conferees: To pass a Crime Bill which fights crime and saves lives by funding prevention programs for at-risk youth. Such programs are an essential ingredient of the President's balanced anti-crime legislation that provides resources for police, punishment and prevention.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

Thursday, June 23, 1994

ADMINISTRATION SUPPORTS CRIME BILL PROVISIONS PROTECTING WOMEN FROM VIOLENCE

- Curbing sexual and domestic violence is a fundamental part of President Clinton's balanced strategy to reduce crime in America. That's why the Administration strongly supports the Violence Against Women Act, a critical component of the Crime Bill that will protect women from crimes of violence and help the victims of such crimes.
- The Violence Against Women Act will increase the federal resources available to combat violence against women, including improved law enforcement training in the area of violent crimes against women, dedicated police and prosecution units targeting sexual and domestic violence, aggressive enforcement and prosecution in domestic violence cases, support for anti-stalking programs, support for a national domestic violence hotline, and improved victim assistance services.
- The Violence Against Women Act will also fund state grant programs which educate students about rape and violence prevention on college campuses.
- Other protections of the Violence Against Women Act include more effective federal laws relating to sexual violence, such as higher penalties for perpetrators, strengthening restitution for victims, and extension of the "rape shield law" which protects victims from abusive inquiries concerning their private sexual conduct.
- Such victim-protection measures are both fair and smart. They're fair because they address those situations in which victims are without redress due to inadequate state remedies, and allow victims improved access to federal courts. They're smart because they do not clog federal dockets by automatically labelling whole categories of offenses as gender-motivated; proof of the perpetrator's animus is a prerequisite to recovery.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, June 28, 1994

ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO TRAVELS TO REP. DAVID PRICE'S NORTH CAROLINA DISTRICT IN SUPPORT OF THE CRIME BILL

- Yesterday, Attorney General Janet Reno travelled to Raleigh, North Carolina to promote swift Conference action on the Crime Bill. Her visit took her to Chavis Heights, where a successful community policing program is in full swing, as well as a juvenile restitution program which helps steer young people away from the criminal path by enlisting them in neighborhood beautification projects.
- Governor James Hunt, who joined the Attorney General for her brief visit, has already initiated a successful, comprehensive youth anti-crime effort which includes a model after-school crime prevention program for students. It's the kind of local program that the Crime Bill can bring to communities around the country.
- At the Chavis Heights Housing Community, Attorney General Reno heard first-hand from Congressman David E. Price and Police Chief Mitchell Brown how community policing is making a positive difference in the lives of residents. Officers build one-on-one relationships with residents by walking in the community, talking with neighbors, handing out business cards and carrying pagers so that they may be accessible at any time.
- Through the community policing effort, Chavis Heights residents feel as if they have their own personal police officer. Moreover, officers attend community meetings and work with citizens to solve neighborhood problems, and citizens are encouraged to help the officers enforce the law. One officer has already solved two homicides using tips she received through her pager -- tips provided by residents eager to take their community back from crime.
- Passage of the Crime Bill will help other communities like Chavis Heights to build partnerships between law enforcement and local citizens by providing the nation with 100,000 new police officers on the beat -- an indispensable part of the President's balanced anti-crime strategy.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation
Thursday, June 30, 1994

**DOING LESS TO CATCH CRIMINALS, DOING LESS TO PREVENT CRIME:
THE REPUBLICAN CRIME CONFERENCE REPORT ALTERNATIVE**

- Retreating from the challenge of providing a balanced Crime Bill for the American people, Republican Senators today unveiled an anti-crime alternative that falls far short of President Clinton's proposal for a comprehensive anti-crime plan.
- Compared to the Administration-backed Chairmen's Mark, the Republican Alternative does *less* to catch criminals, *less* to restore hope to young lives and prevent crime, *less* to make our streets, parks, schools and homes safer. Among its most glaring shortcomings:
 - * **LESS** money for community policing. That means fewer officers catching criminals, fewer patrolling neighborhoods, fewer building partnerships based on trust with communities, and fewer keeping our streets safe;
 - * **LESS** funding for a combined Byrne Grant/Alien Incarceration program -- almost \$1 billion less than the Chairmen's Mark allocates for these two programs. States like California, Texas and Florida will especially feel a dramatic cut in funding;
 - * **NO** ban on police-killing assault weapons -- a ban which law enforcement officials across the nation overwhelmingly support and which previously passed both the House and Senate. Ironically, even though Republican Senators previously voted for a Crime Bill which contained a ban on semiautomatic assault weapons, they now present a Republican alternative which drops this provision;
 - * **LESS** allocated for crime prevention -- much less. The Republican Alternative gives up on young people, giving them no hope and few opportunities to turn away from the criminal path;
 - * **LESS** to combat violence against women, a critical crime problem in our country;
 - * **LESS** to keep our borders secure and prevent illegal immigration;
 - * **NO** provision for Drug Courts, which help turn drug-addicted offenders around before they commit more serious crimes;
 - * **NO** funding for the bipartisan-sponsored Police Corps, providing college scholarships to young people who want to serve as police officers; and
 - * **NO** Local Partnership Act, which was overwhelmingly backed by the House of Representatives just a few days ago.
- No matter how you look at it, the Republican Alternative does less to reduce crime in America. It fails to meet the challenge of bold, comprehensive action to fight crime.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation
Tuesday, July 5, 1994

**HELPING AMERICANS TO LIVE "FREE FROM FEAR":
THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION'S ANTI-CRIME STRATEGY**

- As the problem of crime continues to occupy our national attention, a consensus is emerging about how best to keep our neighborhoods, our homes and our families and friends safe from criminal activity. That consensus recognizes that old single-minded approaches aimed at suppressing crime won't work.
- What America needs is an anti-crime strategy that strikes a balance between more law enforcement, certain and appropriately severe punishment, and strenuous efforts to keep young people from travelling down the criminal path.
- President Clinton's anti-crime legislation now before Congress offers America just such a strategy. Comprised of three key components -- police, punishment, and prevention -- the President's Crime Bill is a tough, effective, and sensible approach to reducing crime in America.

Protecting Our Communities: 100,000 Additional Police Officers on America's Streets.

- Putting 100,000 police officers onto America's streets is at the heart of the President's overall anti-crime strategy. The plan represents a twenty percent increase in the current number local police officers nationwide. The nearly \$9 billion requested by the President for this program will enable the Administration to help every community in the country that needs and wants assistance to strengthen its police force to improve public safety.
- The Republican Crime Conference Report Alternative, on the other hand, offers *less* money for community policing. That means fewer police officers catching criminals, fewer patrolling neighborhoods, fewer building partnerships based on trust with communities, and fewer keeping our streets safe.

Protecting Our Law Enforcement Officers Against Police-Killing Assault Weapons.

- The Clinton Administration anti-crime strategy includes a ban on semiautomatic assault weapons -- the guns of choice for drug dealers, gangs, and terrorists -- which kill law enforcement officers out-gunned by the firepower such weapons produce. It's a measure that law enforcement officials around the nation overwhelmingly support.
- But don't look for a ban on assault weapons in the Republican Alternative. It has NO ban, even though the assault weapons ban has previously passed both the House and the Senate.

Swift and Certain Punishment for Violent Crimes.

- The Administration supports measures that swiftly punish violent criminals, particularly repeat violent offenders. To keep those who would prey upon our communities off of the streets, the Administration-backed Chairman's Mark includes:

- * A "Three Strikes and You're Out" life imprisonment provision aimed at career offenders who do the most harm to society;
- * Reinstatement of the Federal death penalty for the most heinous of crimes, such as killing a Federal law enforcement officer;
- * A state prison grant program which will help states lock up violent offenders more quickly and efficiently as well as encourage them to improve their criminal justice systems by adopting reasonable "truth in sentencing" provisions;
- * Boot camps that provide the discipline and training necessary to deter young people from embarking on a life of crime; and
- * Discretionary authority to prosecute hardened young criminals, 13-years-old and above, as adults for serious violent offenses.

Prevention Programs That Work

- An essential ingredient of the President's plan is crime prevention. Old approaches to fighting crime offered the American people a false choice between punishment or prevention. This Administration, however, takes a different view. While more police and swift and certain punishment are critical to our fight against violence and crime, we must also create sensible and effective prevention programs that offer the country long-term solutions which help break the criminal cycle -- programs that increase youth employment, recreational and educational opportunities.
- Some of the key prevention programs in the Administration's Crime Bill include:
 - * The President's Youth Employment Skills program "Y.E.S.", contained in the House Crime Bill, which will provide young people with job training and opportunities in hard-hit, high-crime areas;
 - * The Gang Resistance Education and Training program ("G.R.E.A.T."), already a proven success, which helps kids fight the allure of gang membership through education;
 - * The Midnight Sports Program which will provide grants to programs designed to prevent youth violence by teaching sportsmanship, teamwork and conflict resolution; and
 - * Programs to place Boys and Girls Clubs in public housing projects -- which are all too often located in high-crime areas -- where they can provide young people with a meaningful alternative to gangs, drugs, crime and violence.
- The Republican Alternative, by contrast, allocates *less* for crime prevention -- much less. The Republican Alternative gives up on young people, giving them no hope and few opportunities to turn away from the criminal path.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Wednesday, July 6, 1994

CARRYING THE ADMINISTRATION'S ANTI-CRIME MESSAGE TO AMERICA: ATTORNEY GENERAL RENO TRAVELS THE COUNTRY IN SUPPORT OF THE CRIME BILL

- Carrying a message of less crime and violence through more cops, tough measures and real hope for America's youth, Attorney General Janet Reno takes to the road today to build support for the Administration's Crime Bill. Traveling coast-to-coast and visiting communities in several states, the Attorney General's trip is part of a national dialogue with the American people about how we can reclaim our neighborhoods, parks, streets, and schools from crime and violence.
- The Attorney General begins her trip with a stop today in Columbus, Ohio, where she will join local residents, community leaders, law enforcement officers and elected officials in a show of support for swift passage of the Crime Bill.
- Later this week and early next week, Attorney General Reno will travel to Texas, Louisiana, California, New York, and Virginia, and will participate in events emphasizing the President's three-pronged approach to fighting crime -- police, punishment and prevention.
- The trip gives the Attorney General an opportunity to leave the Beltway and interact with citizens who are dealing day-to-day with the problem of crime, and to hear first-hand why localities around the country need prompt, immediate and certain action on the Crime Bill.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation

