



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
THOMAS M. MENINO

**Mayor Thomas M. Menino
Release of 1996 Crime Statistics
Boston Police Department Headquarters
154 Berkeley Street
February 12, 1997**

Good afternoon.

I'm proud to join Commissioner Evans to report that the City as a whole is growing safer by the year.

Not long ago, Boston was a city of mean streets. We suffered 152 killings in 1990 -- the highest number ever recorded for a single year. Residents worried about the quality of life. People talked of leaving. Some actually picked up and moved out.

As we just heard from the Commissioner, crime in 1996 dropped in almost every category -- to levels we haven't seen in decades. Look at the murder rate: now at its lowest level in thirty years. Or take juvenile homicide: it's dropped 80 percent over the last six years. And since July of 1995, we have not had a single juvenile killed by a gun. Not one.

The New York Times has said the drop in crime among our young people is the most dramatic in the nation. Scholars have turned Boston into a law enforcement laboratory. Next Wednesday, President Clinton is coming here to tell other cities in America how our community has addressed the difficult problem of juvenile crime. Already, leaders from more than 50 cities -- some from as far away as Glasgow, Scotland -- have called looking for answers.

The first thing I would tell them is we have no single, magic bullet. But there are three important strategies every city should pursue to curb the violence:

First, prevention. Steer kids down the right path. Give them role models to look up to. Give them opportunities to look forward to. And fill their hearts with respect... and trust... and hope.

Second, intervention. Help delinquents turn their lives around before it's too late. Get to know the gang members face-to-face. Understand the troubled environment inside their homes. Learn why they take to the streets. And realize that getting people off of drugs, into counseling, and into a job placement program is money well spent.

And third, enforcement. Crack down on the troublemakers who commit the bulk of crimes, and have absolutely zero tolerance for violence on the streets.

Here in Boston, we don't just wait behind a desk for calls. We connect command and community -- and go to the front lines to stop crime before it happens.

With the Youth Violence Strike Force, we're cracking down on gangs and guns.

With Operation Night Light, we've gotten smarter about tracking who causes trouble and where.

With "Clean It or Lien It" and the "Boston Yard Sale," we're fixing the broken windows, removing graffiti and cleaning up trash filled lots that encourage vandalism and invite more serious crime.

And with "No Next Time," a new effort we launched last month, we're going after repeat offenders who victimize their families with domestic violence.

Every city that looks to Boston for lessons should know that our dramatic rise in public safety is the result of a comprehensive strategy and a coordinated effort based on teamwork:

- Teamwork between law enforcement agencies at all levels who have put turf battles and egos aside to get the job done.
- Teamwork between men and women in uniform and civilians – community leaders, church leaders, youth leaders and members of more than 900 crime watch groups who care about their neighborhoods.
- And teamwork between all of us and our partners in the private sector, like John Hancock and others, who helped us create a record number of summer jobs last year and gave kids a way out of trouble and a way up the ladder.

Today's news is about more than numbers. It's about saving lives, reducing fear and making sure Boston remains a city where kids feel safe on the way to school and families feel safe in their homes.

Every little thing we do can make a difference. None of us can do the job alone. No one strategy can do the job alone. It takes everybody working together as a team.

Before I close, let me just say how proud I am to have Commissioner Evans on my team.

Paul, based on the record you've shared with us today -- and on behalf of the entire City of Boston -- I want to salute your entire Department from top to bottom.

I want to salute our community leaders and, most of all, our kids -- for taking responsibility and making Boston the envy of the nation.

And Paul, I thank you for your leadership. You are one of the finest Police Commissioners in America. And I'm happy to announce that I hereby appoint you to a second term as Commissioner of the Boston Police Department.



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
THOMAS M. MENINO

For more information
contact: Press Office 635-4461

January 15, 1997

Crime Plummets in Boston in 1996

Excerpt from Mayor Thomas M. Menino's State of the City Address, January 14, 1997:

"1996. An extraordinary year for ordinary people – people like you and me who live in our neighborhoods – safer today than they've been in decades: Violent crime is at its lowest level since 1973; robberies are at their lowest since 1970; break-ins lowest since 1967.

Remember when Boston was the auto-theft capital of America? That is a title I am more than happy to relinquish. Because today, auto theft is at its lowest level in recorded history. In the past 18 months, not a single juvenile has been killed by a gun. Not one. By tracking the illegal sale of guns to minors, we're running the gun runners out of business. And out of town.

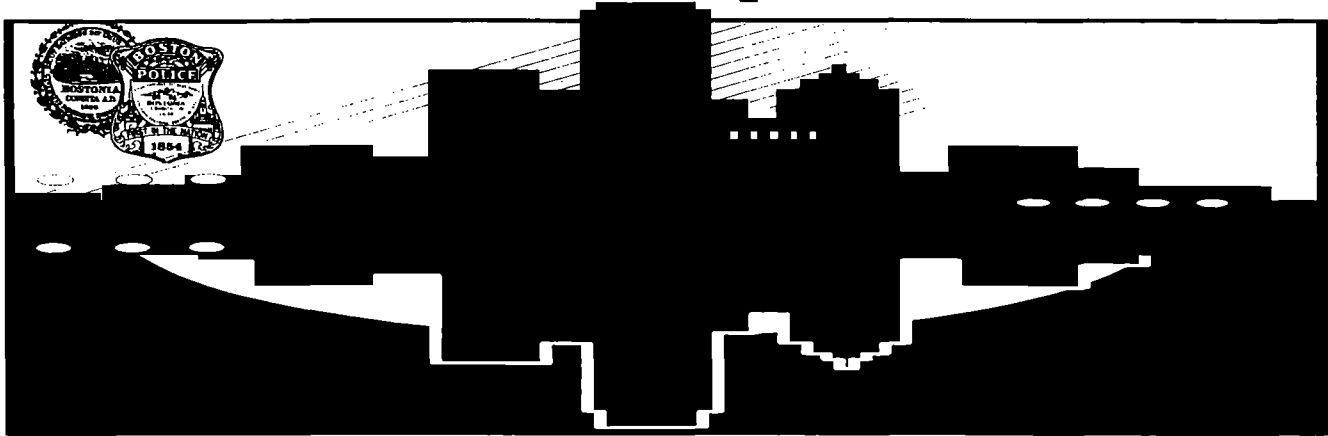
To top it all off, the murder rate in the City of Boston is at its lowest level in 30 years! Today, everyone can feel safer on our streets – except the criminals.

The Associated Press says that crime has dropped more in Boston than in any major city in America. The U.S. Department of Justice calls our youth intervention efforts the finest in the nation. We have proven that neighborhood policing works. Boston Police Officers have teamed up with more 900 Neighborhood Crime Watches to prevent crime before it happens. What's most encouraging is that the neighborhoods that historically suffered the most have improved the most – with some of the greatest decreases in crime over the last two years in East Boston, Roxbury, and Mission Hill.

I'd like to ask you to join me in saluting Commissioner Paul Evans and the entire Police Department for a job well done!

This year, the Police Department will put \$1.5 million in new federal funds back into the neighborhoods – to strengthen the ties between command and community. We'll help prevent domestic violence with \$350,000 to launch a program called "No Next Time" – to protect victims from repeat offenders. I pledge to you tonight: My goal is to make Boston the safest big city in America!"

Boston Police Department



Official News Release #97-040

Informational Services

Date: February 12, 1997

Phenomenon? Yes, But Not Without Hard Work

Webster defines a phenomenon as "a fact or event that can be scientifically described or explained." Though the dramatic decrease in crime in many cities throughout the country cannot be readily explained by some, in Boston this drop is no mystery. It is, say Mayor Thomas Menino and Police Commissioner Paul Evans, the result of extremely hard work by many people directed towards a common goal - that of violence reduction.

Today the Mayor and Police Commissioner officially released what they considered to be the primary contributors towards Boston's success - a success being investigated and emulated nationwide. An overall decrease in Part I crimes of 14% over figures from 1995 was reported citywide. But the statistic that has the attention of the nation is the decrease in juvenile crime, specifically the reduction of juvenile homicides. No person under the age of 17 has been killed by a firearm since July 1995, and the overall homicide rate is the lowest in three decades.

Both the Mayor and the Commissioner feel that Boston has the answers to what continues to remain a mystery to many cities. "We've received inquiries from over 50 cities nationwide. They all want to know how we accomplished such commendable

-more-

statistics. I tell them all the same thing - it is no mystery, we have no magic bullet. It is the result of some very hard work," said Mayor Menino. A combination of prevention, intervention, and enforcement has led to Boston ranking sixth among cities of comparable population. Media inquiries from cities such as Baltimore, Louisville, New York, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and Los Angeles have effectively led to the Boston story being played throughout the country.

Commissioner Evans portrayed the strategy of combining the right mix of ingredients - effective enforcement combined with real alternatives - as the key to keeping the streets peaceful. "By no means are we where we want to be, but we see these encouraging numbers as positive reinforcement that we are using the right recipe. It began with the obvious admission that the police cannot combat crime by ourselves. We must, and we have, formed many partnerships with every element of the Boston community. We have enlisted the aid of our partners in crime-fighting, and the jury is in. Collaboration *works*." Evans emphasized that the numbers translate into 7,566 fewer crime victims in 1996, a figure he would like to see drop further in 1997.

Mayor Menino and Commissioner Evans cited several programs they felt were significant contributors towards safer streets in 1996. Notable for their contributions are: **The Youth Service Providers Network; The Summer of Opportunity; The Safe Neighborhood Initiatives; Operation Ceasefire; and Operation Nightlight**. To combat the disturbing rise in domestic violence incidents, the department recently announced the new strategy, **No "Next Time"** modeled after Op-Nightlight to target domestic offenders.

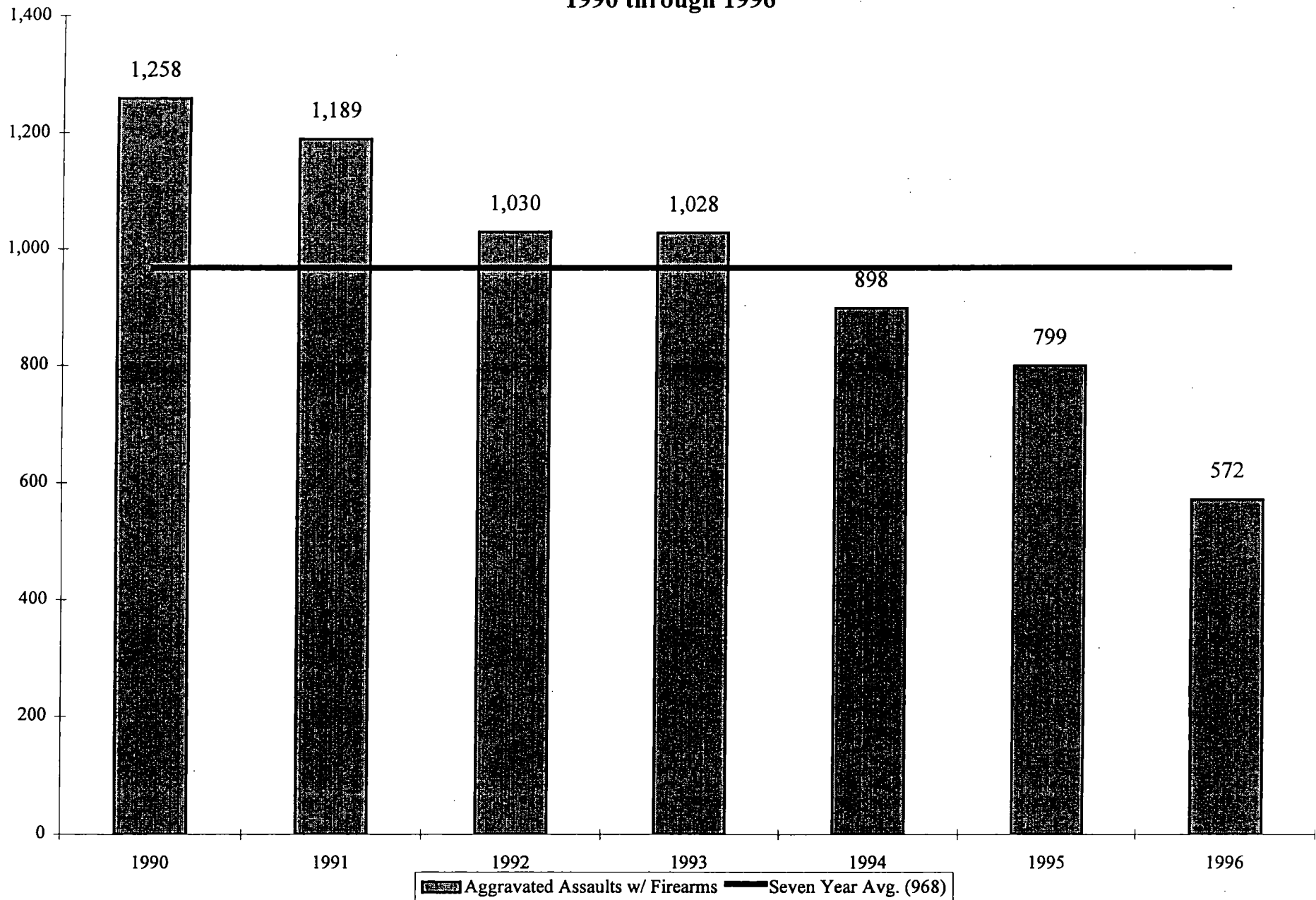
Another significant strategy touched upon by the Commissioner is the department's use of technology. "We are fighting crime smarter; employing the technology at our disposal to obtain better information and more in-depth **crime analysis**. We are now equipped to pick up on trends sooner, and target offenders with greater accuracy than ever before."

Commissioner Evans also heralded the contributions of the over **900 Neighborhood Crime Watch** groups who not only participated in the **Strategic Planning** initiative in early 1994, but were critical in its implementation and overall

success. "We could not do it without the continued devotion by these neighborhood residents to ensure that their communities remain safe. Again, the emphasis in this police department continues to be working together in partnership to solve problems," Evans said.

**For further information, please contact Sgt. Margot H. Hill,
Director, Info Services at 617-343-4520; fax- 343-4481**

**Aggravated Assaults Involving Firearms
in the City of Boston
1990 through 1996**



The Boston Strategy on Violent Crime

Efforts to understand the dramatic progress in Boston in 1996 in reducing and preventing homicide, other firearm violence and other categories of major crime must be look first and foremost at the broad network of partnerships that has been at work in the city for some time. We saw unprecedented collaborative efforts in the areas of prevention, intervention and enforcement. The public safety and criminal justice communities came together around a shared mission of prevention, laying aside historical concerns about turf and pecking orders.

Expert observers have noticed the results.

