2023 Legislative Priorities

**SUPPORTING PROSECUTORS**

- Ensure an increase in funding for the Byrne-JAG grant programming, the John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program, Child Advocacy Center and Multidisciplinary Team grant programs to assist with recruitment and retention of prosecutors.

- Drafting and introducing new legislation to fund the hiring of prosecutors and support staff to tackle the increase in fentanyl deaths, homicides, and juvenile crime.

**IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY**

- Supporting a bipartisan deal to permanently schedule fentanyl and its analogues so Federal, State, local, and Tribal law enforcement can hold distributors, manufacturers, and traffickers accountable.

- Reauthorizing vital programs to fund the prosecutor and law enforcement response to the ongoing increases in crime including Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) and the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) program.

- Ensure law enforcement has proper access to electronic evidence as essential pieces of any investigation into criminal activity in an increasingly digital environment.

**VICTIMS’ RIGHTS**

- Support the rights of victims of crime through increased notification requirements and ensure victims have a voice as our criminal justice system continues to be revaluated.

- Expand programming and opportunities for victims of domestic violence while ensuring abusers are held accountable and the safety of survivors are prioritized.

- Creating new funding for collaborative Family Justice Centers to support a whole-system approach to assisting victims of crime.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM**

- Ensure full implementation of the First Step Act with adequate funding to support the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) staff and facilities in carrying out the law.

- End the sentencing disparity between crack and powder cocaine in the Federal system.

- End license suspensions for fines and fees to ensure we are not policing poverty, while ensuring suspension remain for those pose a risk to traffic safety.

- Provide certificates of rehabilitation to equip incarcerated individuals with the tools to successfully re-enter society.

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