Monday, July 11, 1994

BIPARTISAN SUPPORT FOR THE CRIME BILL

- Today in New York City, Attorney General Janet Reno was joined by Republicans and Democrats supporting swift passage of the Crime Bill. The Attorney General -- along with Governor Mario Cuomo, House Crime Subcommittee Chairman Charles Schumer, Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, Police Commissioner William Bratton, District Attorney Robert Morgenthau, U.S. Attorney Mary Jo White, and U.S. Representatives Benjamin Gilman and Carolyn Maloney -- discussed the impact that the bill will make on crime fighting in New York and cities across the country, and they praised the efforts of a New York City policeman committed to improving his community.
- The Attorney General presented Officer Scott Kimmins with a plaque commending for his successful efforts combatting narcotics and crime at the Kenmore Hotel in Manhattan. Officer Kimmins proves that community policing can and does work: by forming a partnership with concerned citizens within his beat, Officer Kimmins was able to fight rampant criminal activity.
- The Crime Bill will enable the hiring of many more cops like Officer Kimmins -- dedicated to working with communities to prevent and solve crimes. Nearly \$9 billion is earmarked to add 100,000 new police officers to America's streets -- that's a twenty percent increase in the number of cops patrolling neighborhoods, responding to community concerns, and getting criminals off of the streets.
- Adding 100,000 more officers to the nation's police forces will impact cities large and small. For example a 20% increase in:
 - a city like New York with a police force of 30,000 could add as many as 6,000 officers;
 - a mid-size city like Salt Lake City, Utah which currently employs 353 officers, could hire up to 70 new cops;
 - a small city like Smyrna, Georgia with a total police force of 78 could receive 15 more officers under the program.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Wednesday, July 13, 1994

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF CRIME VICTIMS

- Today, Attorney General Janet Reno met with Victim-Witness Coordinators from U.S. Attorneys Offices across the nation, gathered in Arlington, Virginia to discuss how the Crime Bill will improve the protection of crime victims' rights.
- The Crime Bill encourages states to offer victims the right to be heard in sentencing -- so that victims of violent crime will have the same right afforded offenders in sentencing and parole hearings.
- Victims would gain greatly expanded restitution rights and increased access to victim counseling and other assistance. The Administration-supported Chairmen's Mark provides such assistance: victims of sexual assault will be able to recover lost income, and the cost of child care, transportation and other expenses related to the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault offenses.
- Victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse are further protected under Administration-supported Crime Bill provisions that include:
 - * Creation of a Federal remedy for interstate domestic abuse and a requirement that protective orders issued in one state be recognized and enforced in other states;
 - * Extension of the Victim Shield Law and other prohibitions against the introduction of evidence used to show provocation or invitation by a victim of sexual assault; and
 - * Coverage of the cost of HIV testing and counseling for victims of serious sexual assault.
- The Crime Bill would extend the Crime Victims' Fund, doubling the fee criminals must pay to cover victims' expenses.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Thursday, July 14, 1994

100,000 NEW COPS ON THE BEAT WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- As Attorney General Janet Reno said during a press conference this morning, putting 100,000 police officers onto America's streets, engaged in community policing, is at the heart of the President's overall anti-crime strategy. It demonstrates that crime fighting is about punishment and prevention -- and the plan will have an enormous impact.
- The Attorney General explained that an additional 100,000 cops represents a nearly twenty percent increase in the current 504,000 local police officers nationwide. The almost \$9 billion requested by the President for this program will enable the Administration to help every community in the country that needs and wants assistance to strengthen its police force to improve public safety.
- Under the President's plan, jurisdictions will be able to request the amount of support for whatever number of additional police officers they actually need to control crime effectively -- some may need a 20% increase, some more, some less, depending upon their individual circumstances. The President's plan, therefore, is a flexible approach aimed at meeting the different crime control needs of individual jurisdictions.
- The plan protects small states by guaranteeing each state a significant minimum-level of community policing funding. It also benefits rural areas and cities of all sizes. For example, a 20% increase would mean for:
 - * Cities like Provo, Utah; Paducah, Kentucky; Florence, South Carolina; and Bay City, Michigan, which now each have about 70 police officers, an additional 15 or more officers each.
 - * Medium to large cities, like St. Louis, Missouri; Atlanta, Georgia; Columbus, Ohio; and Las Vegas, Nevada, which now each have about 1,500 police officers, an increase of approximately 300 police officers each.
 - * Our nation's largest cities, more than 1,000 new police officers. Philadelphia might gain an additional 1,200 officers; Los Angeles, 1,600; and Chicago, more than 2,400.
- Thousands of Mayors and Police Chiefs have already applied for community policing grants under the Administration's Policing Hiring Supplement Program, and 250 communities received grants for 2023 new police officers. But the demand is so great that the Justice Department could not accommodate 9 out of 10 applications due to the Supplemental Program's limited funds of \$150 million. Passing the Crime Bill can change that -- every community that needs police can receive help.
- As the conference is working to resolve a number of tough issues, it is important to remember the critical elements of the bill about which everyone agrees. The deployment of 100,000 new community police officers will impact crime and life in our neighborhoods for many years to come.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Friday, July 15, 1994

THE TRUTH ABOUT HONG KONG POLICE

- Contrary to some reports, the President's Crime Bill does not order the hiring of the Hong Kong police force by the Federal, state or local governments to carry out law enforcement functions in the United States.
- This claim is a piece of fiction. Neither the Senate nor House versions of the crime bill would require the hiring of Hong Kong police officers, and the Administration has never supported or endorsed such a provision.
- The facts are:
 - * Republican Senator Bill Roth of Delaware has sponsored a Crime Bill provision that would direct the Attorney General to prepare a report examining the feasibility of and problems related to recruiting and hiring former Hong Kong police as Federal law enforcement agents. The provision is based on the view that the officers' language skills, cultural knowledge, and investigative experience may help to combat Asian-American organized crime and drug trafficking.
 - * This provision requires a report, but it does not mandate any hiring.
 - * If Congress adopts the provision, the Administration will fully explore the potential costs and benefits of hiring former Hong Kong police officers and the challenges of conducting necessary background investigations.
- The President's Crime Bill contains critical proposals to combat criminal activity -- including putting 100,000 more police officers on the street, helping states to incarcerate more violent offenders more effectively, and introducing crime prevention initiatives. The American public should not be fooled by the efforts of opponents to divert attention from the real issues, including the false claim that the President's proposal would mandate the hiring of foreign police officers in Federal law enforcement.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Monday, July 18, 1994

WORKING WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT TO COMBAT CRIME

- Attorney General Janet Reno met yesterday in Richmond, Virginia with representatives of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) to discuss a shared anti-crime strategy of tougher punishment, more police, and effective prevention. She stressed the need for real cooperation among community leaders, elected officials, federal, state and local law enforcement officers, and ordinary citizens.
- Earlier in the day, the Attorney General, Congressman Bobby Scott and other community leaders toured Richmond's Gilpin Court housing project, a community where such a partnership is succeeding in the fight against crime. A police substation and cops on the beat have cut the crime rate since their introduction to the complex six years ago.
- The Crime Bill will substantially increase the ranks and the capabilities of police officers across the nation. The Attorney General discussed provisions that will help law enforcement work with the community to solve and prevent crimes, including:
 - * Nearly \$9 billion to put 100,000 more police officers on America's streets, ensuring that every community that needs police can receive assistance;
 - * A "Three Strikes and You're Out" life imprisonment provision, aimed at career criminals who do the most harm to society;
 - * A ban on assault weapons -- the weapons of choice for drug dealers, gangs, and terrorists who use these weapons of destruction to out-gun and kill police officers;
 - * Law Enforcement Scholarships and the Police Corps program to provide police departments with a diverse pool of officers who have the education and skills necessary to maximize their ability to fight crime; and
 - * Grants for computerized automation and other technological improvements in law enforcement, as well as for an expansion of training programs for state and local law enforcement officers.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, July 19, 1994

CURBING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

- Outside the U.S. Capitol this afternoon, Attorney General Janet Reno was joined by Members of Congress committed to swift passage of the Crime Bill and to curbing the sexual and domestic violence that threatens women across America. Speakers included Senator Joseph Biden, who is the Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee and the author of the Violence Against Women Act, as well as Representatives Charles Schumer, Pat Schroeder and Louise Slaughter, and Senator Barbara Boxer.
- The Violence Against Women Act will increase the federal resources available to combat violence against women, including:
 - * Improved law enforcement training in the area of violent crimes against women;
 - * Dedicated police and prosecution units targeting sexual and domestic violence;
 - * Aggressive enforcement and prosecution in domestic violence cases;
 - * Support for anti-stalking programs;
 - * Establishment of a national domestic violence hotline;
 - * Improved victim assistance services; and
 - * State grant programs to educate college students about rape and violence prevention.
- Other protections of the Violence Against Women Act include more effective federal laws relating to sexual violence, such as higher penalties for perpetrators, strengthened restitution for victims, and extension of the "rape shield law" which protects victims from abusive inquiries concerning their private sexual conduct.
- Such victim-protection measures are both fair and smart. They're fair because they address those situations in which victims are without redress due to inadequate state remedies, and allow victims improved access to federal courts. They're smart because they review the defendant's motives in each case, and do not clog federal dockets by automatically labelling whole categories of offenses as gender-motivated.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation

Wednesday, July 20, 1994

PASS THE CRIME BILL FOR AMERICA'S CHILDREN

- Across the country, tragic stories abound of crimes committed by and against young people -- in our schools, on the streets and in children's own homes. The Department of Justice issued a study this week showing an alarming increase in violent crimes that claim juveniles as victims.
- In 1992, one of every 13 juveniles was a victim of violent crime, compared to one of every 72 adults. These kids, aged 12 through 17 were raped, robbed or assaulted five times as frequently as adults 35 and older -- and at a rate 23 percent higher than five years earlier.
- Attorney General Janet Reno called these statistics disturbing and said "they are compelling proof that we must get the Crime Bill to President Clinton's desk. One out of thirteen young people is a victim of violent crime. For America's children and for America's future, we need the Crime Bill."
- Yesterday, President Clinton reminded us of children behind the statistics: Polly Klaas, who was murdered by a career criminal who kidnapped her from her home in Petaluma, California; and nine-year-old James Darby of New Orleans, who was gunned down nine days after sending a letter to the President pleading, "I think somebody might kill me, and I'm asking you nicely to do something about it." The President said, "The names of Polly Klaas and James Darby and all the others we're going to lose if we don't act -- it's time to put all our differences aside, to work out the problems we have to work out and pass that crime bill."
- The Crime Bill would help combat violence against children, with provisions including:
 - * Putting 100,000 new community police officers on the streets, working with citizens to prevent and solve crimes;
 - * A "Three Strikes and You're Out" life imprisonment provision aimed at career offenders who do the most harm to society;
 - * Grants for victims' services, aggressive prosecutions and the establishment of a national domestic violence hotline;
 - * Discretionary authority to prosecute hardened young criminals, 13-years-old and above, as adults for serious violent offenses; and
 - * Measures to keep guns out of the hands of kids, such as the Youth Handgun Safety Act, which bans the possession of firearms by minors except in limited circumstances.
- We can also steer young people away from crime and gangs by giving them "something to say yes to": after-school programs, summer youth activities, and employment, sports and recreation opportunities. We can bring community groups, law enforcement officials and struggling young Americans together in an effort to direct kids off the dangerous streets and away from a life of crime.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, July 26, 1994

