



CBCF EXECUTIVE ORDER TRACKER

Additional Measures to Address the Crime Emergency in the District of Columbia

Executive Order #14339

Date Issued: August 25, 2025

Topic: Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement

WHAT DOES THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER DO?

- This executive order increases the number of federal law enforcement officials who are scheduled to police the DC area and continues President Trump's federal takeover of the nation's capital.
- The order also instructs the Secretary of Defense to establish a standing National Guard quick reaction force that can be deployed nationwide to "ensure the public's safety," creating a path for federal intervention in other US cities.





HOW WILL THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER BE ENFORCED?

- This executive order will be enforced by several Cabinet Secretaries and federal agency heads.
- In conjunction with President Trump's August 11 [executive order](#) implementing a federal takeover of the District, the order instructs the Director of the National Park Service (NPS) to hire additional US Park Police officers to serve the DC area.
- The order directs the US Attorney for the District of Columbia to hire additional prosecutors with an emphasis on prosecuting violent and property crimes.
- The order authorizes the DC Safe and Beautiful Task Force, established in a March 2025 [executive order](#), to create an online portal to recruit citizens with law enforcement or military backgrounds to join federal law enforcement entities.
- The order also empowers the law enforcement officials appointed to the task force, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement, to create and begin training a specialized unit that could be deployed in DC or other cities where "public safety and order has been lost."
- The order compels the Secretary of Defense to develop a new unit of the DC National Guard to ensure public safety and order in the District and instructs the Attorney General, Secretary of the Interior, and Secretary of Homeland Security to deputize members of this unit to enforce federal law.
- The order also directs the Secretary of Defense to communicate with state-level Army National Guard and Air National Guard leaders to ensure that the units are equipped to "quell civil disturbances" and assist federal law enforcement officials with "ensuring the public safety and order whenever the circumstances necessitate."



HOW WILL THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER BE ENFORCED?

- The order instructs the Secretary of Transportation to conduct additional inspections into federally-funded transit services in DC to determine if transit workers are currently being endangered and, if so, take appropriate remedial action.
- The order directs the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to investigate the DC Housing Authority and identify examples of non-compliance with HUD's crime-prevention and safety requirements. Under this order, the Secretary of HUD should refer their findings of non-compliance to the Attorney General and other federal and local law enforcement authorities.

HOW DOES THIS IMPACT BLACK COMMUNITIES?

- Over 40% of the D.C. population is Black, and this executive order will exacerbate over policing in 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. By hiring more federal law enforcement officers to police DC, President Trump is increasing the likelihood that DC's Black residents will encounter police officers and experience police violence. 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 addition, in 2024, 25% of individuals killed by the police were Black. President Trump has expressed interest in deploying federal law enforcement units in Black-led and predominantly Black cities, like Chicago and Baltimore, which will put Black communities at risk of excessive force.
- President Trump's federal takeover of DC and deployment of the National Guard has already increased Black Americans' harmful interactions with law enforcement. This order outlines his intention to expand these efforts across the country by increasing the reach of federal law enforcement and installing a unit of military officials that are prepared to deploy to US cities at a moment's notice. The order will have consequences for all Americans but will disproportionately impact Black communities.



HOW DOES THIS IMPACT BLACK COMMUNITIES?

- The impact of this order will be exacerbated by President Trump's reinstatement of cash bail policies. Under the cash bail system, individuals accused of a crime must either pay a significant sum of money or remain incarcerated until their trial date. In 1992, DC overhauled its cash bail system, releasing individuals accused of crimes back into their communities without financial penalties until their trial date. In August, President Trump signed an [executive order](#) eliminating DC's cashless bail policy, placing pressure on the District to incarcerate more people. Studies show that any amount of time in jail correlates to [increased rates](#) of mental and physical illness, including depression, hypertension, cancer, and hepatitis.
- President Trump's attack on cashless bail did not stop with DC. On August 25, the president issued another [executive order](#) that asks the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to identify federal funds that could be revoked from municipalities and states that have eliminated cash bail, a system that disproportionately impacts low-income Black communities.

HOW ARE CBC MEMBERS RESPONDING?

- **Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton** has represented Washington, DC in Congress since 1991 and is the longest serving member of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC). Congresswoman Norton issued the following statement in response to President Trump's executive orders on DC:
 - "Three weeks ago, despite historically low crime and for purposes opposed by eight out of ten D.C. residents, President Trump declared a "crime emergency" in D.C. as a pretext for federalizing D.C.'s locally funded police department. He deployed more than 2,000 National Guard troops, put guns in their hands, and sent masked ICE officers to forcibly take community members from our streets. President Trump has used D.C. residents as props in a political play to showcase his own power." [Full Statement](#)