In September, 1996, Attorney General Janet Reno published a booklet on Boston's efforts, entitled, "One City's Success Story." In the foreword addressed to community and criminal justice leaders nationwide, the Attorney General wrote,

The foundation of Boston's approach has been to build coalitions and partnerships among police, prosecutors, probation officers, corrections officials, youth and social service personnel, school officials, judges, health professionals, parents and the young people of Boston...I am impressed by their efforts.

George Kelling, co-author of the newly-published Fixing Broken Windows, is serving as the national evaluator of the Comprehensive Communities Program, of which Boston is one of 16 participating communities nationwide. CCP funds helped launch several partnerships, including the Strategic Planning & Community Mobilization Project that yielded the new *Strategic Plan for Neighborhood Policing*. He said of the Department's work,

The Boston Police Department, by every measure the evaluators can think of, has strategically re-aligned itself with Boston's neighborhoods.

These observations are significant. We believe that the strategy of developing public safety priorities in concert with a broad array of community stakeholders has made the strategy focused and effective. Collaboration is a key characteristic of every tactic now in use in the strategy. In our efforts you see the full participation of the spectrum of community and institutional actors. You see police; probation; parole; local, state and federal prosecutors; streetworkers, the courts, providers of alternatives to incarceration, the Boys and Girls Clubs, the YMCA; the Boston Coalition; private firms like John Hancock Financial Services; and universities such as Harvard and Northeastern. In the community officers are working closely with a range of leaders, from the clergy of the

Ten Point Coalition to civic associations; neighborhood health centers; tenants task forces; youth groups; anti-substance abuse groups;

In this brief report, we look at some important examples of these tactics, grouped in the broader categories of prevention, intervention and enforcement. This list is only a small sample of the number, variety and importance of partnership activities across the city.

Prevention

The **Youth Service Providers Network** is a partnership among the Boston Police Department, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston and other youth service agencies who give at-risk children a place to go. The YSPN has been piloted in District B-3 (Mattapan and Dorchester), is now being expanded to Roxbury (B-2) and Dorchester C-11, and will go citywide in the future. *contact person Maria Schneiderman Cheevers 343-4399*

Young people come into the network through a referral by a police officer. Licensed clinical social workers assigned to the stationhouses receive the referrals and meet with the youngsters to assess their needs. The social workers then refer the youngster to programs at the local Boys and Girls Club or other appropriate setting. Over 300 young people have participated to date, with referrals coming from officers in all types of functions, from rapid response, youth service officers to detectives, to sector officers.

At YMCA's across the city, at-risk youngsters have been attending regular Y programs and Day Camps on scholarships made available by the Y through the district commands. This commitment to Neighborhood Policing has resulted in police reaching out successfully to over 200 at-risk youngsters. *Contact person John Ferrell, 536-6950*

Intervention

With support from John Hancock and Northeastern, the Youth Violence Strike Force and the Ten Point Coalition established the **Summer of Opportunity** in 1994. Each summer, 60 youngsters at high-risk of gang involvement engage in job readiness education and curriculum designed to help them build skills for a future without gangs. *Contact person Blake Norton, 343-4500*

The **Safe Neighborhood Initiatives** in East Boston and Dorchester bring together community groups with police, local and state prosecutors and the courts to establish neighborhood enforcement priorities. Offenses that violate these priorities within the SNI zones often receive more serious consideration at all phases of the criminal justice process. *Contact person Captain Bob Dunford, 343-4330 and Captain Bob Cunningham 343-4220*

Enforcement

Operation Ceasefire brings together police, probation, streetworkers, the US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the US Drug Enforcement Administration, the US Attorney, the Suffolk County DA, the state Attorney General, streetworkers, Harvard University policing experts and others in a novel "hot spots" strategy. The strategy includes meetings with gang members to impress on them the consequences of continued violent offenses. Several gangs have ceased the violence in response to the interventions by the combined forces of public safety and criminal justice. In a few important instances those who ignored the edicts were arrested and await trial in federal court for their offenses. *Contact person Lt. Gary French, 343-4444*

In **Operation Nightlight**, probation officers and police officers make joint community visits to ensure that at-risk probationers are observing curfews, area restrictions and other terms of their probations. Operating as part of Ceasefire and independently in several court jurisdictions, Nightlight has been credited with helping to slow the rate of re-offending by probationers. *Contact person Probation Ron Corbett 727 -5348*

Under the banner of No "**Next Time**," police, probation and others are applying the tactic of intensive supervision to the area of domestic violence. Those who are the subjects of restraining orders and also are wanted for arrest and/or are on probation and parole will be targeted for supervision., *Contact Person Sgt. Gladys Gaines 343 4350*

Summary

These initiatives represent the commitment to public safety partnerships that characterize public safety strategy in Boston. Partnerships, Problem-solving and Prevention are the three operating principles. We will continue working hard in 1997, in hopes of continuing to reduce victimization, crime and fear across the city.

-End-

January 29, 1997

H.D.S. Greenway
Editor, Editorial Page
The Boston Globe
135 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02107

By Hand

Dear David,

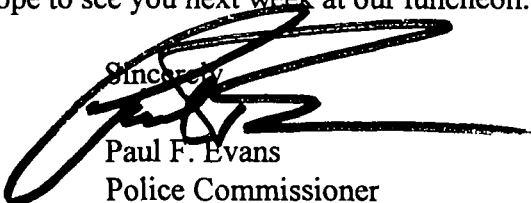
It is not enough to just say crime is down when we look at last year's phenomenal numbers - most people want to know why. Towards that end, James Fox and I sat down and crafted the enclosed guest editorial that we hope you'll agree answers not just why, but how we reached the dramatic reductions in violent crime in this city.

Statistics are impressive, but we felt that even more impressive is how this reduction in violence translates into fewer actual victims, and a reduction in pain and suffering. This success is also mirrored in that today, a potential victim, or a potential offender, has real alternatives to turn to and real choices available.

This did not happen overnight, nor did it happen without the help of hundreds of committed citizens intent on making their city one of the safest in the world. We look forward to The Globe sharing our view with your readers, and highlighting some of the hard work done by so many people seeking the same goal.

Thank you for your consideration--hope to see you next week at our luncheon.

Sincerely,



Paul F. Evans
Police Commissioner

CRIME: DOWN BUT NOT OUT
PAUL F. EVANS and JAMES ALAN FOX

The start of 1997 has brought Boston a great deal of national attention-not just surrounding the Patriots' drive to the Superbowl, but also regarding the City's extraordinary success in reducing crime, especially youth firearm violence. From Oregon to Orlando, in newspaper articles, in government hearings and at conferences attended by criminal justice professionals, inquiring minds are more than a bit curious about how Boston has achieved record low levels of crime, numbers not seen since the 1960's.

The news from the local crime front has definitely taken a turn for the better. No juvenile has been killed with a firearm in Boston since July 1995. During the latter half of 1996, the number of gun-related murders of residents under age 25 plummeted 65 percent. With 35 fewer people dying violently in Boston in 1996, as compared to 1995, the overall murder toll has dropped 36 percent, reaching its lowest point in three decades. Serious crime in 1996 was also down 14 percent over the previous year, down to its lowest level in 26 years.

This latest "Massachusetts Miracle" has actually not been so miraculous. It is the predictable result of much hard work from many sectors. Boston has pursued a comprehensive strategy of prevention, intervention and enforcement, and it has paid off.

While the Boston Police Department would seem to be the first place to look in an attempt to explain the dramatic reductions in violent crime, credit should also go to an ever-expanding network of committed citizens, preventing crimes one by one, street by street, neighborhood by neighborhood. Central to this initiative were months of involvement by over 400 citizens, police officers and institutional partners in crafting a new, citywide Strategic Plan for Neighborhood Policing, featuring specific goals and objectives tailored for each neighborhood. Through partnerships and alliances with individuals and organizations from the Boys and Girls Clubs and the YMCA's to the Ten Point Coalition of clergy, from universities like Northeastern and Harvard to corporate players such as John Hancock, these strategic plans for a safer city are now well into implementation.

Supported by Mayor Tom Menino, the Boston Police Department has continued to add new officers, building the capacity to keep the same cops working in the same neighborhoods. This same cop/same neighborhood approach formed the framework for such initiatives as the Youth Service Providers Network, a partnership between the Boston Police Department and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston through which police officers work with at-risk children to help arrange needed social and community services.

Paul F. Evans is the Police Commissioner of the Boston Police Department and James Alan Fox is Dean of the College of Criminal Justice at Northeastern University.

With generous federal and state support, the strategy of same cops/same neighborhoods has taken root citywide and is critical for implementing the local neighborhood strategic plans. From the anti-graffiti campaign in Allston and Brighton to the order maintenance strategies of East Boston's Safe Neighborhood Initiative and the truancy intervention program in Dorchester, police offices are working with the community to resolve local problems through local solutions.

The Ten Point Coalition and the Boston Police Youth Violence Strike Force, with support from John Hancock Financial Services, continue to operate the Summer of Opportunity program, creating job opportunities for a growing number of at-risk youngsters. Summertime in Boston no longer brings about worries of rampant lawlessness by bored and unsupervised youth.

Through the Alternatives to Incarceration Network, courts and service providers are collaborating on choosing effective strategies for those offenders who need more than supervised probation, but for whom incarceration is not the best next step. This network grows out of a commitment to dealing with crime in a more comprehensive way.

Effective law enforcement requires detailed knowledge about the patterns and correlates crime. We know that 85 percent of convicted offenders in Massachusetts serve their sentences in the community, on probation or parole. We also know, through research conducted at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, that victims and perpetrators of violence typically have prior contact with criminal justice agencies. According to this research, 75 percent of youthful murder victims had been arraigned at least once.

Recognizing the advantages of inter-agency information sharing, we created targeted interventions, known by such names as Operation Nightlight and Operation Ceasefire, under the basic principle that outcomes are more important than turf. Boston's public safety and criminal justice communities have developed an unprecedented sense of common mission. Working collaboratively rather than competitively, with prevention as the overarching goal, new alliances are wearing down old turf barriers. Everybody participates: police, probation and parole, the district attorney, the attorney general, and the United States attorney, the Department of Youth Services, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and the FBI, among others.

Together, we achieved as much in 1996 as any community in the country. As a recent Northeastern University crime report indicates, we are one of the leaders in reducing levels of youth violence; other parts of the country have not been so successful.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1997

Clinton Urges Campaign Against Youth Crime

By ALISON MITCHELL

BOSTON, Feb. 19 — Signaling the new emphasis of his anti-crime measures in a second term, President Clinton today visited a city that has seen an impressive reduction in juvenile crime statistics and declared that the battle against youth crime "has got to become our top law-enforcement priority."

Pointing to population trends, Mr. Clinton said United States school enrollment had swelled to 52 million and was running above baby boom levels, numbers that he said could hold the potential for a youth crime epidemic.

"So we know we've got about six years to turn this juvenile crime thing around or our country is going to be living with chaos," he said in an address at the Boston campus of the University of Massachusetts. "And my successors will not be giving speeches about the wonderful opportunities of the global economy; they'll be trying to keep body and soul together for people on the streets of these cities."

Mr. Clinton also urged Congress to approve a \$495 million two-year campaign against youth crime. The program would include \$200 million in grants to allow localities to hire new prosecutors for juvenile crime and develop task forces to fight gangs, \$60 million to finance 1,000 new after-school programs and \$75 million for anti-truancy and crime prevention programs.

The President called for expand-

Mr. Clinton highlighted his proposals in a city that has had marked success in fighting juvenile violence. From 1990 to 1995 juvenile homicides in Boston fell by 80 percent and no juvenile has been killed by gunfire here since July 1995. From 1993 to 1995, the juvenile arrest rate for aggravated assault and battery with a firearm dropped 65 percent.

Police and public officials attribute the improvement to innovative and inexpensive strategies like one in which probation officers team with police officers to visit the homes of youths on probation to insure that they abide by their curfew and probation terms. Like New York, Boston has also focused on enforcing statutes against graffiti, truancy, noise and other so-called quality-of-life crimes in cutting the crime rate.

City officials also intensified their focus on gangs and guns after computer-aided research from Harvard University found that three-quarters of juvenile killers and their victims had been involved with gangs and that the authorities could identify firearms dealers who made significant numbers of illegal gun sales to young people.

"We know that if this can be done in Boston," Mr. Clinton said, "it can be done in every community, in every neighborhood of every size in the United States. And we ask the United States Congress to do what you've done here in Massachusetts: cross all party lines, throw politics away, throw the speeches in the trash can, join hands. Let's do what works and make America the safe place it has to be."

Congressional Republicans have proposed a three-year program against youth crime, a \$1.5 billion plan that would give grants to state and local governments for applying adult penalties to the most dangerous, violent juveniles. The grants could be used to build or expand juvenile detention centers to develop alternative sanction programs.

But Michael D. McCurry, the White House press secretary, said

Boston's experience showed that youth crime could be attacked through community policing and other community-based programs.

"It's not just about building more prisons or toughening law enforcement or providing more cops," Mr.

McCurry said. "It's also about a strategy of engagement in the community so that young people understand that adults care about their lives and are holding them accountable to more civil norms of behavior."

**Act now or face
chaos in six years,
the President says.**

ing controls on handguns so that youths who turn 18 and have juvenile records of violent crime are blocked from buying handguns. Adults who commit felonies are prohibited from possessing firearms, but juvenile records are not scrutinized in such purchases.

And he proposed changes in law to make it easier for prosecutors to fight gangs through increased penalties, new authority to seize property in cases of violence, racketeering and obstruction of justice and an easing of the burden of proof in certain car-jacking cases and Federal racketeering cases.

Clinton plan hits teen crime, gangs

\$495 million effort aims to stop 'chaos'

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON — In a city that has sharply reduced teen violence, President Clinton proposed a \$495 million national campaign against juvenile crime yesterday. He warned that America "is going to be living with chaos" unless the problem is attacked.

The biggest component of Clinton's two-year program is \$200 million for state and local anti-gang prosecution initiatives. It also provides \$60 million for 1,000 new after-school programs to keep youths off the streets and \$75 million for anti-truancy, school violence and crime intervention.

Proposing to expand the reach of the Brady law, Clinton called for a ban on handgun sales to those 18 or older who had been convicted of a felony as a juvenile.

Fighting juvenile crime "has got to become our top law enforcement priority," Clinton said in a speech in the University of Massachusetts' gym, where he got a rousing reception.

The president said that 95 percent of America's largest cities and 88 percent of the smaller cities are

plagued by gang crime. The number of people arrested for violent crimes will double by 2010 "unless we do something about it," Clinton said.

"The truth is that Boston and just a few other cities have removed any fig leaf of excuse that we can't do anything about it," Clinton said. "You have now proved that it can be stopped and therefore there is no excuse for not stopping it."

Republicans have proposed a \$1.5 billion, three-year program against juvenile crime that offers incentives to state and local governments to punish the most dangerous, violent youths as adults. Clinton's balanced budget proposal contains the money for this program, but Congress has to approve it.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, welcomed Clinton's speech, saying "there is substantial room for agreement in many areas" with measures he has already introduced.