CRIME BILL CONFERENCE MOVES TOWARD CONCLUSION

- This afternoon, House and Senate conferees will resume meetings to reconcile the House and Senate versions of the Crime Bill -- to give final approval to the Administration's comprehensive anti-crime legislation. The Crime Bill is a tough, effective and sensible approach that will keep our neighborhoods, our homes and our families and friends safe from criminal activity.
- President Clinton's anti-crime strategy offers America a balance between more law enforcement, certain and appropriately severe punishment, and strenuous efforts to keep young people from travelling down the criminal path.
- The President's plan has already gained broad, bipartisan support from elected officials, law enforcement officers, and ordinary American citizens. The conferees should include in the final Crime Bill these measures of police, punishment and prevention:

100,000 Cops	Nearly \$9 billion to put 100,000 new police officers on America's streets, in communities of all sizes -- an almost <u>twenty percent increase</u> in the current number local police officers patrolling our neighborhoods, responding to community concerns, and getting violent criminals off of our streets and away from our young people;
Three Strikes, You're Out	A "Three Strikes, You're Out" measure aimed at career offenders who repeatedly terrorize our citizens;
Prisons	A grant program to help states put and keep violent criminals behind bars for a long time by giving them resources to create much needed prison space and by encouraging them to adopt "truth in sentencing" reforms;
Drug Courts	Drug Courts for those substance-addicted offenders who can, through mandatory court-supervised treatment, lead productive lives;
Assault Weapons	A ban on semiautomatic assault weapons -- the weapons of choice for drug dealers, gangs, and terrorists who use these weapons of destruction to out-gun and kill police officers;
Prevention	A balanced crime prevention agenda which steers young people away from criminal activity by giving them "something to say 'yes'" to, such as the President's Youth Employment and Skills ("YES") program, which targets job training and job creation efforts for youth and young adults in high crime, economically distressed neighborhoods, and the Midnight Sports League, which gives young people a safe, healthy place to go in the evenings.

Daily Talking Points On Anti-Crime Legislation Wednesday, July 27, 1994

CRIME BILL CONFEREES REACH HOME STRETCH

- House and Senate conferees made substantial progress yesterday in their efforts to reconcile the House and Senate versions of the Crime Bill, and they are meeting again today in anticipation of finalizing the comprehensive anti-crime legislation.
- Yesterday, the conferees formally adopted many of the measures that are central to the President's tough and sensible approach to combatting the crime and violence that plague our communities -- an approach that strikes a balance between more police, swift and certain punishment, and effective prevention.
- The Senate conferees approved President Clinton's plan to put 100,000 new community police officers on America's streets, and House conferees made progress toward its adoption. The program, which is at the heart of the President's overall anti-crime strategy, will have an enormous impact, representing an almost twenty percent increase in the current number of local police officers nationwide.
- The Senate conferees also voted to include in the Conference Report a ban on semi-automatic assault weapons -- weapons of destruction which are increasingly used by drug dealers, gangs and terrorists to out-gun and kill police officers. The House conferees will consider this critical provision today.
- Final action on the Conference Report should be achieved later week, and in the coming days the full House and Senate will have the opportunity to pass balanced and effective anti-crime legislation.

ISSUE BRIEFING: PUNISHMENT

Punishment Provisions in the Crime Bill Conference Report

Tuesday, August 2, 1994

Today's issue briefing describes provisions in the Crime Bill under the second key element of the President's anti-crime strategy, punishment (Monday's briefing examined police provisions, and tomorrow's will cover prevention programs). All the good work done by the law enforcement community is lost if we don't punish those who devastate our neighborhoods. With strict sentences for violent criminals and prisons to put them in, all Americans will be safer.

Criminal Sentencing

- Americans are fed up with the fact that even when violent criminals are caught, they are all too often returned to the streets to victimize again. The Crime Bill includes tougher and smarter sentencing procedures to make sure that those who deserve to be in prison, don't get out before they should -- and that sentences are appropriate for the crime committed.
- A small number of violent, repeat offenders, commit a great deal of the crime in this country. We must end the revolving door and lock up those offenders for good. The Crime Bill's "Three Strikes and You're Out" measure sends a strong message that those who repeatedly commit serious violent crimes against others will be punished severely.
 - * The provision will impose life imprisonment on a person who commits a serious violent felony under Federal law, after having been previously convicted of two or more serious violent felonies (under either Federal or state law). The measure is aimed at those offenders who fail to get the message and change their conduct even after repeated convictions for violent offenses. Individuals with such criminal histories should be put away for good.
 - * The plan is both tough and smart: It targets those truly dangerous offenders in our society without sweeping so broadly as to include persons convicted of crimes that, although serious enough to warrant significant sentences, should not result in mandatory life imprisonment; the measure limits its coverage to "serious violent felonies," such as murder, rape, sexual abuse, kidnapping, and using a gun in drug crimes.
- The Crime Bill includes minimum sentences for violent and gun offenders, as they provide the certainty of punishment which society rightfully expects for those who commit serious crimes.

- * We will use this important tool in a targeted, judicious manner to make sure that these sentences apply only to those who deserve such stiff sentences.
- * It is also important that there be a "safety valve" which permits very limited sentencing flexibility in the case of non-violent, low-level, first time offenders. Such individuals must be punished, but the taxpayers should not be asked to house them for the long, mandatory minimum sentences reserved for the most serious threats to society.
- Through "truth in sentencing" provisions, the Federal Government will encourage states to make criminals serve the time to which they are sentenced. And clearly, states which get tough with violent predators and make them serve their real sentences are going to need to build more prisons. We will support states that meet the most rigorous standards for jailing violent offenders for their full sentences (such as insuring that second offenders serve 85% of the time sentenced) by favoring them when it comes time to give out Federal grant money for incarcerating violent offenders.
- Those who ruthlessly kill others must be treated as severely as they have treated their victims.
 - * The Crime Bill will expand the death penalty to more than 60 crimes not currently covered by the Federal death penalty, like the killing of a state or local law enforcement official assisting in a Federal investigation.
 - * The bill will also adopt procedures enabling Federal prosecutors to seek the death penalty for a wide range of crimes that have lacked death penalty eligibility because of missing procedural requirements -- and will insure that this penalty is used fairly, justly, and in appropriate cases only.

Prisons

- We must work to lock up the largest number of violent offenders and criminal aliens, as quickly as possible, at the lowest possible cost.
- The Crime Bill will fulfill the Administration's commitment to helping states that are struggling to keep violent criminals and criminal aliens from being released prematurely because of overcrowding. While the Federal Government builds enough prisons and detention facilities to insure that Federal inmates are not released early for lack of space, many states are forced to release criminals routinely due to space limitations.

- States must also contend with drastically shrinking resources. There are currently over 15,000 state prison beds which cannot be filled because states lack the necessary operating capital. The safety of our citizens depends upon states being able to keep violent criminals behind bars to do their time.
- The Crime Bill will help lock up violent offenders quickly and efficiently, and make our streets safer, by providing \$9 billion in assistance to state correctional and detention systems. Such funding, when made available to the states on a discretionary basis, will allow states to build and operate appropriate facilities for housing serious drug and violent offenders -- including boot camps, prisons, jails, and community detention facilities. One such measure will allocate \$1.8 billion to reimburse states that incarcerate criminal aliens.

Punishment for Young Offenders

- All too often, young offenders learn that the consequence for committing a crime is to be put on probation. That's it. In other circumstances, young non-violent offenders are thrown in with our most hardened criminals where they learn the "right way" to commit crimes.
- By providing alternative sanctions to probation or hard-core, long-term incarceration, we can teach young offenders that there is a certainty of punishment at the initial stages of a criminal career. That lesson learned might nip a new criminal career in the bud. Some alternative sanctions include: shock incarceration, electronic monitoring, weekend incarceration, home incarceration, restitution programs, vocational programs, community service, intensive supervised probation and other innovative and non-traditional options which ensure swift and certain punishment. Drug Courts are one such alternative, using the power of the criminal justice system to force offenders to kick their drug habits.
- "Boot Camps" provide penal authorities with a viable sentencing solution for young offenders. Frequently called "shock incarceration" programs, boot camps place young offenders in a program similar to a military basic training program that instills discipline, routine, and respect for authority. They also provide exposure to relevant educational and vocational training, drug treatment, and general counseling services to help youths develop more positive and law-abiding values and become better prepared to secure legitimate future employment.
- The Crime Bill will also lower the age at which violent offenders can be tried as adults in Federal court, so that young people who don't act like children won't necessarily be treated like children.

ISSUE BRIEFING: PREVENTION

Crime Prevention Programs in the Crime Bill Conference Report

Wednesday, August 3, 1994

This is the third of three issue papers discussing the key elements of the President's anti-crime strategy, represented in the Crime Bill before Congress. Just as certainly as we must punish those who break our laws and wreak havoc in our cities, we must also take whatever steps we can to stop crime before it happens. Those who have no hope, no job, no other answer, who know no other way are often drawn to crime and violence. All Americans deserve hope and opportunity; need to know that there is a better answer than crime, and must have the opportunity to go another way.

If we are going to steer young people away from crime and gangs we must, as the President often says, provide them with "something to say 'yes' to": after-school programs, summer youth activities, and employment, sports and recreation opportunities that can take the place of gangs. We can bring community groups, law enforcement officials, and struggling young Americans together in an effort to keep kids off the path to crime.

Key Prevention Programs in the Crime Bill

- The President's Youth Employment Skills program "Y.E.S." will provide young people with job training and opportunities in hard-hit, high-crime areas. We believe that neighborhood youths and young adults will say "YES" to jobs and no to crime. And we must work with existing businesses in these areas to encourage them to stay, expand, and hire young people from the community.
- The Ounce of Prevention Council and programs can provide the vehicle for effectively coordinating and integrating the delivery of the Federal Government's new youth development and youth-oriented crime prevention initiatives.
- The Police Partnerships for Children program encourages police officers to make a difference in young lives by becoming involved with children and family services agencies that deal with at-risk children.
- The Gang Resistance Education and Training program ("G.R.E.A.T."), is already a proven success, helping kids fight the allure of gang membership through education.
- The Community Schools Initiative of the Ounce of Prevention Program will provide grants to communities across the country to develop and implement after-school programs for youth, drawing together parents, clergy, social workers, teachers, youth groups, community and business leaders and local officials.

- The Model Intensive Grant Program is a competitive program which will award up to 15 highly targeted grants to support comprehensive crime prevention programs in chronic, high-intensity crime areas.
- The Local Partnership Act will provide grants to thousands of American cities to fund health and educational crime prevention programs.
- The Midnight Sports Program will provide grants to programs designed to prevent youth violence by getting kids off the streets and teaching them sportsmanship, teamwork and conflict resolution.
- Programs to place Boys and Girls Clubs in public housing projects -- which are all too often located in high-crime areas -- can provide young people with a meaningful alternative to gangs, drugs, crime and violence.

Drug Courts

- We will never control crime until we control substance abuse. We must get the hard core drug users -- the 20% of cocaine users who consume over 2/3 of available cocaine -- off the streets and into treatment. Effective, innovative programs, like drug courts use the power of the criminal justice systems to force addicts to kick their drug habits.
 - * Adequately funded and administered drug treatment and coerced abstinence programs are critical to breaking the drug and violent crime cycle that has so heavily burdened our criminal justice system.
 - * The program includes an intensive supervision of the participants by the court, drug testing and treatment, and the prompt application of a series of graduated sanctions for failure to comply with the conditions of the program.
 - * The program can be administered on a pre-trial diversion basis, as a post-conviction probation program, or in combination.

