

Operation Wildfire: Good Things Happen When YOU Vote

October 3, 2024

On the Issues: Crime

A growing share of Americans say reducing crime should be a top priority for the President and Congress to address this year. According to the Pew Research Center, around six-in-ten U.S. adults (58%) hold that view today, up from 47% at the beginning of Joe Biden's presidency in 2021. As the 2024 election rapidly approaches, violent crime is expected to remain a key talking point. In this issue, Operation Wildfire looks at where the candidates stand on the issue.

	Vice President Kamala Harris ¹	Former President Donald Trump ²
Gun Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish universal background checks;• Ban assault weapons and high-capacity magazines;• Urge states to pass red-flag laws;• Increase funding to the ATF and FBI for enforcement and prosecution;• Fund gun violence research at the Center for Disease Control and National Institutes of Health as well as community violence interventions;• Prevent certain militarized equipment from being sold or transferred to local police agencies; and,• Give communities resources to crack down on gun crime.• Supports federal gun safety legislation that includes funding for mental health and school security resources. <p>As a 2019 presidential primary candidate, Harris said, "I support a mandatory gun buyback program" for assault weapons. In 2024, Harris says she no longer supports a buyback program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protect Second Amendment rights;• Opposes assault-style weapons and high-capacity magazines bans. www.pbs.org/newshour/show/a-look-at-harris-and-trumps-ideas-to-counter-crime-and-gun-violence• Repeal all gun regulations that the Biden Administration has put in place https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/where-kamala-harris-and-donald-trump-stand-on-gun-control-laws/ar-AA1quYsi <p>In 2019, Trump encouraged states to adopt red flag laws, which give family members, and in some cases police officers, the power to obtain a swift court order from a judge to confiscate firearms from someone deemed a danger to themselves or others. That followed mass shootings in Texas and Ohio.</p>
Back the Blue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invest \$37 billion to support law enforcement and crime prevention;• Invest \$5 billion in community violence interventions;• Give communities tools to	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Restore safety in our neighborhoods by replenishing police departments;• Restore common sense policing;• Protecting officers from frivolous lawsuits;• Stand up to Marxist prosecutors;• Vigorously defend the right of every American to

¹ '24 Democratic Party Platform, <https://democrats.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/FINAL-MASTER-PLATFORM.pdf>

² Republican Party Platform 2024, <https://www.2024gopplatform.com/assets/files/RNC2024-Platform.pdf>

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	<p>crack down on retail crime and carjacking; and,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a new Violent Crime Reduction and Prevention Fund to give federal, state, local and Tribal law enforcement the resources to fight crime. 	<p>live in peace;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compassionately address homelessness to restore order to our streets; • Condemn anti-semitism; • Support revoking visas of foreign nationals who support terrorism and Jihadism; • Hold accountable those who perpetrate violence against Jewish people; <p>https://www.vox.com/ reports Trump will: Provide additional police officers; Impose stricter penalties for assaults on cops; Prosecute drive-by shootings as domestic terrorism; Go after “violent extremist groups like ANTIFA”; and, Reverse reforms to end cash bail.</p>
Criminal Justice Reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act (Broadly, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021 tries to do four things at the federal level: make the prosecution of police misconduct easier, expand federal oversight into local police units, limit bias among officers, and change policing tactics); • Establish rehabilitation and reentry programs for people returning to their communities after incarceration; • No jail time for using or possessing marijuana; • Pardon people convicted federally for using or possessing marijuana; • Invest \$1 billion on job training, addiction recovery and reentry services; • End the school-to-prison pipeline to prevent disparate discipline of children of color and with disabilities; • Expunge marijuana-only federal convictions; • Expand access to public defenders; • End state-level use of private prisons and detention centers; • Restrict state and local practices like solitary confinement, chokeholds and restraints on pregnant inmates; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trump signed criminal justice reform legislation, The First Step Act, into law in December 2018. This law represented a bipartisan effort to decrease federal prison populations, reduce recidivism rates and improve living conditions for the incarcerated. • In July 2020, the Trump administration launched “Operation Legend, an effort to combat violent crime in cities by working with state and local law enforcement officials. The program ended when Trump left office, having resulted in over 6,000 arrests and over 2,600 firearms seized. <p>https://www.dukechronicle.com/article/2024/09/duke-university-presidential-preview-criminal-justice-donald-trump-kamala-harris-reform-tough-on-crime-progressive-prosecutor</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove barriers to legal access; • Combat hate crimes; • Limit reincarcerating people federally to only serious violations of supervised release; and • Broaden the enforcement of the Violence Against Women Act (WAWA). 	
Migrant Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In April 2017, Harris said, "An undocumented immigrant is not a criminal." https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/harris-undocumented-not-criminal/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seal the border and stop the migrant invasion; • Carry out the largest deportation operation in American history; • Stop the migrant crime epidemic; • Cut federal funding to sanctuary jurisdictions that release dangerous illegal alien criminals onto our streets; • Death penalty for drug dealers and human traffickers; and, • Demolish the foreign drug cartels. <p>ICE released a report identifying those who have been released from detention with final deportation orders, as well as those released who are waiting for an immigration court hearing. ICE deputy director Patrick Lechleitner said that 425,431 convicted criminals were in this category, as well as 222,141 with pending criminal charges. https://newsweek.com</p>