Clinton said there is an urgency to deal with the problem. America's schools are bulging with 52 million young people, the largest school-age population ever, the president said.

"So we know we've got about six



MAKING HIS POINT. Speaking in Boston yesterday, President Clinton said the city's success in fighting violence gave hope for a solution. His proposals would provide \$200 million for state and local anti-gang efforts.

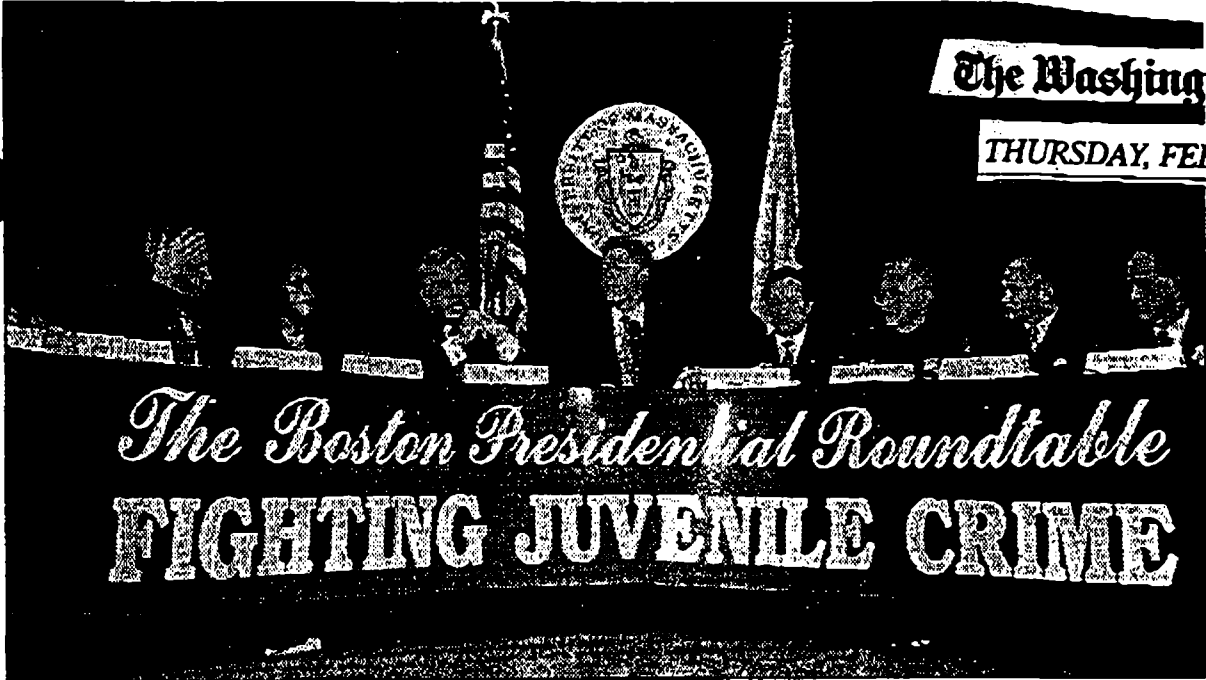
years to turn this juvenile crime thing around or our country is going to be living with chaos," Clinton said.

With community policing, truancy and noise statutes and a crackdown on probation violations, Boston has

seen juvenile homicides drop 80 percent from 1990 to 1995. Since July 1995, not a single juvenile has been killed by gunfire. Between 1993 and 1995, the juvenile violent crime arrest rate for aggravated assault and

battery with a firearm decreased 99 percent in Boston.

In a footnote to last year's presidential race, Clinton thanked Massachusetts for giving him the victory margin of any state.

The Washington Times**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1997**


The Boston Presidential Roundtable **FIGHTING JUVENILE CRIME**

President Clinton is flanked by Mayor Thomas Menino (left) and Police Commissioner Paul Evans as he announces his youth strategy. Mr. Clinton chose Boston because of its efforts to lower youth violence.

Clinton proposes spending \$500 million on youth crime

By Paul Bedard
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

BOSTON — Warning that the nation faces "chaos" if youth crime goes unchecked, President Clinton yesterday unveiled a \$500 million anti-gang and youth-violence strategy, including hiring 1,000 new prosecutors and requiring gun dealers to provide trigger locks.

Mr. Clinton said his program "is the critical next step in our fight to have a safe America and to give our children a safe childhood" and urged Republicans to support it.

He unveiled the two-year program here because Boston has led the nation in curbing youth violence through several initiatives the president has included in his plan. Mr. Clinton followed a similar pattern when he copied Georgia's "Hope Scholarship" program in drawing up a package of college tax credits.

White House officials said the Clinton program is a collection of mostly old programs and some new ones with a new name. It will be spelled out in legislation slated to be sent to Capitol Hill.

About half of the \$495 million price is new spending; the remainder covers currently funded programs that will be packaged under the new plan.

White House spokesman Michael McCurry said the new fund-

ing budget for the Treasury and Justice departments.

Among the new initiatives Mr. Clinton proposed in a speech at the University of Massachusetts:

- \$200 million to hire 1,000 new state and local prosecutors specifically to bust youth gangs.

- \$75 million for an anti-truancy and school-violence program.

- \$50 million in new funds to hire probation officers and nationalize Boston's program of surprise visits by probation officers.

- Requiring gun dealers to sell trigger locks with every handgun. Such locks cost \$11.95, according to a gun salesman at Potomac Arms in Alexandria, Va.

Mr. Clinton also announced that the Federal Communications Commission has added the number 311 to the police telephone network. He said 311 will be for non-emergency calls to police.

The Clinton plan would also expand previously announced anti-crime programs, such as funding midnight basketball leagues in high-crime areas, after-school activities, drug testing of minors as a requirement for a driver's license, and background checks of juvenile records for gun buyers.

Mr. McCurry said that the program has a two-year life and that the federal government expects the state and local governments that sign up to continue the fund-

ing, a lot of state and local governments, as they see the success of things like the program here in Boston, will begin to pick up some of these costs within their own allocation of resources," Mr. McCurry told reporters traveling with the president.

Mr. Clinton may expand his explanation of the program tomorrow when he travels to a D.C. school to discuss his domestic initiatives, an aide said.

Boston's program to combat crime has turned around the city's previously out-of-control youth violence. For example, no youth has been murdered with a gun in 18 months, and violent crime city-wide has dropped from a 1990 high of 13,673 cases to 9,154 last year.

The city police and justice departments have curbed crime by creating several programs to break up youth gangs and the illegal gun market. The city also has established a popular program called "Operation Night Light," in which probation officers make surprise nightly visits to the homes of former criminals to make sure they haven't turned back to crime.

"We cannot permit this to be only an achievement in Boston," said Mr. Clinton. "The story you have created here is the story we want to re-create in every community in the country," Mr. Clinton said before returning home late.

Thursday, February 20, 1997

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Police get right to oust car passengers

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Police can order all passengers — not just the driver — out of vehicles stopped for routine traffic offenses, the Supreme Court said yesterday, ruling that officers' safety outweighs passengers' privacy.

"Regrettably, traffic stops may be dangerous encounters" for police, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist wrote in a decision hailed by police groups.

The 7-2 decision in a Maryland case said ordering passengers not suspected of wrongdoing out of a car is only a "minimal" intrusion on their rights.

"Danger to an officer from a traffic stop is likely to be greater when there are passengers in addition to the driver in the stopped car," the chief justice added.

He noted that 11 police officers were killed and more than 5,700 were assaulted during traffic stops in 1994.

The two dissenters, Justices John Paul Stevens and Anthony M. Kennedy, said officers should be allowed to make passengers get out of a vehicle only when they actually suspect possible danger.

"The Constitution should not be read to permit law enforcement officers to order innocent passengers about simply because they have the misfortune to be seated in a car whose driver has committed a minor traffic offense," Stevens wrote for the two.

In 1977, the Supreme Court cited officers' safety fears in ruling that drivers stopped for routine traffic violations can be ordered by police to get out of their cars.

Yesterday's ruling reversed a

Maryland appeals court decision that said crack cocaine found during a 1994 traffic stop could not be used as evidence because the officer did not have the right to order a passenger out of a car.

The passenger, Jerry Lee Wilson, was charged with possession of cocaine with intent to distribute. Yesterday's ruling means the crack cocaine that fell to the ground when Wilson got out of the car can be used as evidence against him.

The car in which Wilson was riding was stopped in Baltimore County for speeding and having no license tag. A state trooper ordered Wilson out of the car after noticing he seemed very nervous. When Wilson stepped out, the cocaine fell to the ground.

The Supreme Court did not decide whether officers can bar passengers ordered out of a car from leaving the scene.

THE FREE LANCE-STAR, Fredericksburg, Virginia, Wednesday, February 19, 1997

Court rejects appeal on use of marijuana as a medicine

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court yesterday rejected an Iowa man's effort to get the federal government to formally recognize what he says are marijuana's medicinal uses.

The court, without comment, turned away arguments that the federal Drug Enforcement Administration improperly has refused to remove some of the severe restrictions against the illegal drug.

Several experts have said there is no proven medical use for smoked marijuana. However, some research has suggested that the drug is useful in relieving internal eye pressure in glaucoma; for controlling nausea in cancer patients on chemotherapy, and for combating wasting, a severe weight loss associated with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome and the HIV virus.

Doctors who treat AIDS and cancer sued the Clinton administration last month for threatening to punish doctors who recommend marijuana for their

patients.

New laws in California and Arizona allowing medical uses of the drug sparked a harsh response from the federal government.

The government last month said it will spend up to \$1 million gathering scientific evidence on marijuana's effectiveness as a medical treatment. The review will be conducted by the Institute of Medicine at the National Academy of Sciences.

Carl Olsen of Des Moines asked the DEA in 1992 to reclassify marijuana from a Schedule I drug to some less-stringently regulated classification under the Controlled Substances Act.

The DEA turned Olsen down, reaffirming its position that marijuana does not have a currently accepted medical use.

Olsen then sued, contending that marijuana need not have an accepted medical use but only be shown to be "a source for an accepted and useful medication."

THE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1997

Justices Rule Police May Order Passengers Out of Cars Even in Absence of Any Reason

By LINDA GREENHOUSE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19 — The Supreme Court ruled today that police officers may order passengers out of the cars they stop for routine traffic violations, even in the absence of any reason to suspect that the passenger has committed a crime or presents a threat to the officer's safety.

The 7-to-2 decision, adopting a position long advocated by police organizations, was an extension of a 1977 Supreme Court decision permitting police officers to order the driver out of the car in a routine traffic stop.

"On the public interest side of the balance, the same weighty interest in officer safety is present regardless of whether the occupant of the stopped car is a driver or passen-

ger," Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist said in the majority opinion today.

The two dissenting Justices, John Paul Stevens and Anthony M. Kennedy, objected that the decision marked a substantial contraction of the Fourth Amendment right to be free of unreasonable searches and seizures.

"The Court takes the unprecedented step of authorizing seizures that are unsupported by any individualized suspicion whatsoever," Justice Stevens said. Justice Kennedy said the result would be to place "tens of millions of passengers at risk of arbitrary control by the police."

The decision overturned a 1995 ruling by a state appeals court in Maryland. State courts around the country had been split on the question. Thir-

ty-eight states joined Maryland in asking the Justices to overturn the Maryland ruling, and the Clinton Administration showed its support by having Attorney General Janet Reno, in her first Supreme Court appearance, argue on behalf of Maryland when the case was heard two months ago.

The Maryland court, ruling that the police need "some individualized or particularized suspicion" before ordering a passenger out of a car,

refused to permit the prosecution to introduce the crack cocaine that had fallen to the ground when a passenger, Jerry Lee Wilson, obeyed a state trooper's order to get out of a car that was stopped for speeding on Interstate 95 near Baltimore.

In his opinion today, *Maryland v. Wilson*, No. 95-1268, Chief Justice Rehnquist said that "in one sense" a passenger has a stronger case than a driver for not being ordered out of the car: it is the driver, and not the passenger, who has committed a traffic offense.

But there is little difference "as a practical matter," the Chief Justice said, because all occupants of the car have already been stopped "by virtue of the stop of the vehicle." If there is evidence inside the vehicle of a more serious crime, he said, "the

motivation of a passenger to employ violence to prevent apprehension of such a crime is every bit as great as that of the driver."

Chief Justice Rehnquist cited Federal statistics showing that in 1994, 5,762 police officers were assaulted and 11 were killed during traffic pursuits and stops.

Justice Stevens, in dissent, objected that these statistics gave no indication of how many of the incidents involved passengers; whether the passengers were inside or outside of the cars; or whether the violence would have been prevented had the passengers been ordered out.

In response, Chief Justice Rehnquist said, "It is, indeed, regrettable that the empirical data on a subject such as this are sparse, but we need not ignore the data which do exist simply because further refinement would be even more helpful."

When the case was argued in December, the Maryland Attorney General, J. Joseph Curran, appeared to startle most of the Justices by making the sweeping argument that not only could police officers order passengers out of the car, but they could also prevent passengers not suspected of any crime from leaving the scene — to hail a taxi, for example. Chief Justice Rehnquist said today that this issue "is not presented by this case, and we express no opinion upon it."

Police powers are extended, to protect officers on patrol.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1997

Clinton Touts 'Prevention' To Curb Juvenile Crime

By a WALL STREET JOURNAL Staff Reporter

BOSTON — President Clinton proposed a \$200 million program to curb juvenile crime, including banning individuals who commit felonies as youths from buying handguns when they become adults.

The president's effort requires Congress to pass legislation that would allow hiring 1,000 new prosecutors to focus on juvenile and gang violence. The bill also would fund 1,000 new after-school programs and would give prosecutors the authority to charge more juveniles as adults when they are accused of violent crimes.

"We have to have more special court proceedings for young people, with greater flexibility to handle juveniles, and tougher penalties to punish those who are really gone, and then more flexibility and other opportunities to save those that ought to be saved," Mr. Clinton said, in a speech at the University of Massachusetts at Boston.

The real answer, he said, "has got to be prevention. We have got to prevent these things from happening in the first place. That's what all the law enforcement people know."

THE WASHINGTON POST

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1997

Clinton Announces Offensive Against Rising Juvenile Crime

By John F. Harris
Washington Post Staff Writer

BOSTON, Feb. 19—Halting youth violence and reversing a decade-long climb in juvenile crime and gang activity should be "the nation's top law enforcement priority," President Clinton declared today, warning that if new policies are not enacted soon "our country is going to be living in chaos."

Appearing in a city that has had success in curbing violence among its young, Clinton outlined a package of federal legislation that he asserted would deter youth crime and punish it more severely.

Clinton's plan includes spending about \$500 million over the next two years, including \$200 million in subsidies to state and local governments to hire prosecutors focusing particularly on gang crime and juvenile violence. He also called for expanding the Brady law, which bars handgun purchases by convicted felons, to include a lifetime ban on handgun purchases by juveniles convicted of crimes.