Violence Against Women

- Action must be taken to stop and/or more severely penalize those criminals who prey, intentionally, upon women. New Federal laws and programs in the Violence Against Women Act can help prevent some attacks and improve after the fact restitution for the victims of others.

- * The Crime Bill's Violence Against Women Federal cause of action for gender-motivated violence is both fair and smart. It's fair because it addresses those situations in which victims are without redress due to inadequate state remedies, and allows victims improved access to Federal courts. It's smart because it does not clog Federal dockets by automatically labelling whole categories of offenses as gender-motivated.
- * We should also be focusing on the interstate incidents of criminal abuse and violence against women, recognizing the Federal criminal justice system's role in such matters. The Crime Bill would create appropriate new Federal offenses in this area, such as fleeing across state lines in violation of a "stay away" or protective order.
- * The Violence Against Women Act would enhance the rights of crime victims through provisions including strengthened restitution and extension of the "rape shield law" which protects victims from abusive inquiries concerning their private sexual conduct.
- * By putting money into enforcement, training, and other prevention approaches, we can effectively respond to crime and prevent many crimes. The Crime Bill would fund such efforts as a national domestic violence hotline, anti-stalking programs, and state grant programs to educate college students about rape and violence prevention.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Friday, August 5, 1994

CRIME BILL STATISTICS: FACT AND FICTION

- Many recent "studies" and articles about the Crime Bill include statistical claims that are either intentionally misleading, or carelessly wrong. In particular, The Heritage Foundation's recent "Issue Bulletin" regarding the Crime Bill contained a number of particularly irresponsible statements and innuendos, including:
 - Fiction: "The Crime Bill will put two new social workers on the street for every new cop it fully funds."
 - Fact:
 - ▶ The Crime Bill earmarks no funds for the hiring of social workers. The Crime Bill does earmark almost \$9 billion for hiring or rehiring of community policing officers and/or for increases in community policing programs. That money will help put 100,000 additional cops on the street.
 - ▶ Typical of the inappropriate use of statistics throughout the Heritage Foundation report, the report's author acknowledges that he "assumed" that all funds in the Crime Bill dedicated to crime prevention programs would be spent to hire social workers in order to make the assertion above.
 - ▶ In fact, included in the money which the Heritage Foundation "assumed" would be used to hire social workers is money to build domestic violence shelters, to hire prosecutors, to train judges and police officers, to fund special agents tracking gun-running to gangs, to set up DNA labs, to improve criminal history records, and for dozens and dozens of crime preventing functions not carried on by social workers.
 - Fiction: The Crime Bill will produce the equivalent of only one new police officer for every police department in the country.
 - Fact:
 - ▶ The Crime Bill will add 100,000 police officers to America's police forces. The new officers will account for one of every six police officers in the United States.
 - ▶ Small cities, like Paducah, KY, which currently has a 70 person police force, would be eligible for funding for up to 15 additional police officers under the Crime Bill.
 - ▶ Medium size cities, like Columbus, OH, which currently has a 1,400 person police force, would be eligible for funding for up to 300 additional police officers under the Crime Bill.
 - ▶ Large cities, like Philadelphia and Los Angeles, with current police forces of over 6000 police officers would be eligible for more than 1000 additional police officers under the Crime Bill.
- Crime Bill critics, particularly those with hidden agendas, will stretch the truth and fudge the numbers. We must not lose sight of the balanced nature of this bill, providing a sensible allocation of resources towards police, punishment and prevention.

ISSUE BRIEFING: RURAL CRIME
Rural Crime Provisions in the Crime Bill Conference Report
Monday, August 8, 1994

One of the principal objectives of the President's anti-crime strategy reflected in the Crime Bill Conference Report is an effort to combat rural crime. Through equitable distribution formulas and targeted programs for rural areas, the strategy ensures that small towns and rural areas are not left out when it comes to crime-fighting resources.

Half of the 100,000 New Officers Go to Small Cities and Rural Counties

- More than 50,000 of the 100,000 new community police officers will be hired in cities and counties with populations of less than 150,000 residents.
- While urban areas may increase their police forces by 20%, some rural areas may request and be awarded as many as 50% more police officers.
- Each state will be eligible for a minimum of 500 new police officers (or equivalent-sized grants).

Special Funds to Combat Drug Trafficking in Rural Areas

- The problem of drug trafficking is no longer limited to large metropolitan areas and the Crime Bill Conference Report provides a comprehensive response to this crisis by:
 - * Authorizing \$250 million for rural law enforcement agencies;
 - * Creating rural crime and drug enforcement task forces; and
 - * Providing specialized drug enforcement training for rural law enforcement officers.

Other Crime Bill Provisions Also Address Rural Crime

- The Crime Bill adds \$1 billion in additional funding to the Byrne Grant Program, which is so critical to rural states and their law enforcement efforts.
- Domestic violence in rural areas is specifically targeted in the Bill's Violence Against Women provision, with separate funds set aside to combat domestic violence and child abuse in rural areas.
- Most major prevention programs -- such as the Local Partnership Act and the Model Intensive Grant program -- include express language ensuring "fair funding" for rural areas.
- The Crime Bill's Juvenile Drug Trafficking and Gang Prevention Grants contain specially targeted funds for grants to combat drug and gang-related activity in rural areas.

Crime Bill's Policy on Rural Crime Funding

- The Crime Bill includes directives stipulating that:
 - * The Attorney General should ensure that Crime Bill funding programs are distributed so that rural areas continue to receive comparable support for their broad-based crime fighting initiatives;
 - * Rural communities should not receive less funding than they received in fiscal year 1994 for anti-crime initiatives; and
 - * To the maximum extent possible, funding for the Byrne Formula Grant Program should be maintained at its fiscal year 1994 level.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Tuesday, August 12, 1994

We'll Be Back

"I want [the House] to come back tomorrow and the day after that and the day after that, and to keep coming back until we give the American people the essential elements of this crime bill; until we put 100,000 police on the street . . . [pass] the assault weapons ban . . . and make "three strikes and you're out" the law of the land."

President Bill Clinton

"The vote was a setback, not a defeat. It is absolutely imperative that we get a vote on the Crime Bill. The American people want action. They will let their voice be heard and let Congress know that they want this bill voted on."

Attorney General Janet Reno

- ▶ Yesterday, Republicans in the House of Representatives voted 167 - 1 to kill the Crime Bill. Joined by the gun lobby, the Republican party threatened Members that they could be denied campaign funds and opposed in their primaries if they dared to cast of vote to support the President's Crime Bill.
- ▶ Capitalizing on the Republican's willingness to ignore, for purely partisan reasons, the desire of the American people for the Congress to take action against crime, the gun lobby was able to convince Members that rather than accept a ban on 19 specific weapons of mass murder, they should:
 - abandon funding for 100,000 cops on the street, in large and small cities and towns across the country
 - forego \$9 billion dollars of grants to states for new prison and detention facilities,

- reject the "Three Strikes and You're Out" law which will put repeat violent offenders behind bars for life,
 - drop plans for added border patrol agents to stop illegal immigration, Drug Enforcement Administration agents to curb drug-trafficking, and FBI agents to investigate violent crime
 - delete \$1.8 billion to reimburse states that incarcerate criminal aliens
 - eliminate resources for "boot camps" and other "shock incarceration" programs that instill discipline and respect for authority in young people who have veered in the wrong direction
 - forsake expansion of the successful Gang Resistance Education and Training program which helps keep kids out of gangs
 - discontinue development of drug courts aimed at forcing the 20% of cocaine users who consume 2/3 of the cocaine off the street and into treatment
 - eviscerate the most comprehensive program ever designed to combat violence against women
- The gun lobby's willingness to cavalierly dismiss the crime-fighting, crime-reduction and crime-prevention provisions of the crime bill in order to hold onto their assault weapons is as offensive as the partisan members of Congress willing to allow political considerations to interfere with the needs of the nation
- Claims that the bill is full of "pork" and "social spending" are belied by the facts:
- More than \$7 in \$10 of all spending in the bill (72%) is for police, federal and state law enforcement, prisons and detention facilities
 - Another 13% is devoted to combatting violence against women, drug courts and Republican sponsored crime prevention programs, by Senators Danforth and Domenici.
 - Thus, 85% of the Crime Bill's funding is for law enforcement, prisons, drug courts, violence against women, and bi-partisan crime prevention programs.
- We must not let the hypocrites, the partisans or the gun lobby have their way when there's so much else at stake. The Crime Bill's balanced approach -- with police, punishment and prevention -- should be passed by the House within the next week.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation Monday, August 15, 1994

PORK – OR JUST GUN LOBBY SQUEALING?

Minority Whip Newt Gingrich says that the Crime Bill Conference Report is loaded with "pork." He asks "Why did the Bill go to Conference at \$27 billion, but come out at \$33 billion?" Here's the answer:

First: The Crime Bill Conference increased spending largely to put more resources into tough, crime fighting measures.

- Look at what's been increased since the House passed its Crime Bill in April:

	<u>House Level</u>	<u>Conf Report</u>
Police Officers	\$3.5 bil	\$ 8.8 bil
FBI Agents	\$ 0 mil	\$250 mil
DEA Agents	\$ 0 mil	\$150 mil
Local Prosecutors	\$100 mil	\$200 mil
Police and Prosecutors to Combat Violence Against Women	\$400 mil	\$1.0 bil
TOTAL	\$4.0 bil	\$10.4 bil

- Overall, more than \$7 in \$10 of all spending in the Bill (72%) is for police, federal and state law enforcement, prisons and detention facilities. Another 13% is devoted to combatting violence against women, drug courts, and crime prevention programs originally sponsored by Republican Senators Danforth, Stevens and Domenici.

Second: The Conference reduced spending for prevention programs from the House-passed levels.

- It's ironic that Rep. Gingrich is saying that the Bill was "porked up" in Conference; the **Conference cut funding for many prevention programs, below their House-passed levels.**
- Here are the prevention **cuts** made in the Conference Report, as compared to the House bill that 65 Republican members voted for in April (in per year amounts, in millions):

	<u>House</u>	<u>Conf Rpt</u>	<u>Cut</u>
Local Partnership Act	\$400m	\$300m	-\$100m
Model Intensive Grants	\$300m	\$145m	-\$155m
Community Schools/FACES	\$230m	\$150m	-\$ 80m
Gang Prevention Grants	\$100m	\$ 5m	-\$ 95m
Boys & Girls Clubs	\$ 20m	\$ 6m	-\$ 14m
Hope in Youth (Gang Prvn)	\$ 20m	\$ 4m	-\$ 16m
Police Partnerships w/Chldrn	\$ 20m	\$ 5m	-\$ 15m
Midnight Basketball	\$ 10m	\$ 7m	-\$ 3m
TOTAL	\$1.1bil	\$622m	-\$ 478m

- Members can try to explain their flip-flops however they choose. But voting against the Crime Bill now -- after key prevention programs have been cut, and key law enforcement programs increased -- can have only one explanation: **it's not "pork," but gun lobby "squealing" that accounts for the change.** [Attached is a chart comparing funding levels for prevention programs in the House-passed Bill, and in the Conference Report.]

