FIGHTING CRIME AGENDA

Stop Drug Crimes

1.) Permanently schedule fentanyl and fentanyl analogs as a schedule 1 controlled substance

• Law enforcement officials have called for Congress to schedule Fentanyl as a Schedule 1 controlled substance permanently. Congress must get serious about shutting down the Fentanyl trafficking that is plaguing our streets and killing our neighbors.

2.) Disrupt the drug cartels

• The United States government is breaking its covenant with the American people; they are allowing a cartel-run, human trafficking operation to run rampant on our southern border. We must secure every inch of the southern border.

3.) Try people who sell drugs to minors

• Drug dealers are pushing Fentanyl that looks like candy that has already taken the lives of young, innocent Americans. This should be considered murder and drug dealers should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

4.) Designate drug cartels as terrorist organizations

• Drug Cartels are responsible for the deaths of thousands of innocent lives every year; they should be held accountable.

Smart Sentencing Reform

1.) Reduce sentencing disparities between crack and cocaine offenders

• There have been bipartisan congressional efforts to lower the disparity between crack and cocaine established by Joe Biden’s crime bill in the 90s. Congress should lower this disparity now.

2.) Maintain cash bail for violent offenders

• Eliminating cash bail allows dangerous criminals to be released immediately following arrest, devastates law enforcement morale and creates “revolving door” criminal justice. Law enforcement should know dangerous criminals will not be released back out onto the streets as soon as they are arrested.

3.) Give federal prosecutors better tools to prosecute violent, repeat offenders

• Congress should do everything in its power to ensure the Department of Justice is fully enforcing laws that prevent violent offenders from being set free.
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4.) Increase penalties for carjackings
   • There have been over 1,000 carjackings in Philadelphia already in 2022, doubling since last year. We should increase penalties for these crimes.

5.) Increase penalties for those illegally possessing firearms
   • Most guns involved in violent crime are illegally owned; offenders who illegally possess firearms should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. We can protect law abiding citizens’ rights while stopping dangerous criminals from carrying illegal guns.

Increase Resources For Safer Streets

1) Provide retention and recruitment incentives for police officers
   • The Police Executive Research Forum found from 2020-2021, there was a 45% jump in retirement for police officers, and 18% resigned, leading to severely understaffed police departments. Congress must provide resources to police departments to ensure we have enough properly trained officers.

2) Support federal initiatives that seek to prevent crime before it happens
   • Congress should streamline funding to cities and localities that implement programs that seek to reduce crime, such as the Project Safe Neighborhoods Reauthorization Act. Community leaders, law enforcement officials, and victims of crime must come together to formulate solutions to prevent crime before it happens.

3) Provide incentives for police presence around recreational centers and parks
   • A study by the American Journal of Preventive Medicine found that one gun-related crime can decrease the use of parks by as much as 15%. Exercise is necessary for a happy, healthy life—people should not fear going outside.

Prosecute Crime Today, Not Tomorrow

1) Increase resources that assist law enforcement officials in processing evidence
   • Soft-on-crime Democratic officials have called for decreasing resources for police departments. We need to provide more tools for police departments to reduce investigatory backlogs.

2.) Create a federal sharing of best practices and grant portal for police departments on reporting crimes
   • Many police departments do not accurately report crimes and offenders to the FBI, resulting in dangerous criminals roaming under the radar.
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3.) Encourage information sharing among federal, state, and local law enforcement officials so that violent criminals are prosecuted quickly
   • Better information sharing would allow local officials to work with federal partners to work around irresponsible leaders like Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner to quickly lock up violent offenders.

Victims And Users' Relief

1.) Continue Senator Toomey’s work on providing relief for victims
   • Funds from the Crime Victims Fund are slowly distributed to victims of crime. Fines and penalties collected from violent crimes should be expeditiously released to victims of crime.

2.) Increase mental health resources for victims of crime
   • Multiple studies show that over half of all victims of violent crime experience PTSD or depression. Congress must provide adequate funding so that victims can receive professional help.

3.) Expand access to substance abuse resources in prisons
   • Correctional facilities often lack the resources to provide substance abuse relief for inmates. These programs can help prevent relapse and recidivism.

4.) Expand treatment centers and training and hiring more treatment professionals
   • There is a bipartisan craving for more resources for those that struggle with substance abuse. Penalties collected from those responsible for the opioid crisis should go directly to treatment facilities.

5.) Ban heroin injection sites
   • Congress should support policies that discourage the use of these deadly drugs, not encourage them.

Reduce Crime In Prisons

1.) Provide more funding for better technology in our prisons
   • Outdated security systems, cameras, and screening devices have allowed drug trafficking and violence to occur in our prisons.

2.) Provide retention and recruitment incentives for our federal prisons
   • Low pay and long hours discourage the recruitment of correctional officers leading to hazardous conditions in our prisons for correction officers and inmates.