Along with these get-tough proposals, Clinton called for increased spending on social initiatives that conservatives traditionally have shunned. These include \$60 million in annual grants to localities to fund after-school programs. Clinton cited a Justice Department study showing that about "50 percent of the juvenile crime in America occurs after school is closed and before the parents are home."

Clinton, who appeared today with Democrats and this state's Republican governor, William F. Weld, appealed for bipartisan support for his program. And he made plain he wanted to straddle the ideological debate over how best to combat crime. "Tough when you should be tough, smart when you should be smart, compassionate when you should be compassionate," Clinton said, describing his approach to crime.

Many parts of the program Clinton detailed today he had discussed before, including his pitch for mandatory safety locks on handguns to prevent household accidents and deter theft. He also reiterated appeals he made last year to expand the authority of federal prosecutors to try juveniles accused of violent crimes as adults. But his speech to a crowded gymnasium today at the University of Massachusetts campus here was his attempt to distill these various ideas into a larger whole, and aides said it signaled what will be a major theme of Clinton's appearances and legislative agenda this year.

The \$500 million over two years Clinton wants to spend on youth crime shows the fiscal constraints his second-term agenda is facing. The \$200 million for local prosecutors is the largest item in his plan; other items include \$75 million for local anti-truancy programs and \$50 million for youth courts and probation officers.

Republicans have proposed a \$1.5 billion, three-year program against juvenile crime that offers incentives to state and local governments to punish the most dangerous youths as adults.

On the other side, the Children's Defense Fund expressed concern about trying juveniles as adults and questioned whether Clinton was proposing enough money for prevention.

In his remarks today, Clinton noted in society as a whole crime has been dropping in most categories, but juvenile crime has been following the opposite trend. Between 1987 and 1993, the juvenile violent crime arrest rate surged 62 percent, according to federal figures, although a slight drop was recorded last year. Juvenile homicides likewise have increased more than 2½ times since 1981. Because of a steady increase in gangs, 65 percent of large cities and 88 percent of small cities are afflicted with gang-related crime.

The nation's demographic trends, Clinton said, make these problems more urgent. Declined by large new elementary school enrollment, there are about 52 million children in schools, a national record, Clinton said. "And so we know we've got about six years to turn this juvenile crime thing around or our country is going to be living in chaos," he warned. "And my successors will not be giving speeches about the wonderful opportunities of the global economy, they'll be trying to keep body and soul together for people on the streets of these cities."

Boston has attracted notice because of some encouraging statistics. The number of juveniles arrested for assault and battery with a firearm dropped 65 percent between 1993 and 1995. And this city has had no young people killed by a firearm in 19 months.

City officials attribute the drop to an array of programs, including "Operation Night Light," which involves visits to homes to ensure youths are following the terms of their probation. They also credit prevention campaigns, including some which put youth in part-time jobs.

Republicans criticized the prevention aspects of Clinton's 1994 crime bill, making particular sport of subsidies for midnight basketball. But Clinton said Boston's experience shows the need not merely "to punish those who have done wrong but to give kids a chance to make some positive steps and actually have a little constructive fun in their lives."

Clinton returned to Washington tonight from two days on the road. On Thursday, he will announce changes to the Medicaid insurance program for the poor, requiring doctors to notify patients of all available treatments, not merely the least expensive ones. The change mirrors administration policy already in effect for the Medicare program for the elderly.

Clinton Urges Campaign Against Youth Crime

By ALISON MITCHELL

BOSTON, Feb. 19 — Signaling the new emphasis of his anti-crime measures in a second term, President Clinton today visited a city that has seen an impressive reduction in juvenile crime statistics and declared that the battle against youth crime "has got to become our top law-enforcement priority."

Pointing to population trends, Mr. Clinton said United States school enrollment had swelled to 52 million and was running above baby boom levels, numbers that he said could hold the potential for a youth crime epidemic.

"So we know we've got about six years to turn this juvenile crime thing around or our country is going to be living with chaos," he said in an address at the Boston campus of the University of Massachusetts. "And my successors will not be giving speeches about the wonderful opportunities of the global economy; they'll be trying to keep body and soul together for people on the streets of these cities."

Mr. Clinton also urged Congress to approve a \$495 million two-year campaign against youth crime. The program would include \$200 million in grants to allow localities to hire new prosecutors for juvenile crime and develop task forces to fight gangs, \$60 million to finance 1,000 new after-school programs and \$75 million for anti-truancy and crime prevention programs.

The President called for expand-

Act now or face chaos in six years, the President says.

ing controls on handguns so that youths who turn 18 and have juvenile records of violent crime are blocked from buying handguns. Adults who commit felonies are prohibited from possessing firearms, but juvenile records are not scrutinized in such purchases.

And he proposed changes in law to make it easier for prosecutors to fight gangs through increased penalties, new authority to seize property in crimes of violence, racketeering and obstruction of justice and an easing of the burden of proof in certain car-jacking cases and Federal racketeering cases.

Mr. Clinton highlighted his proposals in a city that has had marked success in fighting juvenile violence. From 1990 to 1995 juvenile homicides in Boston fell by 80 percent and no juvenile has been killed by gunfire here since July 1995. From 1993 to 1995, the juvenile arrest rate for aggravated assault and battery with a firearm dropped 65 percent.

Police and public officials attribute the improvement to innovative and inexpensive strategies like one in which probation officers team with police officers to visit the homes

of youths on probation to insure that they abide by their curfew and probation terms. Like New York, Boston has also focused on enforcing statutes against graffiti, truancy, noise and other so-called quality-of-life crimes in cutting the crime rate.

City officials also intensified their focus on gangs and guns after computer-aided research from Harvard University found that three-quarters of juvenile killers and their victims had been involved with gangs and that the authorities could identify firearms dealers who made significant numbers of illegal gun sales to young people.

"We know that if this can be done in Boston," Mr. Clinton said, "it can be done in every community, in every neighborhood of every size in the United States. And we ask the United States Congress to do what you've done here in Massachusetts: cross all party lines, throw politics away, throw the speeches in the trash can, join hands. Let's do what works and make America the safe place it has to be."

Congressional Republicans have proposed a three-year program against youth crime, a \$1.5 billion plan that would give grants to state and local governments for applying adult penalties to the most dangerous, violent juveniles. The grants could be used to build or expand juvenile detention centers to develop alternative sanction programs.

But Michael D. McCurry, the White House press secretary, said



Reuters

President Clinton shared a laugh yesterday with Mayor Thomas M. Menino of Boston at a juvenile crime and justice seminar at the University of Massachusetts after a participant used a metaphor, then hastened to say he was not referring to Mr. Clinton in saying it was easier to lose the first 20 pounds when dieting than the second 20.

Boston's experience showed that youth crime could be attacked through community policing and other community-based programs.

"It's not just about building more prisons or toughening law enforcement or providing more cops," Mr.

McCurry said. "It's also about a strategy of engagement in the community so that young people understand that adults care about their lives and are holding them accountable to more civil norms of behavior."

Clinton Announces Offensive Against Rising Juvenile Crime

By John F. Harris
Washington Post Staff Writer

BOSTON, Feb. 19—Halting youth violence and reversing a decade-long climb in juvenile crime and gang activity should be "the nation's top law enforcement priority," President Clinton declared today, warning that if new policies are not enacted soon "our country is going to be living in chaos."

Appearing in a city that has had success in curbing violence among its young, Clinton outlined a package of federal legislation that he asserted would deter youth crime and punish it more severely.

Clinton's plan includes spending about \$500 million over the next two years, including \$200 million in subsidies to state and local governments to hire prosecutors focusing particularly on gang crime and juvenile violence. He also called for expanding the Brady law, which bars handgun purchases by convicted felons, to include a lifetime ban on handgun purchases by juveniles convicted of violent crimes.

Along with these get-tough proposals, Clinton called for increased spending on social initiatives that conservatives traditionally have shunned. These include \$60 million in annual grants to localities to fund after-school programs. Clinton cited a Justice Department study showing that about "50 percent of the juvenile crime in America occurs after school is closed and before the parents are home."

Clinton, who appeared today with Democrats and this state's Republican governor, William F. Weld, appealed for bipartisan support for his program. And he made plain he wanted to straddle the ideological debate over how best to combat crime. "Tough when you should be tough, smart when you should be smart, compassionate when you should be compassionate," Clinton said, describing his approach to crime.

Many parts of the program Clinton detailed today he had discussed before, including his pitch for mandatory safety locks on handguns to prevent household accidents and deter theft. He also reiterated appeals he made last year to expand the authority of federal prosecutors to try juveniles accused of violent crimes as adults. But his speech to a crowded gymnasium today at the University of Massachusetts campus here was his first attempt to distill these various ideas into a larger whole, and aides said it signaled what will be a major theme of Clinton's appearances and legislative agenda this year.

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The nation's demographic trends, Clinton said, make these problems more urgent. Fueled by large new elementary school enrollment, there are about 52 million children in schools, a national record, Clinton said. "And so we know we've got about six years to turn this juvenile crime thing around or our country is going to be living in chaos," he warned. "And my successors will not be giving speeches about the wonderful opportunities of the global economy, they'll be trying to keep body and soul together for people on the streets of these cities."

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The Washington Post

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1997

Clinton pushes juvenile crime plan

**\$495 million
is requested
for initiative**

By Mimi Hall
USA TODAY

BOSTON — President Clinton announced a \$495 million proposal Wednesday to reduce crimes by and against young people nationwide — a topic Republicans in Congress are also eager to address.

This city has seen juvenile homicides drop 80% over five years. Not one juvenile here has been killed by a gun since July 1995.

However, Clinton told about 4,000 people at the University of Massachusetts' campus: "The truth is that all across our country children are still killing children — for shoes, for jackets, for turf. And we can stop it."

Clinton is asking Congress to approve a plan to spend nearly \$250 million over two years on new state and local anti-gang

prosecutors, after-school programs to keep youths off the streets, juvenile justice courts and efforts to combat truancy and violence in schools.

He's also pushing for more federal authority for prosecutors to charge violent juveniles as adults. The president also wants an extension of the Brady law, with its five-day wait and background checks for handgun buyers, to apply to violent juveniles.

Republicans in Congress are considering initiatives against juvenile crime that include

some similar provisions at a cost of \$1.5 billion over the next three years.

Paul McNulty, counsel for the House subcommittee on crime, said juvenile justice is an area where both parties "start off essentially agreeing on some priority issues."

But McNulty said Republicans and Democrats may fight, as they did over the 1994 crime bill, over whether Washington should dictate how states and cities use federal money or whether, as Republicans prefer, states are given block

grants to use as they see fit.

The 1994 law, which approved funding to put 100,000 more police on the nation's streets, was step one, Clinton said. "Step two has got to be a very sharp and disciplined focus on the problems of juvenile violence, juvenile crime, juvenile gangs."

Massachusetts Gov. William Weld, a Republican, appeared with Clinton and said he supports the president's efforts to extend programs that have worked in Boston to other cities across the country.

USA TODAY
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1997

Clinton proposes spending \$500 million on youth crime

By Paul Bedard
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

BOSTON — Warning that the nation faces "chaos" if youth crime goes unchecked, President Clinton yesterday unveiled a \$500 million anti-gang and youth-violence strategy, including hiring 1,000 new prosecutors and requiring gun dealers to provide trigger locks.

Mr. Clinton said his program "is the critical next step in our fight to have a safe America and to give our children a safe childhood" and urged Republicans to support it.

He unveiled the two-year program here because Boston has led the nation in curbing youth violence through several initiatives the president has included in his plan. Mr. Clinton followed a similar pattern when he copied Georgia's "Hope Scholarship" program in drawing up a package of college tax credits.

White House officials said the Clinton program is a collection of mostly old programs and some new ones with a new name. It will be spelled out in legislation slated to be sent to Capitol Hill.

About half of the \$495 million price is new spending; the remainder covers currently funded programs that will be packaged under the new plan.

White House spokesman Michael McCurry said the new funding is included in the fiscal 1998

budget for the Treasury and Justice departments.

Among the new initiatives Mr. Clinton proposed in a speech at the University of Massachusetts:

- \$200 million to hire 1,000 new state and local prosecutors specifically to bust youth gangs.

- \$75 million for an anti-truancy and school-violence program.

- \$50 million in new funds to hire probation officers and nationalize Boston's program of surprise visits by probation officers.

- Requiring gun dealers to sell trigger locks with every handgun. Such locks cost \$11.95, according to a gun salesman at Potomac Arms in Alexandria, Va.

Mr. Clinton also announced that the Federal Communications Commission has added the number 311 to the police telephone network. He said 311 will be for non-emergency calls to police.

The Clinton plan would also expand previously announced anti-crime programs, such as funding midnight basketball leagues in high-crime areas, after-school activities, drug testing of minors as a requirement for a driver's license, and background checks of juvenile records for gun buyers.

Mr. McCurry said that the program has a two-year life and that the federal government expects the state and local governments that sign up to continue the funding.

"We suspect a lot of communi-

ties, a lot of state and local governments, as they see the success of things like the program here in Boston, will begin to pick up some of these costs within their own allocation of resources," Mr. McCurry told reporters traveling with the president.

Mr. Clinton may expand his explanation of the program tomorrow when he travels to a D.C. school to discuss his domestic initiatives, an aide said.

Boston's program to combat crime has turned around the city's previously out-of-control youth violence. For example, no youth has been murdered with a gun in 18 months, and violent crime city-wide has dropped from a 1990 high of 13,673 cases to 9,154 last year.

The city police and justice departments have curbed crime by creating several programs to break up youth gangs and the illegal gun market. The city also has established a popular program called "Operation Night Light," in which probation officers make surprise nightly visits to the homes of former criminals to make sure they haven't turned back to crime.

"We cannot permit this to be only an achievement in Boston," said Mr. Clinton. "The story you have created here is the story we want to re-create in every community in the country," Mr. Clinton said before returning home late yesterday.

The Washington Times

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1997

discussed, say, marijuana has been shown to be effective.

"If this were any other drug," said Kevin Z, an activist with a group called Common Sense for Drug Policy, "it would be available by prescription."

But Kaufman, the Wisconsin glaucoma researcher, disagreed: "I have absolutely no idea how this drug works. We're not sure whether it works centrally though brain mechanisms or whether it works directly on the eye."

"We approve this drug tomorrow," he said, "we would be in the usual position of approving a drug of whose mechanism we have absolutely no idea."

Deng Xiaoping's death is not expected to change U.S. policy of engaging China By Peter Slevin Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON The recent warming of U.S.-China relations appears unlikely to be affected by the death of Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping, who long ago surrendered his political influence to President Jiang Zemin and China's next generation.

The Clinton administration, eager to do business with China and benefit from its galloping economy, reaffirmed Wednesday its strategy of engaging Beijing's leaders on a broad range of issues from trade to nuclear proliferation to the July return of Hong Kong to Chinese rule.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright intends to visit Beijing as planned on Monday. Vice President Al Gore is due to follow her in early spring. Jiang is expected in Washington for a red-carpet visit to the White House before the end of the year.