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation
Tuesday, August 16, 1994

**ONE FICTION AND TEN FACTS ABOUT PUTTING 100,000
NEW COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICERS ON THE STREETS**

- **Fiction:** The Heritage Foundation's recent "Issue Bulletin" regarding the Crime Bill falsely claimed that the Crime Bill would fund only 20,000 new cops over the next six years, that each would cost \$70,000 to \$80,000 per year, and that the Crime Bill would produce the equivalent of only one new police officer for every police department in the country.

This misinformation has been cited on the floor of Congress by Crime Bill opponents and echoed over and over by conservative commentators in the press and on the airwaves. But the facts tell a very different story.

- Fact 1:** ▶ The Crime Bill earmarks almost \$9 billion for hiring or rehiring of community police officers and/or for increases in community policing programs. That money will help put 100,000 additional cops on the street -- an almost 20 percent increase in the nation's 504,000 local law enforcement officers.
- Fact 2:** ▶ While some Republicans have been quoting the Heritage Foundation's attack of the President's crime bill plan to put 100,000 police on the streets, the Republicans' own alternative proposal offered during conference by Senator Hatch would have provided \$1.6 billion less (\$7.4 billion) for cops on the beat.
- Fact 3:** ▶ The Crime Bill utilizes the same basic funding mechanism to put 100,000 new police on the streets as last year's popular \$150 million Police Hiring Supplement program which awarded grants to hire 2080 new officers. Over 2000 cops for \$150 million -- means that 20,000 officers can be hired for \$1.5 billion not the \$8.8 billion claimed by the Heritage Foundation. Moreover, the Administration received 10 applications for each grant awarded.
- Fact 4:** ▶ The Crime Bill will put 100,000 new police on the streets of America's communities by the year 2000, starting with the 2,080 officers hired with this year's grants and adding:
 - 14,822 new officers in 1995,
 - 20,586 in 1996,
 - 21,698 in 1997,
 - 18,916 in 1998,
 - 18,916 in 1999, and
 - + 2,982 in the year 2000, for a total of
 - 100,000.**
- Fact 5:** ▶ Over six years the Crime Bill generally will provide multi-year grants of up to \$75,000 to pay for up to 75% of the cost of salary and benefits for each new or rehired officer. Most communities will be expected to pay a 25% share of the salary and benefit costs.

Some communities may take advantage of a preference given for paying more than the 25% share. Needy communities that cannot afford to pay the 25% matching share or have much higher than average expenses may request a waiver of the matching requirement and the \$75,000 cap.

- Fact 6:** ▶ The median salary for entry level police officers last year for cities over 10,000 was \$23,546 according to a survey conducted by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). (More than 2/3 of the eligible jurisdictions are lower cost communities under 10,000 in population.) Fringe benefits might add another third to the average cost, bringing the total average entry salary and benefit costs to approximately \$31,000. In order to allow for inflation and other variations, all the Justice Department's projections assume an average annual cost of salary and benefits of \$42,000 per officer, still far less than the Heritage Foundation's unrealistic estimate of \$70,000 to \$80,000.
- Fact 7:** ▶ The Crime Bill would help large cities like Los Angeles to hire 1000-1550 new officers.
- Fact 8:** ▶ The Crime Bill would help cities like Beverly, Mass. to hire 13-15 new officers.
- Fact 9:** ▶ The Crime Bill would help a small jurisdictions like Mineral County, Montana hire two deputy sheriffs and Lockhart, Texas hire two new police officers.
- Fact 10:** ▶ Cities, counties, and communities nationwide need and want the Crime Bill's nearly \$9 billion for community policing to hire 100,000 more police to help restore safety to our streets and neighborhoods.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation
Thursday, August 18, 1994

TEN STRIKES AND YOU'RE WAY OUT:
CRIME BILL MYTHS AND REALITY

Major league baseball may be on strike, but special interests are swinging at anything to stop the crime bill. Here is a scorecard of the top ten crime bill myths, and the facts that opponents don't want anyone to know.

Strike 1: *The crime bill spends vast amounts on social programs -- more than on police.*

The Facts: Wrong. More than \$7 of out every \$10 in the bill (72%) is for police, federal and state law enforcement, prisons and detention facilities.

Almost half of the remaining spending (13 percent of the total) is devoted to combatting violence against women, drug courts, and crime prevention programs originally sponsored by Republican Senators Danforth, Stevens and Domenici.

That means that 85% of the bill's funding is for law enforcement, prisons, drug courts, violence against women, and bipartisan prevention programs.

Strike 2: *Some members say they abandoned the crime bill because the Conference Committee report boosted spending on prevention programs.*

The Facts: Wrong again. The conference committee cut \$820 million in spending on prevention programs contained in the House bill -- the same bill that 65 Republican representatives voted for in April. Meanwhile, the conference committee added \$6.4 billion in spending for new police officers, FBI agents, DEA agents, local prosecutors, and police and prosecutors to fight violence against women.

Strike 3: *The Conference Committee increased the crime bill's total spending from \$27 billion to \$33 billion.*

The Facts: Still wrong. The \$27 billion estimate of the cost of the House crime bill excluded the true cost of many of its programs which were simply authorized at "such sums as are appropriate." This includes the Byrne Grant program and new border control agents -- both "scored," for example, at no cost in the \$27 billion calculation. Including OMB estimates for all the programs in the House bill, that would actually have cost \$35 billion.

The conference report provides \$33 billion in real dollars for every program -- a \$2 billion cut from the House bill.

Strike 4: *"The Crime Bill will put two social workers on the street for every cop."*
(Heritage Foundation)

The Facts: An "A" in some think tanks, but an "F" in any math class. As the July 16 Los Angeles Times said about this attack: "An examination of the facts shows that [this] calculation rests on a pyramid of questionable or flatly improbable assumptions." The crime bill earmarks no funds for the hiring of social workers -- not at all. On the other hand, the bill does provide almost \$9 billion to put 100,000 cops on the street and increase community policing programs across America.

So where does the 2-1 figure come from? First, the Heritage Foundation ludicrously estimates the crime bill will hire 40,000 social workers by applying every dollar for crime prevention to the hiring of a social worker -- even though such a use of these funds would be illegal under most of the bill's prevention programs. The prevention programs do not mandate the hiring of any social workers -- not one.

Instead, they fund sex crime and domestic violence prosecutors, special agents to track down gang gun-running, judges, police officers, DNA labs, improved criminal history records, domestic violence shelters, evening hours for schools and teachers, and dozens of other crime prevention functions having nothing to do with social work or social workers.

The Heritage Foundation also estimates that just 20,000 cops will be hired under this bill -- an error debunked below.

Strike 5: *The crime bill "virtually guarantees that fewer than 20,000 new cops will be hired," at a cost of \$70,000 to \$80,000 per year.* (Heritage Foundation)

The Facts: More bad math. The Crime Bill earmarks almost \$9 billion to put 100,000 new police on the streets -- an increase of almost 20 percent over the nation's current 504,000 local law enforcement officers. Indeed, last year's supplemental police hiring program awarded \$150 million in grants to hire more than 2000 new officers. At that rate 20,000 officers could be hired for only \$1.5 billion.

Last year, entry-level police officers in cities over 10,000 earned an average of less than 24,000 a year¹ (and two-thirds of the jurisdictions eligible for police money have fewer than 10,000 people.) Even if you add fringe benefits and allow for inflation, the average salary and benefits per police officer is no higher than \$42,000.

¹ Survey conducted by the International City/County Management Association.

Maybe the Heritage Foundation was thinking of the Republicans' alternative proposal offered by Republican Senator Hatch -- it would have cut \$1.6 billion from police hiring money.

Take it from the Los Angeles Times: "Critics appear to underestimate the number of police the bill could produce."

Strike 6: *The crime bill's prevention programs provides recreation and other soft activities for "would be" criminals.*

The Facts: Than why are they supported by every major law enforcement organization, including the Fraternal Order of Police and the National District Attorneys Association -- as well as Republicans like former President Bush and Senators Dole and Hatch?

Crime prevention programs have had bipartisan support for years -- until politics took hold:

The Republican conference proposal includes substantial sums for "sporting and recreational equipment...nutrition guidance...supervised sports programs...workforce preparation...entrepreneurship...tutorial and mentoring programs...parenting classes...nonviolent dispute resolution...sports mentoring...Boys and Girls Clubs in Public Housing."

President Bush gave a Point of Light to a midnight basketball league in 1990.
Senators Hatch and Dole support the Violence Against Women Act.
Senators Danforth and Domenici support the Community Schools program.
Senators Dole and Hatch support the anti-gang grants.
Senator Gramm and Former Drug Czar Bennett supports Drug Treatment in Prisons.
Senators Stevens and Domenici support the Olympic Youth program.
Senators Dole and Hatch support the Boys and Girls club grants.
Senator Durenburger supports the Family Unity provisions.

Prevention programs are vital to fighting crime, but they don't magically turn into pork just because another party also supports them.

Strike 7: *The crime bill would release 10,000 drug dealers from prison.*

The Facts: Wrong again. Rather than set violent offenders free because of prison overcrowding, the crime bill would allow an emergency "safety valve" for a few minor drug offenders -- but only if they are not violent, their offense was low-level, and they had not used a weapon. Most would need to have served four or more years already. If applied retroactively, only 100 to 400 prisoners -- not 10,000 -- could be eligible for release.

Just ask tough-on-crime Republican representatives Henry Hyde and Bill McCollum -- they support including the safety valve retroactively.

Strike 8: *The crime bill will order the hiring of Hong Kong police to carry out law enforcement functions.*

The Facts: The strangest myth of all. The provision was dropped from the conference report. Sponsored by Republican Senator Bill Roth, it would have been a mere study of the feasibility of using former Hong Kong police to help penetrate Asian-American gangs and fight Asian-American drug trafficking.

Strike 9: *The crime bill will cut funding for the FBI and DEA.*

The Facts: A real whopper. The crime bill does not cut \$1 dollar from the FBI and DEA. Indeed, it adds \$250 million in spending on FBI agents and \$150 million for DEA agents. It also provides \$550 for Treasury law enforcement and more than \$1 billion for border control and INS enforcement.

Strike 10: *The crime bill will take away hunting rifles.*

The Facts: Not a chance. The crime bill would ban only 19 specified assault weapons, as well as copy cats and guns with the same characteristics. It specifically protects 650 hunting and sporting guns and includes a hunter's rights provision to protect hunters from harassment.

Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation
Friday, August 19, 1994

**THEY SHOULD KNOW BETTER:
THE TRUTH BEHIND THE NRA LIES**

More than 70 percent of Americans support the crime bill's ban on assault weapons, and the National Rifle Association is desperate. In a last-minute bid for crime bill gridlock, the NRA is buying up television time and turning to Hollywood for a rewrite of the truth.

