



## **CBCF EXECUTIVE ORDER TRACKER**

# **Ending Crime and Disorder on America's Streets**

## **Executive Order #14321**

**Date Issued:** July 24, 2025

**Topic:** Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement, Health

### **WHAT DOES THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER DO?**

- This order makes it easier for states and municipalities to hospitalize individuals presumed to be having a mental health crisis and unhoused individuals without their consent.
- This executive order increases the requirements for federally funded programs that treat mentally ill people and people in unstable housing situations.
- The order terminates federal support for housing first policies, which provide unconditional support for unhoused individuals, harm reduction initiatives, and safe consumption sites.
- The order comes on the heels of the Supreme Court's 6-3 decision in [\*City of Grants Pass v. Johnson\*](#), which states that it is not cruel and unusual punishment for police officers to fine and arrest unhoused people who sleep in public places. Together, these decisions criminalize people with mental illnesses and precarious housing circumstances.



## HOW WILL THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER BE ENFORCED?

- This executive order will primarily be enforced by the Attorney General (AG).
- The order authorizes the AG to revoke consent decrees and override judicial precedents in order to increase civil commitments for mentally ill and unhoused individuals.
- The order also encourages the AG to offer guidance and funding to states on how to adopt and implement lenient civil commitment frameworks, which would allow for mentally ill and unhoused individuals to be involuntarily committed.
- The order directs the AG, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the Secretary of Transportation to deprioritize grantmaking to states and organizations that facilitate supervised consumption sites and harm reduction initiatives and to prioritize funding entities that prohibit urban camping, perform civil commitments on mentally ill people, and track sex offenders who do not have a permanent address.
- The order requires the AG to ensure that the Federal Law Enforcement Assistance program is fully funded to remove encampments in areas where states and municipalities are under resourced.
- The order mandates that the AG evaluate federal resources to ensure that mentally ill detainees remain in federal custody if no beds are available in their jurisdiction's jails or hospitals and they do not have a housing release plan.
- The order directs the HHS Secretary to defund grants administered through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), which fund harm reduction and safe consumption efforts. The order also directs the HHS Secretary to support outpatient mental health and addiction treatment programs, federally qualified health centers, and certified community behavioral health clinics in transitioning their patients to private housing and providing comprehensive services, including crisis intervention.



## HOW WILL THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER BE ENFORCED?

- The order instructs the AG to provide funding to expand drug and mental health courts. It also increases the number of eligibility requirements for patients with substance use disorder or other serious mental illnesses in federally funded housing assistance programs to receive services.
- The order instructs the AG to investigate if recipients of federal housing and homelessness assistance funds that also operate safe consumption sites are in violation of federal law and to determine the appropriate charges to file. The order also instructs the HUD Secretary to determine if these entities are in violation of the program terms and, if applicable, to freeze their funding.
- The order directs the HUD Secretary to allow federally funded housing organizations to only house women and children and to prevent sex offenders from being housed with children. The order also requires the Department of Justice to screen unhoused people arrested for federal crimes to determine if they are “sexually dangerous.”

## HOW DOES THIS IMPACT BLACK COMMUNITIES?

- In 2020, over 40% of the unhoused population in the United States was Black, a racial disparity that has not improved over the last decade. This executive order makes it easier for law enforcement to remove unhoused people from the streets, while leaving the root causes of homelessness, poverty, and addiction unaddressed. In the process, the order eliminates federal funding for holistic approaches, like housing first policies and harm reduction practices, like safe consumption sites. These sites reduce the risk of overdoses and criminalization of substance use disorder, and the provisions in this executive order jeopardize those aims.



## HOW DOES THIS IMPACT BLACK COMMUNITIES?

- In early March, President Trump signed an [executive order](#) to limit the funding of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, an organization founded by Congress in 1987 to consolidate federal efforts to combat homelessness and to foster public-private partnerships to fight against homelessness. The order suspended funding for strategic work to address homelessness across the United States. In April, all the agency's staff were placed on [administrative leave](#), effectively shuttering their work. Together, these executive orders will have a significant impact on low-income Black communities.
- In 2022, SAMHSA reported that [4.7%](#) of Black people had a serious mental illness, and only about half of that population received medical treatment. This executive order makes it harder for mentally ill Black people to qualify for federally funding treatment and housing programs. Additionally, the order defunds organizations that operate [safe consumption sites](#), a proven intervention, thereby making their work more difficult.
- This order will increase the federal law enforcement presence in areas where local law enforcement does not interact with homeless populations, which will increase the over-policing of Black communities. A 2020 study found that expanding police forces in cities with the largest Black populations [disproportionately increased](#) low-level arrests without equivalent public safety benefits. Moreover, a 2023 audit of police movements found that police officers spend [significantly more time](#) in Black neighborhoods than other areas with similar socioeconomic demographics and crime rates.
- From 2018–2020, Black Americans were [more than twice](#) as likely as white Americans to experience a threat or nonfatal use of force during police interactions. In 2024, [25%](#) of those killed by the police were Black. Because this executive order will provide local law enforcement officials military training and equipment with a directive to aggressively police communities, the number of Black police brutality victims will likely increase.



## HOW ARE CBC MEMBERS RESPONDING?

- Members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) have advocated for comprehensive solutions to address poverty since its inception. In March, **Reps. Joyce Beatty** and **Emanuel Cleaver II** wrote a letter asking President Trump to reverse his executive order defunding the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH).
  - “Your Administration’s EO undermining the work of USICH, and other federal agencies and departments, is irrational and counterproductive to federal efforts to address homelessness across the nation. We urge you to rescind the EO and respond to this letter with your plans to strengthen USICH’s independent, interagency mission and work with Congress to provide adequate funding and support for federal agencies, programs, and partners working to address the nation’s fair and affordable housing crisis.” [Full Statement](#)