Indeed, Deng's demise had been anticipated for so long that rumors frequently circulated that he was already dead. And that's the way Beijing's new leaders generally acted in matters of foreign and domestic policy alike.

"Our expectation is that we will see a great deal of continuity in terms of our relationship with China and with the Chinese leadership," a White House official said Wednesday. "The current leadership in China is clearly in charge."

President Clinton, who came to office after Deng relinquished his last official post in 1990, offered nothing but praise for the pragmatic Chinese Communist leader on Wednesday. He called him "an extraordinary leader on the world stage."

Scheduling an exchange of state visits with Jiang last November, however, the president sent a clear signal of the U.S. assessment that power had been transferred. The administration believes Jiang is firmly in control and will survive any short-term battle for succession.

China analysts agree that Jiang appears ascendant. They predict he will work to maintain China's relationship with Washington and the West, without making concessions on human rights or taking political steps that could weaken the leadership's grip on power.

"I think this leadership is anxious to have, on balance, a good relationship with the United States," said University of Michigan scholar Kenneth Lieberthal, noting the coming year's challenges, from Hong Kong to the party congress. "They don't want problems with the United States to crowd that agenda, which is already overly full."

China specialist David Bachman at the University of Washington in Seattle foresees "a continuation of the status quo for the short term. Political repression, gradual military build-up, economic reform."

"In the short term, it's not likely to be messy," said Bachman, but he believes a longer-term power struggle is possible. "Jiang is the first among equals now. It is not clear that he could consolidate power in a way to remove his opponents if they got uppity, to build coalitions, to set the ideological line of the regime."

Deng, 93, had not met with a foreign leader for five years and had not been seen in public for nearly three, said Lieberthal. He suggested that no successor has emerged with Deng's strategic commitment to good Sino-American relations or the steady hand to manage difficulties when they happen.

U.S.-China relations have been on the mend for nearly a year now, following a tense exchange over aggressive Chinese moves toward Taiwan and Clinton's dispatch of U.S. warships to the Taiwan Strait.

"We've come through the worst of it. Both teams have learned to handle each other with a little bit more care," said Douglas Paal, an analyst at the Asia Pacific Policy Center. "Unless we're hit from the unexpected event, I think we're looking at a pretty steady

Leading figures in the Chinese government, and their position in the Communist Party leadership.

HEAD OF STATE

President: Jiang Zemin, 70 (General Secretary, Politburo)

Vice-President: Rong Yiren, 80

STATE COUNCIL

Premier: Li Peng, 68 (Politburo member)

Vice-Premiers: Zhu Rongji, 68 (Politburo), Zou Jiahua, 70 (Politburo), Qian Qichen, 69 (Politburo), Li Lanqing, 64 (Politburo), Wu Bangguo, 55 (Politburo), Jiang Chunyun, 66 (Politburo)

President Clinton, using Boston as a model, outlines plans to curb juvenile violence By Kathy Lewis The Dallas Morning News (KRT)

BOSTON No youth in Boston has been killed by gunfire since July, 1995.

And that is an example the nation must follow, President Clinton said Wednesday as he outlined an estimated \$495 million anti-gang and youth violence strategy.

"You haven't had a single child killed with a gun in a year and a half in this city. How I would pray that could happen in every city in America," said Clinton, during a speech at the University of Massachusetts.

He modeled his two-year plan after the Boston program which emphasizes prevention, intervention and enforcement.

"We cannot permit this to be only an achievement in Boston ... Sooner or later, what we have to do is to create the notion that it is normal for kids not to get shot."

Among Clinton's legislative proposals are:

- Spending \$200 million on new local prosecutors and on new ways to pursue and punish gang members.

- Revising the Brady Law to make certain juveniles who have been convicted of a violent crime cannot legally buy a handgun after turning 18. It also would require safety locks on handguns.

- Spending \$60 million for 1,000 new after-school programs, \$75 million for anti-truancy, curfews and other intervention programs and \$50 million for a Youth Violence Courts initiative.

- Establishing federal authority to prosecute more youths as adults for violent offenses.

Clinton said Boston and several other cities had removed "any fig leaf of excuse" that nothing can be done about juvenile crime.

Both the president and Massachusetts officials said the Boston plan is based on what works.

It is "tough when you should be tough, smart when you should be smart, compassionate when you should be compassionate," Clinton said.

The Boston plan has several components, including Operation Night Life, which sends both police and probation officers on nightly visits to the homes of youths on probation.

The city also launched Operation Cease-fire, which enforces anti-graffiti laws, anti-truancy and anti-noise statutes. Boston Gun Project uses computers to trace serial numbers of guns sold illegally to youth.

Mayor Tom Menino also meets every six weeks with a Youth Council.

While the city never had a high rate of youth killed by guns, officials said the statistics are significant. Between 1990 and 1995 youth murders dropped by 80 percent. Violent crime in schools decreased and more "drug dens" have been closed, according to a White House fact sheet.

Clinton's proposal requires legislative approval, but the Republicans also have a juvenile crime fighting plan that calls for \$1.5 billion over three years.

Earlier this week, administration officials estimated Clinton's proposal at \$550 million to \$600 million, and said at least half the cost was already approved.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, welcomed Clinton's speech, The Associated Press reported. "There is substantial room for agreement in many areas" with measures he has already introduced, Hatch said.

"We are willing to consider alternatives and new ideas, and look forward to seeing the president's legislative proposal," Hatch said in a joint statement with freshman Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., who chairs the committee's youth violence panel.

of page:

Col 1: In a victory for abortion protesters, the Supreme Court rules they have a free-speech right to confront pregnant women on the walks outside clinics and to urge them strongly not to go ahead the procedure. (COURT-TIMES, moved).

Cols 2-6: Deng Xiaoping, China's "paramount leader" and a steely pragmatist who broke the spell of Maoist ideology and forged the world's most populous nation into an economic powerhouse, dies in his Beijing home at age 92. (with art) (CHINA-TIMES, moved).

Above fold:

Cols 2-3: Deng Xiaoping, who brought pioneering economic reforms and an unprecedented prosperity to China but ruthlessly resisted efforts to change the country's political system, dies at 92. (CHINA-OBIT-TIMES, moved).

Cols 4-5: The death of Deng Xiaoping creates a series of new uncertainties for the United States in trying to deal with the world's most populous country. (CHINA-POLICY-ASSESS, moved).

Bottom of page:

Cols 1-2: If anyone is in a position to be the white knight in the Democratic Party fund-raising debacle, it is Sen. Fred D. Thompson, a Tennessee Republican better known as the scowl-faced actor in such action films as "Die Hard II"; an outspoken advocate of campaign reform, Thompson is now cast as chairman of the Senate committee investigating Democratic money-grubbing. (DONATE-THOMPSON, moved).

Cols 4-6: Singer Pat Boone, one of America's best known Christian entertainers, has been taken off the air by a national religious television network for showing up at the American Music Awards dressed like a heavy metal rock singer. (with art). (BOONE, moved).

**Clinton Unveils Plan to Fight Gangs, Youth
Vi (Boston) By Jonathan Pete
(c) 1997, Los Angeles Times**

BOSTON President Clinton, describing the fight against U.S. juvenile crime as "our top law enforcement priority," unveiled a series of proposals Wednesday to combat gangs and youth violence, including federal support for local prosecutors, efforts against truancy and aid to help 1,000 schools stay open longer.

Overall, the measures would cost half a billion dollars over the next two years. The expense was included in the administration's recent spending plan and does not alter forecasts about balancing the budget, the White House said.

"It is the critical next step in our fight to have a safe Americana and to give our children a safe childhood," Clinton told an audience at the University of Massachusetts Boston campus.

Clinton's "anti-gang and youth violence strategy" is a mix of new proposals and some previously announced initiatives, including:

\$200 million to pay for local prosecutors, particularly of violent gang members.

\$75 million aimed at keeping "at risk" children out of trouble through such efforts as fighting truancy and supporting curfews.

\$60 million for 1,000 new programs across the country to help schools bear the expense of staying open later in the day, on weekends and during the summer.

\$50 million for grants to improve the juvenile justice system, to ensure that crimes of violence are reviewed in a timely manner and to consider when youthful defendants should be referred to adult courts.

Some juvenile crime experts said that the president's initiatives reflected an understanding that communities should subject children to rules and penalties for not obeying them early rather than waiting for more serious offenses that could land them in jail.

"The key is to have rules and enforce them," said Gerald Caplan, dean of the McGeorge Law School in Sacramento, Calif. "The penalty need not be harsh. The likelihood of a sanction being enforced is far more important than the severity of the sanction."

Juvenile crime is one of the five areas that Clinton and GOP congressional leaders agreed they would find consensus on during an unusual meeting in the Capitol last week.

"We will need the president's help to pass a strong bill, and I welcome his expressions of interest," said Sen. John Ashcroft, R-Mo., a leading sponsor of the GOP draft legislation to combat youth crime.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, who introduced a crime bill with a major section devoted to youth crime, said Republicans would cooperate with the president.

**Starr Says Whitewater Indictments Still
Being Studied (Washn) By Robert L. Jackson
(c) 1997, Los Angeles Times**

WASHINGTON Independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr tried Wednesday to quell the controversy that has erupted over his impending departure, insisting "no decisions or resolutions have been made" about who may be indicted in the coming months of his Whitewater probe.

Yet, prominent defense lawyers continued to predict that Starr's plans to leave office this summer to become dean of Pepperdine University Law School in Malibu, Calif., signaled he had failed to ensnare his prime quarry.

"I can't see Ken jumping ship at this point if he was about to prosecute either of the Clintons," said one defense attorney who knows him.

Some supporters said Starr should reconsider his decision because of its likely adverse impact on cooperating witnesses.

Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., a longtime friend and backer of Starr, wrote him to say "your departure will have a very serious, if not devastating, effect on the investigation."

"There are many witnesses or potential witnesses who will be dissuaded by your departure as a sign that the issues will not be pursued with the same diligence," Specter continued. "I share that concern."

In a breakfast address to a suburban Virginia lawyers' group, Starr said sufficient time remains to determine whether more than the dozen convictions or guilty pleas obtained so far in the Whitewater investigation should be sought.

"No decisions or resolutions have been made by this office," Starr insisted, adding "we have set up an indictment review process." He apparently was referring to a confidential document more than 200



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Subject: 1997-2-19 McCurry briefing Boston MA

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Boston, Massachusetts)

For Immediate Release

February 19, 1997

PRESS BRIEFING BY
MIKE MCCURRY

University of Massachusetts
Boston, Massachusetts

11:42 A.M. EST

MR. MCCURRY: I just thought before the President starts talking, because we may not have a chance to talk later, if you've got any questions, interests. Anything you want to know? The President is very excited, obviously, about the juvenile justice initiative announced today --

Q Figures --

MR. MCCURRY: There are some statements coming out -- I think that you know that the Consumer Price Index increased 0.1 percent in January -- we have now a combined Misery Index that is approaching decades lows, which is encouraging news. It shows the fundamental strength of the American economy that continues to grow at an acceptable pace, with low levels of inflation, low levels of unemployment, with the basic fundamentals that encouraged the President to believe that we can sustain economic growth for sometime to come.

And very directly related to subjects we've been talking about the last two days -- a growing economy is clearly responsible for some of the

success we've had in reducing welfare rolls and, simultaneously, the growing economy also makes it easier to deal with some of the problems that we face in inner-city areas that have been distressed by things like juvenile violence. So you could say, in a way this economic news ties things together.

The trade figures -- the Commerce Department will tell you more about that, but the fundamental strength of the U.S. economy obviously has made the purchasing power of our consumers greater than some of the abilities of consumers in other industrialized nations to import products, which creates an imbalance. If you look at the export numbers, we continue to generate high levels of export-driven goods and services going overseas, but they can't offset what American consumers are buying because of the strength of our own economy and the increase in wages as they import products from abroad.

It's the same fundamental situation we've been dealing with. But, again, the Commerce Department, when they tell you more about this, will point to the export side.

Q Mike, can you help sort out the cost of this youth violence plan? How much is it over a two years, one year?

MR. MCCURRY: It's difficult to do because some of these are one-year initiatives that are reflected in the FY '98 structure of the budget; some of them will be two-year efforts.

Roughly put, this is about a half a billion dollar initiative over two years -- roughly \$495 million over two years, included in the President's balanced budget plan. The key components, obviously, are the \$200 million for the state and local anti-gang prosecution initiatives; the \$75 million for the anti-truancy, school, violence and crime intervention initiative; and

the funding for 1,000 new after-school programs to keep kids off the streets. There is a very tentative estimate of roughly \$60 million for that item.

We also have \$50 million for the youth violence courts and probation officer initiatives. Those are the substantial parts of the funding mechanisms here, but don't miss the fact that a large part of the initiative deals with toughening the enforcement mechanisms that are available in the courts and available to prosecutors.

Q Mike, the Republicans would spend \$1.5 billion over three years. Why is your plan superior to theirs?

MR. MCCURRY: Our plan focuses on what works. And we see it here in Boston -- intervention; local communities coming together and drawing on the resources of local police departments that are invigorated with the concept of community policing; and church leaders, parents, school leaders and others

who are committed to attacking this problem of one that requires personal involvement in a community.

It's not just about building more prisons or toughening law enforcement or providing more cops, it's also about a strategy of engagement in the community so that young people understand that adults care about their lives and are holding them accountable to more civil norms of behavior.

Q Mike, the numbers add up to \$385 million.

MR. MCCURRY: Yes, these are numbers that are reflected in the first two years. Now, there are some additional funding in there for things like the drug testing of minors, for some of the ability to prosecute more juveniles.

You know, roughly speaking, I am told, we're talking about as you take this year and next year you're taking about \$500 million within our balanced budget track and devoting them to these programs. Don't try to add up all these programs because they'll never add for you in that fashion. The ones that we've identified here are the ones that have got specific funding allocations for the effort identified.

Q Mike, of new money that is -- the \$500 million is an increment above and beyond what was spent under some of these programs?

MR. MCCURRY: No, this is the total federal investment for these programs. Now, some of these are continuing things that we did in the previous crime bill and that are currently funded out of the crime trust fund. So some of this is a continuation of efforts underway; some of it represents a new infusion of money for things that we are going to try to provide funding for, like the state and local anti-gang prosecution initiatives, which is a new element of this strategy.

Q So that the \$500 million is the cumulative figure, not the incremental, new figure --

MR. MCCURRY: That's correct. That's the investment for this initiative for the anti-gang and youth violence strategy over roughly a two-year period.

Q But is the \$200 million new? Is that entirely new money, \$200 million?

MR. MCCURRY: That \$200 million is for a new effort, which is the 1,000 new state and local anti-gang prosecution initiatives, correct.