NRA abandoned the facts long ago. Here's a guide to the "false witness" the NRA is bearing against the American people:

NRA Lie 1: *The crime bill spends vast amounts on social programs -- more than on police.*

The Facts: Wrong. More than \$7 of out every \$10 in the bill (72%) is for police, federal and state law enforcement, prisons and detention facilities.

Almost half of the remaining spending (13 percent of the total) is devoted to combatting violence against women, drug courts, and crime prevention programs originally sponsored by Republican Senators Danforth, Stevens and Domenici.

That means that 85% of the bill's funding is for law enforcement, prisons, drug courts, violence against women, and bipartisan prevention programs.

NRA Lie 2: *"The Crime Bill will put two social workers on the street for every cop."*

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So where does the 2-1 figure come from? A Heritage Foundation study ludicrously estimates the crime bill will hire 40,000 social workers by applying every dollar for crime prevention to the hiring of a social worker -- even though such a use of these funds would be illegal under most of the bill's prevention programs. The prevention programs do not mandate the hiring of any social workers -- not one.

Instead, they fund sex crime and domestic violence prosecutors, special agents to track down gang gun-running, judges, police officers, DNA labs, improved criminal history records, domestic violence shelters, evening hours for schools and teachers, and dozens of other crime prevention functions having nothing to do with social work or social workers.

The NRA and the Heritage Foundation also say that just 20,000 cops will be hired under this bill -- an error debunked below.

NRA Lie 3: *The crime bill will only hire 20,000 new cops.*

The Facts: More Heritage Foundation fiction. The Crime Bill earmarks almost \$9 billion to put 100,000 new police on the streets -- an increase of almost 20 percent over the nation's current 504,000 local law enforcement officers. Indeed, last year's supplemental police hiring program awarded \$150 million in grants to hire more than 2000 new officers. At that rate 20,000 officers could be hired for only \$1.5 billion.

Last year, entry-level police officers in cities over 10,000 earned an average of less than \$24,000 a year¹ (and two-thirds of the jurisdictions eligible for police money have fewer than 10,000 people.) Even if you add fringe benefits and allow for inflation, the average salary and benefits per police officer is no higher than \$42,000.

Maybe the Heritage Foundation was thinking of the Republicans' alternative proposal offered by Republican Senator Hatch -- it would have cut \$1.6 billion from police hiring money.

Take it from the *Los Angeles Times*: "Critics appear to underestimate the number of police the bill could produce."

¹ Survey conducted by the International City/County Management Association.

NRA Lie 4: *The crime bill's prevention programs provide recreation and other soft activities for would be criminals.*

The Facts: Than why are they supported by every major law enforcement organization, including the Fraternal Order of Police and the National District Attorneys Association -- as well as Republicans like former President Bush and Senators Dole and Hatch?

Crime prevention programs have had bipartisan support for years -- until politics took hold:

The Republican conference proposal includes substantial sums for "sporting and recreational equipment...nutrition guidance...supervised sports programs...workforce preparation...entrepreneurship...tutorial and mentoring programs...parenting classes...nonviolent dispute resolution...sports mentoring...Boys and Girls Clubs in Public Housing."

President Bush gave a Point of Light to a midnight basketball league in 1990.

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Senators Danforth and Domenici support the Community Schools program.

Senators Dole and Hatch support the anti-gang grants.

Senator Gramm and Former Drug Czar Bennett supports Drug Treatment in Prisons.

Senators Stevens and Domenici support the Olympic Youth program.

Senators Dole and Hatch support the Boys and Girls club grants.

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Prevention programs are vital to fighting crime, but they don't magically turn into pork just because another party also supports them.

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The Facts: Wrong again. Rather than set violent offenders free because of prison overcrowding, the crime bill would allow an emergency "safety valve" for a few minor drug offenders -- but only if they are not violent, their offense was low-level, and they had not used a weapon. Most would need to have served four or more years already. If applied retroactively, only 100 to 400 prisoners -- not 10,000 -- could be eligible for release.

Just ask tough-on-crime Republican representatives Henry Hyde and Bill McCollum -- they support including the safety valve retroactively.

NRA Lie 7: *The NRA ads are motivated by anything other than their desperation over the ban on assault weapons.*

**Daily Talking Points on Crime Legislation
Tuesday, August 23, 1994**

**POINT OF OBSTRUCTION:
THE NEXT ATTEMPT TO BLOCK CRIME BILL**

- After the House's bipartisan vote to pass the conference crime bill, some Republican Senators are attempting another procedural trick to block the most comprehensive anti-crime legislation ever considered by Congress.
- These Senators say they plan to raise a point of order against the trust fund mechanism to fund the bill's programs, claiming that the fund violates budget rules. But many Republican Senators were among those who first proposed the trust fund when the Senate passed its version of the crime bill last November.
- Here's what Senators Gramm and Hatch had to say about the trust fund before the current attempt to obstruct the crime bill:
 - ◆ Senator Gramm: "I was a cosponsor of it [the trust fund]."
"So the first thing I want our [crime bill] conferees to do is stay with our funding mechanism."
 - ◆ Senator Hatch: "Creation of the violent crime trust fund will ensure that we do in fact make a difference in the fight against violent crime." "It took a very ingenious set of Senators to come up with this methodology for paying for our anticrime bill."
- The Senate voted 94 to 4 to demand that its conferees put the Trust Fund in the bill. Now, is it going to block the bill because those conferees followed those instructions?
- Each additional "procedural" delay is a blow to every major law enforcement organization in the United States (they've all endorsed this legislation). America demands a bipartisan effort to defeat this procedural delay so that we can pass this historic crime bill. The time has come to put politics and special interests aside and enact this critical legislation.

**Daily Talking Points on Anti-Crime Legislation
Wednesday, August 24, 1994**

"AN AMERICAN CRIME BILL"

"Every Senator without regard to party ought to continue the bipartisan spirit that was established in the House for an American approach to an American problem. That is the service we ought to be performing... - to make this an American crime bill, and to do it without delay."

President Bill Clinton

- We must not let partisan politics get in the way of the safety of the American people. The Crime Bill before the Senate is the product of years of work by Democrats and Republicans. The bill includes provisions from members of both parties, and has bipartisan support around the country.
- **BIPARTISAN VOTE:** The bipartisanship behind the Crime Bill is clear from Sunday's vote in the House -- overwhelming approval, with almost one-third of House Republicans (46) joining with three-fourths of House Democrats to pass the Bill.
- **BIPARTISAN SUPPORT:** The Crime Bill has bipartisan support throughout the country, including:
 - ◆ Mayors - National Conference of Republican Mayors and Municipal Elected Officials; New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani; Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan; Provo, Utah Mayor George Stewart; Anchorage, Alaska Mayor Rick Mystrum; Knoxville, Tennessee Mayor Victor Ashe (President of the United States Conference of Mayors) and others.
 - ◆ Police - Every major law enforcement organization in the country.
 - ◆ Prosecutors - Bipartisan support from individual prosecutors, as well as the National District Attorneys Association and the National Association of Attorneys General.
- **BIPARTISAN PROVISIONS:** But it's not just bipartisan support, it's bipartisan substance. Many of the provisions in the Crime Bill were initiated, sponsored and actively endorsed by Republicans as well as Democrats.
 - ◆ The Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund was a bipartisan effort from the start with Republicans, like Senators Dole, Gramm, Domenici and

Hatch joining Democrats like Senators Byrd, Mitchell and Biden in strongly and consistently sponsoring and supporting it.

- ◆ The assault weapons ban is based upon proposals cosponsored by Republican Senators Chafee and Kassebaum as well as Democratic Senators.
- ◆ Senators Dole and Hatch proposed a program similar to the Crime Bill's Community Policing program to put 100,000 police on the streets, but would have provided for fewer cops.
- ◆ Senators Dole and Hatch have joined Senator Biden and others in the effort to develop programs such as the Violence Against Women Act.
- ◆ The Dole-Molinari provision to allow prior accusations of sexual misconduct in trials is a Republican provision.
- ◆ The registration and community notification of sexual predators, sponsored by Republican Senator Gorton and Democratic Congresswoman Slaughter, has broad bipartisan support.
- ◆ The Police Corps has been actively sponsored by Republicans Senator Specter and Congressman Dornan.
- The prevention package is fully bipartisan:
 - ◆ President George Bush gave a Point of Light award to a midnight basketball league in 1990.
 - ◆ Included are anti-gang provisions based upon Senator Dole's amendment to the Senate bill that included grants to fund programs for academic, athletic or artistic enrichment and youth sports activities, including girls' and boys' clubs, scout troops and little leagues.
 - ◆ Senator Danforth sponsored the Community Schools program to keep schools open for afterschool and summer extra-curricular activities.
 - ◆ Senator Durenberger sponsored the Family Unity Demonstration program.
 - ◆ The Olympic Youth Development Centers was sponsored by Senator Stevens.
- Crime transcends politics, and this is a bipartisan Crime Bill. Americans understand that every day of partisan maneuvering means another day without the benefits that this bill will bring.

**THEY SAY IT'S TOUGHER, BUT HOW WILL YOU EXPLAIN YOUR VOTE?:
WHAT THEY AREN'T TELLING YOU ABOUT THE MOTION TO RECOMMIT**

After six years of waiting, passage of the motion to recommit means more delay on the Crime Bill -- no Crime Bill now, maybe no Crime Bill this year. That is reason enough to vote against it.

But the substance of the Brewster-Hunter motion also make it a far weaker Crime Bill than the Conference Report. Before you vote for Brewster-Hunter, ask yourself how you are going to explain your vote for:

- No Death Penalty for Cop Killers: Brewster-Hunter deletes all of the federal death penalties in the Crime Bill, including death penalty for terrorist murders, drug kingpins, and killing a law enforcement officer.
- No "Three Strikes and You're Out": Brewster-Hunter keeps the revolving door spinning, by stripping from the Crime Bill the "three strikes and you're out" law.
- No Prison Funding for YOUR State: Unless you are from Arizona, the Brewster-Hunter prison formula means that your state will get no prison grant funds -- until it meets the Bill's complicated and burdensome sentencing standards.
- No Federal Law Enforcement Officers: Brewster-Hunter strips from the Crime Bill funds for putting FBI agents, DEA agents, and ATF agents on the streets.
- No Funds for Prosecutors and DAs: The motion to recommit strips from the Bill all of its funds for federal, state, and local prosecutors. Explain that to your local DA!
- No Byrne Grant Increase: Brewster-Hunter strips from the Crime Bill \$1 billion in additional funds for the local law enforcement Byrne Grants. Remember how your sheriffs felt when a \$300 million cut in this program was considered this year -- don't vote for a cut three times as large!
- No Violence Against Women Funding: The motion cuts almost \$1 billion for local cops and prosecutors to crack down on sex offenders and spouse abusers -- and cuts almost \$300 million for battered womens' shelters.

