



Top 20 Criminal Justice Reforms & Accomplishments by Kamala Harris as San Francisco District Attorney and California Attorney General

- 1.** As the 27th District Attorney of San Francisco, Kamala Harris oversaw 260 employees with an operating budget of ~\$40M/year, handling felony and misdemeanor prosecutions, and providing victim services to 4,000 victims annually. As the 32nd Attorney General of California, she led the largest state DOJ with 4,500 employees and an \$800M budget, covering 30 areas of law under public rights, civil law, and criminal law.
- 2.** Harris opened three additional Neighborhood Courts, raising the total to 12. These Community Courts handled adults charged with misdemeanor crimes, diverting thousands of cases under Harris' (SF DA) two terms. Participants in these courts avoided formal charges as long as they satisfied the panel's mandate.
- 3.** Harris co-founded the Coalition to End the Exploitation of Kids (CEEK), providing legal and health services to sexually exploited children, including teenage "prostitutes".
- 4.** As DA, Harris launched the first onsite trauma therapy program for children and youth who are victims and witnesses of domestic violence or sexual assault in California.
- 5.** Harris spearheaded the San Francisco Reentry Council to reduce recidivism. As DA, she created the Back on Track program to help drug offenders re-enter society, providing vocational training, counseling, parenting services, and expunging their records upon completion.
- 6.** As DA, Harris refused to seek the death penalty, even under pressure from her own party, due to racial disparities in its application.
- 7.** As DA, Harris created the LGBT Hate crimes unit, environmental justice unit, and child sexual assault unit.
- 8.** Harris worked to establish the first safe house in San Francisco for girls wanting to leave the sex trade. She also redefined underage individuals involved in prostitution as victims rather than perpetrators.
- 9.** As DA, Harris launched the first Neighborhood Legal Fairs to engage the community on issues such as neighborhood safety, domestic violence, elder abuse, and consumer fraud.



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- 10.** As California Attorney General, Harris created the Bureau of Children's Justice (BCJ) to streamline the enforcement of laws upholding children's rights and pursue policies improving children's lives.
- 11.** As CA Attorney General, Harris established the Division of Recidivism Reduction and Re-Entry (DR3) and was awarded a Second Chance Grant to expand Back on Track to Los Angeles. The DR3 partnered with the Court of College (C2C) program to divert young offenders from future crimes through cognitive behavioral intervention and exposure to higher education
- 12.** As CA AG, Harris eliminated the longstanding rape kit backlog of over 1,300 untested kits and significantly reduced processing times, earning the US DOJ's Award for Professional Innovation in Victim Services.
- 13.** Harris's CA DOJ was accepted into the national Defending Childhood State Policy Initiative, forming a cross-sector team of state leaders to develop shared priorities to prevent and address children's exposure to violence.
- 14.** As CA AG, Harris issued guidance to California law enforcement agencies on new responsibilities to track and report citizen complaints against peace officers, including those alleging racial or identity profiling.
- 15.** Harris created the first Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) certified law enforcement training on procedural justice and implicit bias, the first of its kind in the country.
- 16.** Harris instituted a body camera policy for all CA DOJ special agents.
- 17.** Harris created the 21st Century Policing Working Group to foster discussion on implicit bias and building community trust and established the Racial Profiling Advisory Board.
- 18.** Harris created OpenJustice, a first-of-its-kind criminal justice open data initiative providing unprecedented transparency and key criminal justice indicators.
- 19.** As CA AG, Harris opened a civil pattern or practice investigation into the Kern County Sheriff's Office and the Bakersfield Police Department.
- 20.** As CA AG, Harris supported Senate Bill 1143, significantly limiting the practice of isolating juveniles in room confinement. The bill was signed into law and took effect in 2018.