Q Mike, what happens after two years when, for

example, that program is over? Is there more funding to keep these guys or women on the payroll, or what happens?

MR. MCCURRY: Well, as you see with the COPS program, as the concept of community policing nurtures, communities start coming forward and making a commitment to it. Now, you provide some federal money to get things going. We would look at future funding requests under the crime trust fund, under the five-year balanced budget track and see how much of this we want to continue. But we suspect a lot of communities, a lot of state and local governments, as they see the success of things like the program here in Boston, will begin to pick up some of these costs within their own allocation of resources.

Q I apologize, I still don't understand the money. Is \$200 million over two years that's new, and the remainder are programs that were funded by the crime bill?

MR. MCCURRY: No, there are many elements of this, if you look through the paper and in your booklet, if you go to the back of it when they go title by title through the bill, there are many elements of this that represent new ideas, new proposals, new strategies as part of the anti-gang, youth violence effort. A lot of them have to do with toughening standards for prosecution. Some of them are enforcement measures. Some of them are new grant fundings for these various local problems. All told, it represents an investment of about \$500 million dollars.

Q -- you seem to suggest that some of it --

MR. MCCURRY: I think the truancy is new. Obviously, the requirement for gun locks, that's new. There is a great deal of new in it. The Brady Bill extension is obviously a very new provision. So I'd look carefully at the paper and at the booklet we've given you and I think it's pretty clear.

Q Mike, Kenneth Starr this morning said that it would be dangerous to conclude that the fact that he's leaving the probe implies that it's coming to an end, and saying also that it's at an active and sensitive stage. Do you have any comment?

MR. MCCURRY: Having not made that conclusion, the White House would have no reason to comment. And we have no reason to add to what we said yesterday.

Q Mike, any new reports on the health of Deng Xiaoping?

MR. MCCURRY: There are new reports emanating from official government sources in Beijing, but nothing that is conclusive.

Q Reports on whether he has died or not?

MR. MCCURRY: There are always conflicting reports, nothing that has been authoritatively established that I'm aware of.

Any other subjects du jour?

Q Anything on the gambling commission appointments this week?

MR. MCCURRY: I'm not in -- anything on the gambling commission this week.

Q Mike, can you share any reaction to the U.S. government to the situation in Mexico with their drug czar being apparently put under house arrest?

MR. MCCURRY: Well, the White House certainly shares the sentiments that have been expressed by General McCaffrey, that it is certainly appropriate that they've taken a law enforcement action, that they are appropriately pursuing this through their law enforcement efforts. And it is also simultaneously extremely disappointing to the United States government that the Mexican government has evidence of corruption as this high a level.

Q Is the President doing anything to personally lobby on behalf of Alexis Herman's nomination? What's his view of the prospects of that nomination at the moment?

MR. MCCURRY: He's followed very carefully her effort because we think it will be a successful effort to win confirmation. He gets reports on the discussions that she's had with individual senators. He's been following very carefully the effort to identify concerns and answer concerns that senators may have, and he is confident that any concerns that have been raised have been adequately addressed by Alexis Herman.

He has also indicated his willingness, if there is a need for it, to work on individual votes. But at this point, what the President is very keen on doing and what he has personally been involved with is trying to get a date for a confirmation hearing so that she can answer publicly any concerns that are out there. And he has pursued this privately with individual senators and is hoping that there will be a date set for her confirmation hearing quite soon.

Q If I could follow up on that, the investment that she was in that was reported over the last weekend, where there was no money down for her participation in the investment, would that be acceptable under the President's new vision for

affirmative action?

MR. MCCURRY: The structure of that investment is not one that I am familiar enough to talk to. Mr. Lockhart has been and can help you. I'm not even sure whether that investment was done under any of the SBA programs that have historically been associated with affirmative action. I'd have to check further. But Lockhart has been working that and can walk you through those issues.

Anything else?

Q -- endorsing needle exchange program of HHS?

MR. MCCURRY: The President supports the work of the Department of Health and Human Services, which has been looking very carefully at the issue of needle exchange. There was a report that Secretary Shalala I think either made available or received last week. The principal concern that we have is with public health and evidence that as a public health question needle exchanges advance drug treatment and drug rehabilitation. But the Department has been, under the circumstances allowed by law, looking at pilot projects that exist around the country.

Q Mike, since you're talking about juvenile issues today, there was a proposal back during the campaign for drug testing of minors that were getting driver's license. Has the administration put forward legislation to enact that? Is that --

MR. MCCURRY: No, we have not -- the President instructed Secretary Pena and Secretary Shalala to report back to him further on that. They are continuing to work on that report, and that has not come back to the President. The goal is to produce any necessary legislation or forward any necessary legislation to the Congress, but only after they have examined

the issue as instructed by the President to do.

Q Tomorrow?

MR. MCCURRY: The President has talked a lot about how we can make sure that in the era of managed care environments for health care delivery that there is no gap in the types of service that are provided to recipients of Medicare. I suspect tomorrow he'll talk about that same concept as it relates to the indigent and Medicaid. And then on Friday, I'm anticipating, Harris, that we might be saying some more about the District of Columbia. Something on Medicaid tomorrow and then further work on the District Friday.

Q Is this a new proposal on Medicaid or is this just the President saying he's concerned about people falling through the gaps?

MR. MCCURRY: I've given you the subject matter and you'll be interested in the news that he makes on that tomorrow.

Q And this is a new proposal on District for Friday, are we talking about what he's --

MR. MCCURRY: It's news. The President speaks and it's, therefore, news.

Q How do you think the President might speak in his speech coming up today? We might want to take it live.

MR. MCCURRY: I gather he hasn't started yet.

Q You gathered right.

MR. MCCURRY: He's getting ready to start. Okay.

Yes, last question.

Q One last question about the justice thing. I'm still a little confused about the finance of this thing. Like the \$200 million, for example -- is that somewhere in the budget that he's --

MR. MCCURRY: Yes, the request for appropriated funds for this initiative come out of the crime trust fund which is fully budgeted in the budget. There are elements of this that you will find in the full appendixes to the FY '98 budget proposal, but, generically, it comes out of the crime trust fund.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

11:52 A.M. EST

Message Sent To: _____

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 5, 1997

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MEMORANDUM FOR ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE RESIDENCE and
COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

FROM: DAWN CHIRWA *Dave*
KATHLEEN M. WHALEN *KM*
ASSOCIATE COUNSELS TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: MANDATORY Ethics Training

Congratulations! You have been selected to be a part of the live studio audience of LAW TALK!, the hot, hot new talk show which focusses on lively and timely legal issues. The episodes taped on the dates listed below will focus on government ethics, with specific emphasis on rules pertaining to EOP employees.

While attendance will be fun, it is MANDATORY that you attend one of the sessions listed below in order to fulfill your yearly ethics training requirements. You may choose from among any of the following dates:

Monday, February 10	11:00am
Tuesday, February 11	3:00pm
Thursday, February 13	2:00pm
Tuesday, February 18	4:00pm
Wednesday, February 19	10:00am
Thursday, February 20	3:00pm

Please arrive on time and be sure to sign-in so you get credit for attendance. All sessions will be held in Room 450 and will last approximately one hour.

Date: 02/19/97 Time: 17:44

CClinton proposes \$495 million campaign against juvenile crime

BOSTON (AP) In a city that has dramatically curbed teen violence, President Clinton proposed a \$495 million national campaign against juvenile crime Wednesday. He warned that America ``is going to be living with chaos'' unless the problem is attacked.

The biggest component of Clinton's two-year program is \$200 million for state and local anti-gang prosecution initiatives. It also provides \$60 million for 1,000 new after-school programs to keep kids off the streets and \$75 million for anti-truancy, school violence and crime intervention.

Proposing to expand the reach of the Brady law, Clinton called for a ban on handgun sales to those 18 or older who had been convicted of a felony as a juvenile.

Fighting juvenile crime ``has got to become our top law enforcement priority,'' Clinton said in a speech in the University of Massachusetts' gym, where he got a rousing reception.

The president said that 95 percent of America's largest cities and 88 percent of the smaller cities are plagued by gang crime. The number of people arrested for violent crimes will double by 2010 ``unless we do something about it,'' Clinton said.

``The truth is that Boston and just a few other cities have removed any fig leaf of excuse that we can't do anything about it,'' Clinton said. ``You have now proved that it can be stopped and therefore there is no excuse for not stopping it.''

Law and order is a politically popular topic, but Republicans and Democrats have clashed over how to combat crime. In 1994, Clinton faced stiff GOP resistance to a sweeping anti-crime bill; Republicans argued he was trying to win money for social programs, such as midnight basketball, under the guise of crime-fighting. The president's bill was passed and signed into law.

Pointing to the success of Boston's battle against juvenile violence, Clinton said the message to Congress should be direct: ``Cross all party lines, throw politics away, throw the speeches in the trash can, join hands, let's do what works and make America the place it has to be.''

Republicans have proposed a \$1.5 billion, three-year program against juvenile crime that offers incentives to state and local governments to punish the most dangerous, violent youths as adults. Clinton's balanced budget proposal contains the money for his program, but Congress has to approve it.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, welcomed Clinton's speech, saying ``there is substantial room for agreement in many areas'' with measures he has already introduced.

``We are willing to consider alternatives and new ideas, and look forward to seeing the president's legislative proposal,'' Hatch said in a joint statement with freshman Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., who chairs the committee's youth violence panel.

Sen. John Ashcroft, R-Mo., main sponsor of the GOP measure on fighting juvenile crime, expressed some concern about the cost of Clinton's proposal but commended the president for ``elevating this issue to one of priority.''

``We won't get anywhere at all with the bill unless we can work with the president,'' he said.

Clinton said there is an urgency to deal with the problem. America's schools are bulging with 52 million young people, the largest school-age population ever, the president said.

``So we know we've got about six years to turn this juvenile crime thing around or our country is going to be living with chaos,'' Clinton said. ``And my successors will not be giving speeches about the wonderful opportunities of the global economy; we'll be trying to keep body and soul together for people on the streets of these cities.''

With community policing, truancy and noise statutes and a crackdown on probation violations, Boston has seen juvenile homicides drop 80 percent from 1990 to 1995. Since July 1995, not a single juvenile has been killed by a gun.

Between 1993 and 1995, the juvenile violent crime arrest rate for aggravated assault and battery with a firearm decreased 65 percent in Boston.

In a footnote to last year's presidential race, Clinton thanked Massachusetts for giving him the biggest victory margin of any state.

APNP-02-19-97 1752EST

Date: 02/19/97 Time: 16:25

CFCC designates 311 for nonemergency calls

WASHINGTON (AP) The government is setting aside 311 as the telephone number for people to call police or other local agencies for nonemergency help.

Millions of people call 911 each year, but the Justice Department says most of those calls in many communities are for situations that are not emergencies, such as noisy neighbors or lost pets.

Wednesday's 311 allocation by the Federal Communications Commission responds to a request from President Clinton last July. To help combat crime, Clinton asked the agency to designate a number for community policing and other nonemergency calls. That number, he said, would take pressure off the 911 emergency calling system.

Available for use nationwide, the 311 code could improve the effectiveness of 911 service by cutting down the number of calls made to it, the FCC said. In Los Angeles alone, 325,000 callers to 911 hung up two years ago because the jammed line denied them immediate help.

"The 311 nonemergency number will alleviate the present burden on 911 and at the same time better serve the American people," Attorney General Janet Reno predicted.

The FCC's action does not require local governments to use 311 but ensures the number will be available if they choose to.

Baltimore, where more than 60 percent of 911 calls are estimated not to be for emergencies, became last October the first city and according to the FCC the only one thus far to institute 311 service.

That Maryland city can route 311 calls directly to local precincts and can treat as 911 calls emergency calls inadvertently made to the new number.

The FCC chose 311 because it's not widely used.

Companies, individuals or governments that currently use 311 for purposes other than nonemergency police calls can retain the number until their local government activates the new service.

A uniform number for community policing and for nonemergencies nationwide will minimize confusion and provide consistency as people travel or move to new communities, the Justice Department says.

In a speech at the University of Massachusetts in Boston, Clinton hailed the FCC's action Wednesday.

"To all of you out there who are just citizens, I say, use both numbers and talk to your neighbors about using them in the right way. Be a part of neighborhood watch," he said. "We'll do our part. You have to do your part."

APNP-02-19-97 1633EST

Phil' Recht

FAX

John Chen —



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02/19/97 01:11:00 PM

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Subject: 1997-2-19 remarks at University of Mass - Boston, MA

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Boston, Massachusetts)

For Immediate Release

February 19, 1997

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO PARENTS, EDUCATORS, LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS
STUDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

Clark Athletic Center
University of Massachusetts
Boston, Massachusetts

12:22 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Mr. Mayor, Commissioner Evans, Probation Officer Tanya Brooks, President Bulger, Chancellor Sherry Penney, Governor Weld, Senator Kerry, Congressman Moakley, Congressman Kennedy -- I understand you're also an alumni of this university. (Applause.) Attorney General Harshbarger, the President of the National Association of Attorneys General, thank you all for welcoming me here. (Applause.)

And I'm delighted to be here with two of my great partners in this endeavor -- our wonderful Attorney General Janet Reno -- (applause) -- and the Under Secretary of the Treasury for Enforcement Ray Kelly, thank you for being here. We're all glad to be here. (Applause.)

I want to thank all the police officers for being here, especially the Voices in Blue for singing the National Anthem. They were great -- great job, gentlemen. (Applause.) And I'd like to thank the students at the University of Massachusetts at

Boston -- (applause). I know that 80 percent of the students -- I've been told at least that 80 percent of the students here are working virtually full-time while pursuing their degrees. That's a great tribute to you. (Applause.) And if our budget passes, we'll have the direct loan program, the AmeriCorps program, tax cuts for tuition, and a huge increase in Pell Grants and work-study. I hope it will help you all. (Applause.)

Oh, there's one more thing before I begin my prepared remarks. This is my first trip to Boston and to Massachusetts in 1997, and if you will forgive me a purely personal remark, I want to thank the people of Massachusetts for giving me the biggest margin of victory of any state in the country. (Applause.) Thank you very much.

Thank you.

Let me begin, if I might, by trying to put today's event into some context. You heard the Mayor talking about declining crime generally in Boston. Let me just ask you to go back to four or five years ago. When I assumed this office, I wanted to do basically two big things. One is, I wanted to kind of get America fixed up, I wanted things to work again. And then I wanted to get all of us together to focus on what we need to do to prepare our people for a new century -- to preserve the

American Dream for everyone who is willing to work for it without regard to their background or where they start out in life; to preserve a sense of community that embraces every American who is willing to be a responsible citizen; and to create a sense that our families, our neighborhoods, our workplaces, our schools, all of our organizations were working again; and to maintain our

leadership in a rapidly changing world. But first we had to make sure things would work.