A vote for Brewster-Hunter is a vote to strip the death penalty and "three strikes;" to deny your state its share of prison funds; to slash funds for FBI, DEA, prosecutors and DAs; to eliminate money for Byrne grants and the crack down on sex crimes and domestic violence. How are you going to explain that?

A vote for Brewster-Hunter is a vote for a weaker Crime Bill -- or no Crime Bill at all.

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMUNITY POLICING INITIATIVE

Coupled with the FY 1995 budget, the President's proposed community policing initiative provides the largest increase ever in state and local law enforcement assistance -- an increase of more than 300%. This investment will allow localities across the country to put more police on the street, expand community policing and reduce crime -- just as Mayor Lanier did in Houston. Today's article in the Washington Post is wrong. Here are the facts on the President's plan:

- **POST ARTICLE:** "Mayors...fear the 100,000 new police officers envisioned in the crime bills pending before Congress may not be of any use to them."
- **FACT:** Mayors and Police Chiefs have applied by the thousands for community policing grants under the Administration's \$150 Policing Hiring Supplement Program. They've written letters to many Administration officials, lobbied the President when he leaves Washington, and called their Members of Congress to gain support for their applications. Unfortunately, the Justice Department will have to turn down 9 out of 10 applications because of the small size of the program -- and more applications keep coming in. At a \$9 billion funding level, the community policing initiative contemplated in the crime bill can make funding available to many more needy police departments -- and for additional purposes, such as specialized training, technology, community crime prevention to help expand community policing.
- **POST ARTICLE:** "While most cities support...bringing aboard new police officers, some argue the unintentional result could be to boost the size of affluent suburban police departments..."
- **FACT:** Under both the House and Senate versions of the President's community policing initiative, the number of officers awarded to a local law enforcement agency is largely in the hands of the individual cities and police departments that are applying. Monies will not be awarded by any arbitrary formula, but on a discretionary basis to cities that demonstrate that they have a legitimate public safety need and an effective community policing plan to do something about it. Cities will be able to request the support -- and the number of officers -- they need. Thus, larger cities and high-crime areas may submit applications for a greater number of police officers than smaller suburban areas with less crime. Nationwide the President's program will increase street-level police officers by about 25% -- but communities may request more or less than that, depending on their needs.
- **POST ARTICLE:** "Localities have to assure that they are financially able to pay their portion before they are eligible for the federal funds."
- **FACT:** To be eligible for funds, the two most important criteria cities can demonstrate are (1) public safety need and (2) strong community policing plans. Moreover, financially troubled cities can ask the Attorney General to waive the required match altogether, and cities with unusually high costs can ask that the cap on per-officer costs also be waived. Only 4% of grant recipients participating in the \$150 million Police Hiring Supplement Program requested that the matching requirement be waived.
- **POST ARTICLE:** "...the crime bill is based on the false premise that cities have extra money just sitting around."
- **FACT:** Unlike past crime bills, this one is based on the premise that the Federal Government should partner with state and local governments -- who are on the front lines -- to help put more police on the street, increase the certainty of punishment and prevent crime and violence from happening in the first place. The bill increases state and local law enforcement assistance by more than 300%, but asks cities and states to pick-up part of the costs if they can. Equally important, the bill does this -- not by raising taxes or cutting other essential government programs -- but by reducing bureaucracy and putting that money into crime-fighting programs. That's responsible, honest government.

TALKING POINTS ON PAWNBROKERS PROVISION

Explanation

- The amendment repeals an ATF regulation that ruled that retrieving one's own gun from a pawn shop should be treated like a new purchase of a gun, instead of being treated like picking up one's own gun after having it repaired.
- The amendment simply says that, given that there is no sale, purchase, or transfer of a pawned gun, the Brady Law does not apply to such a transaction.
- The amendment does not impact on purchases of guns from pawn shops; such purchases will still be covered by the Brady Law.

Talking Points

- Chairman Brooks is willing to support the Crime Bill -- and let us have our ban on assault weapons, without any compromise -- if he prevails on the pawn shops issue.
- Under this scenario, Treasury will get its federal firearms licensing reforms as part of the Crime Bill.
- This isn't a question of "trading:" Brooks can probably line-up the votes to beat us anyway. He just does not want a big dispute over this, and if we are helpful in lining up Schumer on this, Brooks will not use his power to deny us the Crime Bill or the assault weapon ban.
- Schumer will only support Brooks on this if ATF gives him cover. Thus, we need to get Schumer some sort of letter that allows him to go along with Brooks, and get this done.
- Couldn't you all write a letter that says: "In the context of a comprehensive crime bill that does so much to make our streets safer, bans assault weapons, and tightens federal firearms licensing, we have no objection to a legislative change that clarifies Congress' view that bailments should not be treated like purchases under the Brady Law."
- You can accept this as Congress clarifying its intent in passing Brady -- bailments are a hard case as to whether they should or should not be covered, if Congress wants to make it clear that they are not, you did not object.

PORK -- OR JUST GUN LOBBY SQUEALING?

Republicans are claiming that the Crime Bill Conference Report is loaded with "pork." But look at the facts:

First: The Crime Bill's resources principally are devoted to tough, crime fighting measures.

- More than \$7 in \$10 of all spending in the Bill (72%) is for police, federal and state law enforcement, prisons and detention facilities.
- Another 13% is devoted to combatting violence against women, drug courts, and Republican sponsored crime prevention programs, by Senators Danforth and Domenici. Thus, 85% of the Bill's funding is for law enforcement, prisons, drug courts, violence against women, and bipartisan prevention programs.

Second: The Conference reduced spending for many prevention programs from the House-passed levels.

- It's ironic that Republicans are saying that the Bill was "porked up" in Conference; the Conference cut funding for many prevention programs, below their House-passed levels.
- Look at the prevention cuts made in the Conference Report, as compared to the House bill that 65 Republican members voted for in April (in per year amounts, in millions):

	<u>House</u>	<u>Conf Rpt</u>	<u>Cut</u>
Local Partnership Act	\$400m	\$300m	-\$100m
Model Intensive Grants	\$300m	\$145m	-\$155m
Community Schools/FACES	\$230m	\$150m	-\$ 80m
Gang Prevention Grants	\$100m	\$ 5m	-\$ 95m
Boys & Girls Clubs	\$ 20m	\$ 6m	-\$ 14m
Hope in Youth (Gang Prvn)	\$ 20m	\$ 4m	-\$ 16m
Police Partnerships w/Chldrn	\$ 20m	\$ 5m	-\$ 15m
Midnight Basketball	\$ 10m	\$ 7m	-\$ 3m
TOTAL	\$1.1bil	\$622m	-\$478m

- And look at what has been increased since the House passed its Crime Bill in April:

	<u>House Level</u>	<u>Conf Report</u>
Police Officers	\$3.5 bil	\$8.8 bil
FBI Agents	\$ 0 mil	\$250 mil
DEA Agents	\$ 0 mil	\$150 mil
Local Prosecutors	\$100 mil	\$200 mil
Police and Prosecutors to		
Combat Violence Against Women	\$400 mil	\$1.0 bil
TOTAL	\$4.0 bil	\$10.4 bil

- Republicans can try to explain their flip-flops however they choose. But voting against the Crime Bill now -- after key prevention programs have been cut, and key law enforcement programs increased -- can have only one explanation: it's not "pork," but gun lobby "squealing" that accounts for the change.

THE CRIME BILL CONFERENCE REPORT

Congress has moved one important step closer to passing comprehensive legislation that will help make our neighborhoods, our homes and our families safer from crime. The Crime Bill contains the central elements of President Clinton's balanced anti-crime strategy -- more policing, more punishment, and more prevention. As the President said, it is "the toughest, largest, smartest Federal attack on crime in the history of our country."

MORE POLICE

100,000 More Police

The legislation will put 100,000 new police officers on the streets, walking the beat, working with citizens to prevent and solve crimes. Through "community policing" we can combine an increased police presence with the development of partnerships with communities -- to create safer neighborhoods.

The plan to put 100,000 police officers onto America's streets represents an almost 20% increase in the number of police officers nationwide. Half of the 100,000 new police will go to large cities and counties (over 150,000 persons); the balance will go to smaller cities and rural areas.

Law Enforcement Scholarships

The Crime Bill will improve the training of current and future police officers, and help recruit more officers to work with their communities. The Police Corps, similar to the ROTC program, will provide funds to individuals who are committed to joining police departments after graduation; another program provides scholarships to men and women already serving as police officers.

Assault Weapons

The Bill makes our police officers safer on the street by banning 19 listed weapons, copycats, and other clearly-defined semi-automatic guns, that are weapons of choice of drug dealers, gang members, and mass murderers. The Bill expressly protects over 600 other weapons from being regulated.

Kids and Guns

This provision makes it illegal for kids to carry handguns, except with parental authority.

Federal Agents

The bill funds hundreds of additional Federal law enforcement agents, at the FBI, DEA, and BATF.

Border Patrol

While strengthening immigration laws, the Crime Bill will also provide the resources necessary to enforce them. These measures include funding for an additional 1,000 Border Patrol agents, and funding for reforms to speed alien deportation.

MORE PUNISHMENT

Three Strikes and You're Out	The President's "Three Strikes and You're Out" life imprisonment provision will keep off the streets those career violent offenders who do the most harm to society.
Death Penalty	The Crime Bill will reinstate the Federal death penalty for the most heinous of crimes, such as killing a Federal law enforcement officer.
Prisons	States will receive \$9 billion to help keep violent criminals and criminal aliens behind bars. Measures include a prison grant program which will help states lock up violent offenders quickly and efficiently as well as encourage them to improve their criminal justice systems by adopting "truth in sentencing" provisions. \$1.8 billion of this funding will reimburse states that incarcerate criminal aliens.
Truth in Sentencing	A total of \$6.5 billion in prison funding has some "truth in sentencing" requirements, with 40% of the funds set aside for the states that meet the most rigorous standards for jailing violent offenders for their full sentences (such as insuring that second offenders serve 85% of the time sentenced).
Drug Courts	Drug Court programs will support intensive court supervision of drug dependent defendants to provide the carrot-and-stick approach that can help them beat their addiction.
Youth Crime and Violent Young Offenders	The Crime Bill includes smart incarceration programs and tough alternative approaches, such as boot camps that provide the discipline and training necessary to deter young people from embarking on a life of crime, and discretionary authority to prosecute hardened young criminals, 13-years-old and above, as adults for serious violent offenses. The Bill also funds secure detention facilities for violent juvenile offenders.
Rural Crime	Special provisions will combat rural crime, by putting more police officers in rural areas, and by specifically targeting funds to reduce drug trafficking, gang and domestic violence in rural communities.
Safety Valve	While insuring that violent offenders serve longer terms, the Bill also sensibly insures that non-violent drug offenders do not tie up prison cells that could be used for more dangerous criminals.