And the first thing we worked through in Washington was an economic program that was designed to change the whole economic direction of the last several years to get away from spending ourselves into immediate prosperity through constant deficits, to a longer-term strategy to bring the deficit down, get interest rates down, invest in our people, and prove we could trade and compete with the rest of the world.

Now, I just got a report this morning on the last inflationary numbers of that four-year period, which says that the core rate of inflation -- that is the basic things people buy -- the inflation rate dropped from 3.5 percent to 2.5 percent in the previous four years; and that the combined rates of unemployment and inflation on average through four years, together were 8.7 percent. That's the lowest since Lyndon Johnson was the President of the United States. That's a good sign. (Applause.) That's a good sign.

But what I want to ask you to focus on today is that

in some ways the whole question of having safe streets, safe neighborhoods, safe schools and safe children has to be prior to economic opportunity, because if people are living in constant fear, if their lives are always disoriented, if they are completely unpredictable, then it is very hard to say to them that you should stay in school, you should learn all you can, you should look forward to a better future, the 21st century will give you more chances to live out your dreams than ever before. And if the answer you get back is, what do you mean, man, I'm trying to stay alive until lunch time -- (applause) -- then it is very difficult to make this country work.

So we have spent a lot of time, as you heard the previous speakers discuss, working on this. I asked the Attorney General to assume her office because she was a prosecutor in a big urban county in America with a world of problems, and because she had learned that only by empowering the people who lived there that she worked with could she not only catch criminals but, more importantly, prevent crime and save children for a better future. And we have been working with the attorney generals, with the prosecutors, with community leaders, with others all across the country for four years to try to create the conditions that would make it possible for normal life to prevail in our cities and in other places which had been victimized by crime.

When we passed the Crime Bill in 1994 with the help of all the members of Congress here on this platform -- and I thank them for it -- we made a commitment to put 100,000 new police so we could go back to community policing. Why? Because violent crime had tripled in 30 years and the police forces had increased by 10 percent -- 300 percent against 10 percent. What happened? As a result, people felt overwhelmed and more and more police officers had to ride together in cars instead of walking on streets in neighborhoods and working with their neighbors, so that in a bizarre way, we actually reduced the coverage of the police just so they could be safe.

And now this whole concept of neighborhood or community policing, which Boston had done so brilliantly, is sweeping the country. That plus the Brady Bill, plus the ban on the assault weapons, plus the new efforts to steer young people away from crime -- (applause) -- plus tougher penalties for serious offenders -- all those things now taking hold all across America have given us five years of declining crime for the first time in decades. And that is very, very good news.

But we have to now look at step two because until last year's statistics, we had this heartbreaking, heartbreaking

evidence that the crime rate in America was going down, but the crime rate among juveniles under 18 was going up. Violence among adults was going down, even young adults; violence among

juveniles going up. Drug use among adults, people over 18, going down dramatically; drug use among people under 18 going up.

Last year, we began to see some hope that it might be dropping off, but we haven't even had two years in a row. But we know that in Boston there have been big changes. And we know that we just started the largest class of children in our schools in history. There are now about 52 million young Americans in our schools -- the largest school age population ever, even bigger than the biggest baby boom year now in our schools.

And so we know we've got about six years to turn this juvenile crime thing around or our country is going to be living with chaos. And my successors will not be giving speeches about the wonderful opportunities of the global economy, they'll be trying to keep body and soul together for people on the streets of these cities, if we don't do everywhere in America what you have begun to do in Boston and save our children. (Applause.)

So the Crime Bill in '94, the 100,000 police, the neighborhood policing, the Brady Bill, the assault weapons ban -- all those things were step one. Step two has got to be a very sharp and disciplined focus on the problems of juvenile violence, juvenile crime, juvenile gangs. Ninety-five percent of our largest cities and 88 percent of our smaller cities report that they are plagued by gang crime. Experts predict the number of people arrested for violent crimes will double by the year 2010 unless we do something about it. Fighting, therefore, juvenile crime has got to become our top law enforcement priority.

When Boston launched Operation Night Light, when police and probation officers together can make nightly visits to the homes of young people on probation to make sure they're not in violation, when you had your operation Cease-fire vigorously enforcing graffiti, truancy, noise statutes to reclaim neighborhoods and the conditions of ordinary life, when you launched the Boston Gun Project to shut down illegal gun dealers who sell to young people by tracing serial numbers and severely punishing those who break the law -- these things will work.

Seventy percent of your young people on probation are now sticking it. That's a huge percentage if you compare it to other places around the country. Youth murders have dropped 80 percent in five years, and as you have heard twice already, you haven't had a single child killed with a gun in a year and a half in this city. How I would pray that could happen in every city in America. (Applause.)

I want to compliment the Mayor on his Youth Council and meeting with young people who are representative of the city every six weeks. (Applause.) And I'd like to thank the young woman from the council who appeared today, Lanita, on the program. I'd like to thank the young people who have been on

probation who are making something of their lives. Young Terry Thompson was on our program today. I thank him for being a model of that. (Applause.)

What I want to say to you is that we cannot permit this to be only an achievement in Boston, because if it is only an achievement in Boston it will be harder for Boston to continue to achieve. Sooner or later, what we have to do is to create the notion that it is normal for kids not to get shot, and so nobody claps when you say no kid has been killed. (Applause.)

Do you realize, when I was the age of the young people who were on our program today -- one is 19, I think the other is 17 -- if I had stood up as a young person there, wanting

to be noticed, wanting to give a nice speech, wanting to give accounting of myself, and I had said, we haven't had a young person killed in our town for the last year and a half, do you know what everybody would have said? So what? What's that fool talking about? (Laughter.) Today, everybody claps. We have to keep working until the answer is, so what. That ought to be the answer, shouldn't it? (Applause.) Isn't that what you want?

The truth is that all across our country children are still killing children -- for shoes, for jackets, for turf. And we can stop it. The truth is that Boston and just a few other cities have removed any fig leaf of excuse that we can't do anything about it. You have now proved that it can be stopped and, therefore, there is no excuse for not stopping it. And the United States of America, through the Congress, this year, should pass a law to give every community the tools that you have used to make your city safe again, so that we can do it everywhere in America. (Applause.)

I have four parts to the legislation that I am presenting Congress today. First, we have to break the backs of the gangs and punish juveniles who commit violent crimes with real severity. We have to finish putting 100,000 police on the street. And we have to make sure communities have the resources to prosecute people who violate the law. This bill will help communities to hire new prosecutors to directly deal with violent juveniles; to launch anti-gang units; to pursue, prosecute and punish members who really hurt people. It will give judges more power to crack down on gang members who intimidate witnesses, and it will give federal prosecutors for the first time the authority in appropriate circumstances to prosecute serious violent juveniles as adults.

The second thing we have to do is to keep drugs and guns away from our children. The Brady Bill -- listen to this -- has already blocked more than 60,000 felons, fugitives and stalkers from buying a handgun. That's an old small number; we'll have some new ones in the next few days. But it doesn't

permit someone who commits a violent crime as a juvenile from buying a handgun once he or she turns 18. I think we should close that loophole and extend the Brady Bill so that anyone who commits a violent crime should not be given the right to buy a handgun. (Applause.)

Our plan would also require child safety locks on handguns to prevent unauthorized use and tragic accident. We ought to do that. (Applause.) We have begun an effort actually modeled on the Boston Gun Project in 17 other cities to crack down on those who illegally sell guns to young people.

And I said this in the former meeting, I want to say it again because I think most Americans don't know it -- the Treasury Department that license people who sell guns -- they have to have a federal license -- has cracked down on that whole process in the last three years, and there are now fewer than half the licensed federal gun dealers there were just three years ago. We are trying to get control of this process. (Applause.)

Our plan has the largest anti-drug effort ever to stop drugs at their source, punish those who push them and, most importantly, to keep working to steer young people away from them. General McCaffrey, our nation's Drug Czar, has recommended that I have asked for funding to launch a massive national advertising campaign to deal with something that I had thought -- wrongly -- was basic, and that is how dangerous drugs are. It is clear that the main reason that drug use among teenagers is going up, while it is going down among people between the ages of 18 and 35, is that too many teenagers no longer believe that drugs are not only wrong and illegal, but they can kill them. That -- it is clear.

And it is clear that a lot of young adults who used to be a big part of the drug problem now do understand that they can die from this, as well as be punished for it. And somehow we have got to bring the attitudes of the teenagers in line with the attitudes of the young adults, so that we can deal with that. And we'll be working with that.

I think every state should now begin to require drug tests of people for essential services like driver's licenses. That would send a strong message out -- and be unpopular with a lot of young people who otherwise think their President is a pretty good fellow. (Laughter.) But I think it's the right thing to do.

The third thing we have to do is to reform the juvenile justice system so that it can handle today's juvenile offenders. Most systems were designed to deal with truants and other minor problems, not violent problems. And we need more people like this fine probation officer that introduced me today,

and more of those folks working with the police.

The story you have created here is the story we want to recreate in every community in the country. I want to hear more stories. I want it to be normal when I go some place and say we go together and we got into people's homes and we visit with them at night and they're glad to see us and they understand that we're all on the same side and we're trying to save these kids' lives and give them a future. That's the story we want to hear everywhere.

We have to have more special court proceedings for young people, with greater flexibility to handle juveniles, and tougher penalties to punish those who are really gone, and then more flexibility and other opportunities to save those that ought to be saved. The real answer to this has got to be prevention. We have got to prevent these things from happening in the first place. That's what all the law enforcement people know. (Applause.)

Finally, we have to help our young people to stay on the right track. Our strategy will help to fund 1,000 new after-school initiatives in communities across the country -- (applause) -- to help keep schools open after school, on the weekends, in the summer. Listen to this -- more than 50 percent of the juvenile crime in America occurs in the three hours after school is closed and before the parents are home. That's a stunning statistic. You take three or four hours out of the day and you've cut the problem in half.

Now, we don't want our young people left alone on street corners when they can be in school or at home. And we have to have ways that help our educators, our parents, our religious and community leaders to try to save these kids.

This anti-gang and youth violence strategy is based on what we know works. It is really a national framework to give other communities the chance to get the resources to do what you're trying to do in Boston. That is all it is. Tough when you should be tough; smart when you should be smart; compassionate when you should be compassionate; using everybody building partnerships, letting everybody play a role; requiring communities to take responsibility for their own streets and their own kids, and then giving you the outside support you need. That is all this bill does.

It is the critical next step in our fight to have a safe America and to give our children a safe childhood. And I ask you here in Massachusetts to send a clear message. We know if this can be done in Boston it can be done in every community, in every neighborhood of every size in the United States, and we ask the United States Congress to do what you've done here in

Massachusetts -- cross all party lines, throw politics away, throw the speeches in the trash can, join hands; let's do what works and make America the same place it has to be. (Applause.)

Let me just make one other point to you. The citizens of this country have got to do their part -- every citizen. And one of the things that I want to announce today that I'm very proud of, that I think will help make all of you be better citizens and to support community policing -- which is clearly the single most decisive element in bringing the crime rate, the neighborhood policing system. (Applause).

Not very long ago I was made aware of a problem that, like a lot of problems ordinary people have but Presidents don't know about because our lives are so isolated, I learned that a lot of the 911 numbers were breaking down because 911 was being clogged up not only by genuine emergencies, but by other legitimate calls that weren't really emergencies. And so I asked the Federal Communications Commission to set up a national community policing number for non-emergencies so that 911 calls would always go through when there was a matter of life and death, but all the other calls could be handled as well.

This morning, the FCC announced that they are designating and setting aside the numbers 311 as a national non-emergency community policing number. And I believe it will help you. (Applause.)

So to all of you out here who are just citizens I say, use both numbers and talk to your neighbors about using them in the right way. Be a part of a neighborhood watch. Support these community police officers, these probation officers, and do what you can to play your part. We'll do our part. You have to do your part.

If this country is going to be the country it ought to be in the 21st century, we can't have any more reports like the one that came out of the Center for Disease Control a few days ago saying that 75 percent of all the kids murdered in the Industrial World are killed in the United States. What we've got to do is to create the record of the last year and a half in Boston for the United States.

If you give our kids back their lives and their future, they will make America the world's greatest country in the 21st century. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

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Date: 02/22/97 Time: 03:11

EDITORIAL: Clinton's Youth Crime Plan Allows Little Help for Youth

Philadelphia Daily News
Knight-Ridder/Tribune Business News

Feb. 22--Judging by how he wants to spend federal money, President Clinton has taken a look at the 52 million children enrolled in the nation's schools and sees an oncoming tidal wave of rapists, thieves and murderers.

Through the primal forces of nature, the children eventually will become teen-agers, the most adolescents in the country since the baby boom. And we all know what that means -- armies of predators roaming the streets.

What a cynical view of young people.

Clinton is proposing a \$495-million two-year project targeting youth crime. Some \$200 million will go to helping cities and suburbs hire new prosecutors to go after the kids.

The president can rightly take pride in the accomplishments of organizations he has supported, such as AmeriCorps and City Year, groups that recruit young Americans for volunteer or low-paying jobs in blighted areas. But the proposal on youth crime he unveiled this week is shameful.

In the plan Clinton is putting before Congress, only some \$60 million will be for 1,000 new after-school programs and \$75 million for anti-truancy and crime prevention programs. Note the mismatch between those trouble-prevention dollars and what's spent to punish and prosecute.

It's true that U.S. children face greater dangers now than in the past. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the murder rate among kids under 15 has tripled in 40 years.

Only 0.8 per 100,000 children in the United States were killed in 1950, compared with 2.57 in 1993. That, by the way, was the highest rate in a CDC survey of violence among young people in the top 26 industrial countries.

The fear is that with more teen-agers, those rates will just climb. People are right to be afraid -- but not of their children. Fear more bad policy making.

Clinton decided to showcase his youth crime plan in Boston, where juvenile homicides and crime have dropped sharply. Since July 1995, no youngster has been killed by gunfire in that city.

Unlike Clinton's plan, the emphasis in Boston wasn't on handing every teenager a jail sentence along with a diploma. A combination of community-based projects and policing helped steer kids out of harm's way.

Boston's success can be the nation's. But the first step is paying attention now to the 6-year-old on the monkey bars, not waiting until the child is behind bars.

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Department of Justice

STATEMENT

OF

JANET RENO

ATTORNEY GENERAL

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD, YOUTH
AND FAMILIES
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME
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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCERNING

THE ANTI-GANG AND YOUTH VIOLENCE ACT OF 1997

PRESENTED ON

FEBRUARY 26, 1997

Statement of Attorney General Janet Reno

Before the

Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth and Families
Committee on Education and the Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives

and the

Subcommittee on Crime
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives

February 26, 1997

I. Acknowledgments

Good morning Chairman McCollum, Chairman Riggs, and Members of the two subcommittees. It is a pleasure to appear before you today, and I want to thank you for giving the Department of Justice the opportunity to testify on the problem of youth violence in America and on the Administration's legislative proposal to combat this problem. Before I begin, I would like to thank Congressman Schumer for introducing the Administration's bill, now known as H.R. 810, "The Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Act of 1997." I look forward to working with him and the Members of both subcommittees on this issue.

II. Introduction

Four years ago, this Administration set out to reverse the rising tide of violent crime with a comprehensive strategy: more police, tougher punishment, and smarter crime prevention. Our strategy is working. Last year, the national violent crime rate dropped for the fifth year in a row, marking the longest period of decline in 25 years. Moreover, for the first time in nearly a decade, the juvenile violent crime and murder arrest rates went down. While these signs are certainly promising, juvenile crime rates are still unacceptably high in many cities, towns, and neighborhoods. Further, juvenile crime may become more severe because of the expected increase in the population of children ages 10 to 17 over the next twenty years. We can -- and indeed must -- do more.

In his State of the Union Address, President Clinton called for a full-scale assault on juvenile crime. I am pleased that following his address, the President and Republican and Democratic leaders in Congress indicated that a bipartisan approach to fighting juvenile crime could be reached. Youth violence is a problem affecting us all, and the American people do not want politics to stand in the way of public

safety. Together, we must give communities the tools they need to take back their streets and schools, and to reestablish a sense of security in our country.

III. Overview of the Legislation

The President's legislation, H.R. 810, "The Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Act of 1997," offers a balanced approach to fighting juvenile crime -- one that is both tough and smart, reflecting the importance of punishment and prevention. We know that there are serious and violent juveniles on the street right now, and tough action must be taken against these offenders to protect public safety. At the same time -- and as every law enforcement officer will tell you -- prevention and early intervention initiatives are critical to our long-term success in reducing juvenile crime, especially when these efforts target younger children. By getting and keeping children on the track to success early in life, they are substantially less likely to break the law as teens or adults.

The legislation meets this challenge by proposing new laws and new resources to target gangs, gun crimes, illegal gun markets, and drugs. In addition, the bill invests substantial new resources in anti-truancy, school violence, and other similar initiatives aimed at getting or keeping young people on the track to success.

Finally, the legislation redesigns and refocuses the way in which the federal government provides support for state and local efforts to fight juvenile crime. Enactment of H.R. 810, which is described in detail in the section-by-section analysis, would play a key role in implementing the Administration's anti-gang and youth violence strategy. In my remaining time with you today, I would like to highlight the key provisions of this legislation.

IV. Targeting Violent Gangs, Guns and Drug Crimes

First, our message to dangerous gang members and other criminals is clear: your punishment for threatening our safety and selling drugs and guns to our children will be swift and certain. During the last four years, Federal prosecutors, working with their colleagues at the state and local level, have mounted an unprecedented crackdown on violent street gangs. Prosecutions of gangs under the powerful RICO statute have more than doubled, and thousands of gang members have been sent to prison under other violent crime and drug statutes.

Building upon these successes, the legislation proposes new prosecutorial tools and increased penalties to target violent gang activity, the illegal gun markets where gangs get their weapons, and serious drug crimes. The bill also includes

provisions that will help prevent witness intimidation, a far too common tactic that gang members employ to avoid prosecutions. Finally, our proposal gives federal prosecutors the discretion to transfer juveniles to adult criminal court. Under this provision, except for the most serious juvenile offenders over age 16, juveniles charged as adults may petition the court to be tried as a juvenile rather than as an adult.

The legislation also provides new resources to help states and localities target gangs and violent juveniles. Under our Gang Prosecutors Initiative, \$200 million will be available over two years for new local prosecutors and anti-gang initiatives designed to pursue, prosecute, and punish dangerous gang members for their crimes. Further, the bill provides \$50 million to fund a "Youth Violence Courts" initiative. These grants will provide new resources for specialized, court-based programs -- like juvenile gun and drug courts -- to more effectively handle violent youthful offenders as they proceed through the justice system. We must continue to develop a range of specialized strategies to respond to and prevent youth violence.

V. Keeping Our Children Safe From Guns

There is perhaps no greater contributor to youth violence than the combination of kids and guns. Since its enactment, the Brady Law has kept more than 175,000 fugitives, felons and other prohibited persons from purchasing a handgun. The law works -- it keeps guns out of the hands of adults convicted of serious crimes. Unfortunately, under current law, a juvenile tried and convicted as a juvenile for a serious violent crime could legally purchase a handgun from a federally licensed dealer on or after his or her 21st birthday and from casual sellers, after turning 18. Our legislation closes this loophole so that violent youth cannot buy or possess a handgun unless their gun rights have been restored.

In addition, while many firearms deaths result from violent crime, gun accidents regularly claim the lives of America's youth. The statistics paint a tragic picture: firearms are the fourth leading cause of accidental deaths among young children ages 5 to 14. H.R. 810 addresses this problem by requiring gun dealers to sell a locking device with every handgun. Properly used, safety locking devices can decrease the unauthorized use of handguns -- by a child at play or a teen who wants to commit a crime. And, a locked gun is worthless to a thief.

VI. Keeping our Children on the Right Track

Clearly, we must deal, today, with the young people who are involved in gangs, guns, and drugs. But if we want to have fewer troubled and dangerous young people in the future, we must invest in the future now. Keeping our young people in school is an important step toward keeping them out of trouble. Once children leave the schoolhouse door, they are often vulnerable to dangerous influences. On school days, 51 percent of the violent crime committed by juveniles occurs between 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., and young people who skip school often become involved in crime and drugs.

Under H.R. 810, \$75 million will be available for the "At-Risk Children Initiative," which will help communities establish anti-truancy, school violence and other, similar initiatives aimed at getting or keeping high risk juveniles on the track to success. Children need to be held accountable for their actions when they break the law. At the same time, we need to give them the support and opportunity to get back on the path to success.

In addition, the Administration's strategy calls for approximately \$62 million for 1,000 new after-school initiatives for schools to stay open after the school day

ends, on weekends, and in the summer. By allowing schools to stay open longer, they can become community learning centers, providing students, parents and communities with access to valuable resources. This initiative, which is funded and administered by the Departments of Education and Health and Human Services and therefore not part of H.R. 810, is an important part of the Administration's effort to fight juvenile crime.

VII. New Office of Juvenile Crime Control and Prevention

Finally, H.R. 810 creates a new Office of Juvenile Crime Control and Prevention within the Office of Justice Programs at the Department of Justice. This new office replaces the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. In designing this office, our goal has been to respond to the changing nature of juvenile crime, to increase flexibility for state and local governments, and to be more focused, more efficient, and more effective in our support of state and local prevention and enforcement efforts. Operations within this new office have been streamlined to better coordinate and integrate juvenile crime initiatives with other Department of Justice activities -- particularly activities within the Office of Justice Programs, the National Institute of Justice, and the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Finally, fundamental protections safeguarding juveniles from abuse while in custody

have been maintained, while recognizing, as we did in our recent regulatory changes, the need for more local flexibility.

While there are many important changes that result from the redesign of this office, I want to highlight one new effort that is especially important. I believe, as do many of you, that better research, statistical analysis, and program evaluations are critical to understanding and addressing youth crime. We must ensure that scarce federal resources are used only to support effective programs. To make sure this happens, 10 percent of all grant program funds will be dedicated to these critical research activities. General research funding is also increased. The Office of Juvenile Crime Control and Prevention will initiate research activities, and the nationally-respected Bureau of Justice Statistics and National Institute of Justice will manage the research, statistics, and evaluation projects. This arrangement will guarantee that our research on juvenile crime is coordinated and of the highest quality. And, as we learn more about what works in fighting juvenile crime, we will be better able to help communities implement effective initiatives that reduce, prevent, and control juvenile crime.

VIII. Conclusion

Mr. Chairmen, I've attempted to describe for the subcommittees what the Administration believes to be the appropriate and necessary role of the federal government in assisting state and local governments in dealing with youth violence. At this time, I would be pleased to answer any questions the joint subcommittee has regarding the Administration's proposed legislation.

Thank you.



Department of Justice

STATEMENT

OF

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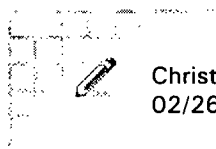
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While there are many important changes that result from the redesign of this office, I want to highlight one new effort that is especially important. I believe, as do many of you, that better research, statistical analysis, and program evaluations are critical to understanding and addressing youth crime. We must ensure that scarce federal resources are used only to support effective programs. To make sure this happens, 10 percent of all grant program funds will be dedicated to these critical research activities. General research funding is also increased. The Office of Juvenile Crime Control and Prevention will initiate research activities, and the nationally-respected Bureau of Justice Statistics and National Institute of Justice will manage the research, statistics, and evaluation projects. This arrangement will guarantee that our research on juvenile crime is coordinated and of the highest quality. And, as we learn more about what works in fighting juvenile crime, we will be better able to help communities implement effective initiatives that reduce, prevent, and control juvenile crime.

VIII. Conclusion

Mr. Chairmen, I've attempted to describe for the subcommittees what the Administration believes to be the appropriate and necessary role of the federal government in assisting state and local governments in dealing with youth violence. At this time, I would be pleased to answer any questions the joint subcommittee has regarding the Administration's proposed legislation.

Thank you.



Christa Robinson
02/26/97 08:07:34 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Dennis K. Burke/OPD/EOP

cc:

Subject: 26 FEB Crime Meeting

----- Forwarded by Christa Robinson/WHO/EOP on 02/26/97 08:05 PM -----



Brian G. Scott

02/26/97 10:50:29 AM



Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: 26 FEB Crime Meeting

Rahm covered three specific issues he wanted to move on:

1. Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Bill. He asked Dennis Burke and Christa to set up a press conference ASAP with the AG at Justice. He wants the Association of District Attorneys, the FOP, NAPO, Handgun Control, and any victims groups that support us to be on stage next to the AG endorsing the bill. He says he will get the VP to do the event. No date was set, but he wants it done as soon as possible, especially considering a Supreme Court decision involving the Brady Bill could be coming down this week.

2. Handgun Trigger-locks. Part of the above bill refers to trigger-locks on hand guns. Rahm is looking for information on any communities, police departments, local gun owners, etc., that made their own decision to require trigger locks to be purchased with a handgun. He used Whelling (sp?), Illinois as an example. this was the first place in the country to ban sale of tobacco products to youth and there was a huge media story around it.

He further instructed Dennis Burke and Elena Kagan (Counsel's Office) to work on an Executive Order to federal law enforcement agencies requiring trigger locks to be issued with government handguns. Nick Gess from Justice thought ATF already had this policy and the President may mention it in a crime radio address. Once the E.O. is done, the President will announce it in a radio address and challenge citizens not to wait for legislation, but to buy trigger-locks on their own. A letter may be sent from the President to chiefs of police encouraging the issue of trigger-locks.

3. Sex Offenders. According to Rahm, the President asked the status of a federal computer system to track sex offenders. The system is complete, but it has not received downloads from all the state databases. Only a few states have provided information. He may look at ways to

encourage states to comply by tying federal law enforcement financial assistance to compliance. There is also some question as to whether or not the military and federal prison system will be providing information for the national system. There may be a radio address on this system coming down the pike as well.

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LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

For Release: February 27, 1997

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WELD, CELLUCCI: KEEP FIGHTING JUVENILE CRIME
Crack Down on Gangs and Shootings

Governor William Weld and Lieutenant Governor Paul Cellucci today refilled a comprehensive Juvenile Crime Package aimed at cracking down on gun violence and gang activity.

"We're announcing a plan to replicate Boston's success all over the state, and take even further steps to cut down on juvenile crime and make our streets, schools, and neighborhoods safer," said Weld, speaking at the Dorchester Youth Collaborative. "Our package has the teeth required to take a bite out of two of the meatiest juvenile crime problems - guns and gangs."

The Weld-Cellucci legislation goes hand in hand with the Juvenile Justice Package announced in Boston last week by President Clinton. Weld and Cellucci said that it makes even more sense to pass these proposals now that the President's bill is pending in Congress.

"Let's cooperate and take the next step in fighting juvenile crime," said Weld.

"Hardcore juvenile criminals need to know that there will be harsh consequences for their actions. This package makes that message loud and clear," said Attorney General Scott

- more -

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Harshbarger. "This legislation should complement equally important juvenile crime prevention strategies, including a mandatory violence prevention course in every grade of every school, and an unwavering commitment to a statewide juvenile court system, the needs of the Department of Youth Services, and real economic opportunities for kids."

The package mandates an increase in the minimum legal age for possession of a gun to 21. It also combats violent crime by instituting a ban on assault weapons and semi-automatic weapons equipped with large capacity magazines; a ban on armor piercing ammunition; and increased penalties of up to 20 years imprisonment for criminal use of a gun, including drive-by shootings. A mandatory minimum sentence of five years will be handed down for possession of gun by a convicted felon and use of a gun to commit a felony.

"The Teen Gun Law enacted last year was an important step toward disarming young people," said Suffolk County District Attorney Ralph C. Martin, II. "The current effort, which increases penalties for gun possession by convicted felons will help keep the most violent offenders off the streets longer. It should also deter many others from arming themselves and becoming caught up in gang street crime."

The Weld-Cellucci crime package also improves witness intimidation laws to ensure swift justice against gang members who would use violence and threats to escape prosecution and conviction.

"Preserving a safe and just society means that we have to protect those people who uphold the law, not those criminals who thumb their noses at it," said Cellucci. "Today's expansion of the witness intimidation law will preserve the peace and protect the innocent."

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Other filed measures aimed at reducing juvenile crime include provisions:

- Mandating an additional two to ten year sentence for gang members who commit violent felonies while soliciting or promoting gang violence, or coercing others into joining a gang. This sentence will be imposed on top of the original sentence.
- Establishing Gun Courts to try those convicted of gun related crimes within 90 days.
- Limiting gun purchases to one-per-month to reduce illegal gun sales and providing up to a five year prison sentence for the first offense.
- Establishing the crime of Assault and Battery with a Firearm and imposing a penalty of a maximum of 20 years in a state prison.
- Establishing the crime of Larceny of a Firearm and providing a sentence of up to 20 years in a state prison.
- Imposing a mandatory minimum of five years for possession of a firearm with defaced serial numbers while committing a crime and imposing a mandatory minimum of two years for any individual who defaces the serial number of a firearm.
- Holding gun manufacturers, importers, dealers, or distributors liable for any bodily injury caused by a firearm without a device to ensure that only the registered owner may fire the weapon.

"The message to gang members is simple: There's plenty of room in the big house for them -- and no room in our streets for their savagery," added Weld.

The Dorchester Youth Collaborative is a community based agency providing violence prevention and anti-gang programs. The DYC Center reaches out to more than 1,000 kids throughout the Dorchester area.

"We are encouraged by the Governor's crime package to reduce gun violence and are pleased that he has taken steps towards reducing crime in Massachusetts," said John Rosenthal, co-founder of Stop Handgun Violence. "In particular, the one-gun-per-month initiative would effectively end gun trafficking in Massachusetts and should be looked at as a national model to end gun trafficking in America."

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