MORE PREVENTION

Ounce of Prevention	Prevention programs in the Crime Bill will help steer young people away from crime and drugs and, as the President often says, "give them something to say 'yes'" to. The Ounce of Prevention Council and programs will help effectively coordinate and integrate the delivery of the Federal Government's new youth development and youth oriented crime prevention initiatives.
Y.E.S.	The President's Youth Employment Skills program, "Y.E.S.," will provide young people with job training and work opportunities in hard-hit, high-crime areas.
Community Schools	The Community Schools Program will give grants to community groups to keep schools open after hours and on weekends, so kids will have a place to go and stay out of trouble.
Violence Against Women	The Violence Against Women Act will increase Federal resources available to combat sexual and domestic violence, through education programs, law enforcement training and a national domestic violence hotline. The bill will also mandate higher penalties for perpetrators of gender-motivated crimes and strengthen victims' rights.
Local Partnership Act	The Local Partnership Act will provide grants to thousands of American cities to fund health and educational crime prevention programs.
Model Intensive Grants	The Model Intensive Grant Program will fund comprehensive crime prevention programs in chronic, high-intensity crime areas.
Gangs Prevention	The Gang Resistance Education and Training program ("G.R.E.A.T."), already a proven success, will help kids fight the allure of gang membership. Also, a Midnight Sports Program will prevent youth violence by getting kids off the streets and teaching them sportsmanship, teamwork and conflict resolution.
Police Partnerships	The Police Partnerships for Children program will encourage police officers to make a difference in young lives by becoming involved with children and family services agencies that deal with at-risk children.

PAYING FOR THE CRIME BILL ... AND THE NEED FOR ACTION

By reinventing government and focusing our priorities, we will make the money necessary to achieve these goals -- without increasing the deficit or raising new taxes. With the savings realized by the elimination of more than 250,000 Federal Government jobs, the Crime Bill will set up a \$30 billion Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund to pay for the comprehensive police, punishment and prevention programs authorized in the anti-crime legislation.

- On Thursday, President Clinton, Attorney General Reno, Secretary Bentsen, Drug Director Brown -- and hundreds of police officers from around the country -- held a rally at the Department of Justice to celebrate the completion of the Crime Bill Conference Report and to urge the House and Senate to swiftly pass the comprehensive anti-crime legislation.

- The President said:

"Let's not forget that the bill is not a law. It has been voted out of a conference committee. The House must vote a rule to permit it to come to the vote. Then the House and Senate must pass it.

"It is urgent that we send the message out of this meeting that not only the law enforcement community, but the American people want a 20 percent increase in the police forces in this country, 100,000 police, that you want the tougher punishment, that you want the capacity for imprisonment, that you want the prevention funds, that you want the assault weapons ban, that you want the ban on teenagers owning guns, that you want the protection for women against violence, that you want the schools to be safer -- that you believe the Crime Bill makes sense because it deals with the problem in a human, intelligent, and firm way. And it gives us a chance to come together again as a people.

"Let's go pass the bill!"

MAKING AMERICA SAFE

Implementing the Violent Crime Control Act

On September 13, President Clinton signed into law the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. This badly needed legislation represents the bipartisan product of six years of hard work, and will:

- Provide \$8.8 billion in funding to put 100,000 new police officers on America's streets;
- Provide \$7.9 billion in funding for prisons to make sure that violent offenders serve their full sentences;
- Provide \$1 billion in funding for Violence Against Women programs;
- Provide \$1 billion in funding for local drug courts;
- Provide \$4.1 billion in funding for prevention programs which were designed with significant input from experienced police officers;
- Ban military-style assault weapons, as well as ban the possession of handguns by juveniles; and
- Expand the federal death penalty to cover 60 new offenses.

The Violent Crime Control Act gives the country an historic opportunity to turn the tide against crime and violence in our communities. The Clinton Administration knows that to achieve the full promise of the Violent Crime Control Act, the law must be quickly and effectively implemented.

To fulfill its promise to the America people, the Administration has already taken the following actions:

- The Attorney General directed Associate Attorney General John R. Schmidt to personally oversee implementation of the Violent Crime Control Act. As the third-ranking official in the Department of Justice, he will make sure that accountability remains at the highest levels.
- The Department of Justice established a Response Center to answer questions about the Violent Crime Control Act. The phone number for the Response Center is 202-307-1480 or 1-800-421-6770.

- On September 14, the day after the Violent Crime Control Act was signed, President Clinton met with U.S Attorneys from around the country. He directed the U.S. Attorneys to work with local prosecutors and develop plans within the next 100 days to enforce the ban on juvenile possession of handguns; and
- The Attorney General and the Associate Attorney General sponsored Violent Crime Control Act implementation forums in Denver, Colorado; Springfield, Illinois; and New York, New York to hear and learn from state and local officials. Forums will be held in other in cities the coming months.

Although this is an impressive start, it is not nearly enough. Within the next 30 days, the Administration will:

- Appoint the Director of the COPS Program. This person will oversee the Administration's efforts to add 100,000 police officers to the nation's streets.
- Announce \$200 million in community policing awards to help cities hire or rehire police officers. More than 2,600 officers will be hired as a result.
- Announce plans for states to apply for \$130 million in State Criminal Alien Assistance Program grants. These funds will reimburse states for the cost of incarcerating illegal criminal aliens; and
- Announce plans for states to apply for \$24 million in boot camp grants.

Implementing the Violent Crime Control Act is a challenge and an opportunity. The Clinton Administration pledges to work with federal, state, and local officials, and communities to make America safe.

**Response Center 1-800-421-6770
202-307-1480**

September 19, 1994 11:00 a.m.

100,000 COPS ON THE BEAT

20% INCREASE IN AMERICA'S POLICE FORCE

The President's 100,000 cops on the beat program will increase the nation's police force levels by nearly 20%.

EXCHANGING BUREAUCRATS FOR COPS

The program authorizes \$8.995 billion over the next 6 years to expand community policing and is paid for by shrinking the federal workforce by about 100,000 positions.

EQUAL SPLIT BETWEEN LARGE AND SMALL CITIES AND TOWNS

The money will be equally divided between large and small cities: half to cities with populations above 150,000, and the other half to cities and towns under 150,000. About 5% of total funds, or approximately \$450 million, will be available for technical assistance and evaluation.

USE OF FUNDS

Hiring and training. At least 85% of the grant funds must go to hire, rehire, and train new police officers. These funds may be used for grants to recruit and hire former members of the Armed Forces to serve as community policing officers, particularly in communities where a military base has closed.

Redeployment -- overtime, new equipment, special training, etc. At the Attorney General's discretion, the remainder -- up to 15% -- can be used to promote community policing in other ways: redeploying existing officers (i.e., through overtime, new equipment, etc.), developing new technologies, offering specialized training to officers, supporting related community group efforts, and coordinating other Federal anti-crime initiatives with local policing plans.

Help for Mayors with special circumstances. For the first three years of the program, cities can use some of the money from the 85% hiring pot for innovative strategies to redeploy existing officers, so long as they can demonstrate that doing so will put more police on the street.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AND GRANT AWARDS

Jurisdictions must file an application with the Department of Justice. Each application must include a long-term strategy and implementation plan. Policing grants will be awarded on a competitive basis for 3 to 5 years, with a declining federal match that will average between 50% and 75%, depending on a city's size and salary levels. The federal share is limited to a total of \$75,000 per officer over the life of the grant. Cities with higher costs or limited resources may apply for a waiver of the federal match.

COMMUNITY POLICING Q&A's

- Q: Isn't the Community Policing component in the crime bill just a "drop in the bucket" proposal that sounds good but has little effect?**

Putting 100,000 police officers onto America's streets is not a token proposal. Community Policing is at the heart of the President's anti-crime strategy because he knows that officers working in partnership with neighborhood residents works. The plan represents a twenty percent increase in the current number of local police officers nationwide. The nearly \$9 billion requested by the President for this program will enable the Administration to assist every needy police department in the country.

- Q: How does 100,000 officers change current law enforcement resources?**

Of the 504,000 police currently in service, up to 380,000 work at the street-level. 100,000 new community police increases the number of street-level cops by more than 25%.

- Q: Will the big states and urban communities wield their influence and win all of the resources to the exclusion of smaller states and cities?**

The plan protects smaller states and communities by guaranteeing each state a significant minimum-level of community police funding. (The House version guarantees at least \$20 million to every state and the Senate version promises \$48 million for new police officers). This guarantees that a small city like Smyrna, Georgia with a total police force of 78 could receive 15 or more officers under the program, and a similar 20% increase in the New York City police force could mean as many as 6,000. All communities will be eligible.

- Q: Even if there is a minimum-level of community police funding, isn't it true that the plan mandates that local jurisdictions match the federal contribution by at least 25% -- effectively eliminating many communities from the program?**

The key to the President's plan is flexibility. The Attorney General is provided with sufficient authority to waive or modify requirements which might otherwise preclude participation by cities which have been hard hit by both crime and economic dislocation and are struggling financially. Not only can the Attorney General choose to waive the matching fund component, but she could also choose to waive the cap on the federal level of funding for salary and benefits per officer. Again, the President's anti-crime strategy emphasizes flexibility to meet the needs of all communities.

- Q: Under the proposal will police actually get to where they are most needed?**

The President's plan is a competitive discretionary program, which means that jurisdictions will be able to request the amount of support for whatever number of additional police officers they actually need to effectively control crime --some may need a 20% increase, some more, some less, depending upon their individual needs.

- Q: What evidence is there to support the Administration's view that**

community policing works and that law enforcement wants such a program?

The Administration has the Policing Hiring Supplement Program in effect. Already thousands of Mayors and Police Chiefs have applied for community policing grants under this program. To date, 250 communities have received grants for 2023 new police officers. But the demand is so great that the Department of Justice cannot accommodate 9 out of 10 applications due to the program's limited funds of \$150 million. Ask most any mayor or police chief if community policing works and they will say yes, and ask where they can sign up. The Crime Bill would allow the Administration to respond to the urgent demand.

Q: How does a state apply for the community policing grant?

The State must file an application with the Department of Justice. Each application must include a long-term strategy and detailed implementation plan that was developed in consultation with community groups and appropriate private and public agencies. The application must further include a number of factors which seek to determine the impact such a program will have on that State or community. Some of these factors include a showing by the applicant of a specific public safety need; it must explain why the applicant cannot address that need without Federal assistance; identify other governmental and community initiatives which complement or will be coordinated with the proposal; assess the impact, if any, of the increase in police resources on other components of the criminal justice system; just to name a few.

Q: Do these requirements apply to every applicant?

If an applicant is a local law enforcement or government entity with jurisdiction over areas with a population of less than 50,000, (and thus may lack some of the resources to do a sophisticated grant proposal) the Attorney General has the authority to waive one or more of the application requirements. She may make special provisions to expedite the submission, processing and approval of such an application.

Q: Are the grants just for hiring new officers, and won't their training and initiation be cost prohibitive?

Not only can grants be used to hire and train new law enforcement officers, but it can also be used to rehire law enforcement officers who were laid off as a result of tough economic times. Furthermore, the President recognizes the tremendous resource we have in the men and women who have served our country in the armed forces but, due to military base closings and the general downsizing of the military, have been let go. They represent ideal candidates to participate in community policing and this further assists those communities who were adversely affected by such base closings. It makes good sense.