



Safe Communities, Safe Michigan

A Public Safety Plan by Michael Brown

During my 34-years in law enforcement, I've seen the toll of crime and violence first-hand. I've devoted decades to helping our communities. Numerous Michigan cities have experienced unprecedented increases in violent crime the past two years and it will take new leadership at the Governor's office to turn this around.

My priorities include:

- ★ Continued Funding for Law Enforcement
- ★ Advocacy and Support for Crime Victims
- ★ Targeted Support for Reducing Violent Crime
- ★ Fully-Funded Narcotics Enforcement
- ★ Improved School Safety
- ★ Enhanced Police Recruitment and Training
- ★ Better Implementation of Technology

Continued Funding for Law Enforcement

My administration will provide the necessary funding for law enforcement at the state and local level by direct budget allocations and grant opportunities. I will work with the legislature and local leaders to identify priority funding requests to maintain safe communities. Violent crime has exploded under the current administration's policies. Continued funding of law enforcement will be a priority for my administration.

Advocacy for Crime Victims

My administration will be a vigorous advocate for crime victims' rights with full accountability and transparency on sentencing for criminal offenses. I will not support any legislation that has an adverse impact on crime victims. I will work collectively with the Prosecutors Association of Michigan, crime victims advocates, and law enforcement to ensure crime victims are supported.

Targeted Support for Reducing Violent Crime

Any city or township that is identified as being one of the most violent will have a comprehensive plan to reduce violence and engage citizens. This plan will be drafted in conjunction with the local jurisdictions, Sheriff's departments and the Department of State Police. A key component that has been neglected in the



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past ten years is a path for policing self-sufficiency for the jurisdiction struggling with violent crime. Example: the local agency has a high violent crime rate, no school safety officer and their detective bureau is overwhelmed. A multi-year plan to increase staffing, training, and capabilities will be developed with the budgetary support to achieve these objectives. Every political jurisdiction desires to be self-sufficient for their citizens and my administration will make this achievable. A financial incentive program will be established for officers working in smaller communities in the most violent jurisdictions.

Narcotics Enforcement

No Michigan Governor has fully funded narcotics task forces in our state. These task forces still have to rely on proceeds from civil asset forfeiture for operating expenses which is unacceptable. I will fully fund our narcotics task forces and remove asset forfeiture from the equation to give them a stable funding source to better perform their mission.

The open southern border is providing a free flow of narcotics into Michigan and America, and vigorous enforcement to disrupt drug traffickers is required. Focus on drug traffickers dealing methamphetamine, heroin, fentanyl, and cocaine will be priorities.

My administration will also support and fund enhanced substance abuse prevention, recovery, and enforcement to protect Michigan's citizens. Without safe communities Michigan will not be able to prosper.

Police Recruitment

To improve police recruitment, I will provide scholarship opportunities at each of the seventeen regional police academies in the State of Michigan. A budget will be provided to each regional academy for which they will be held accountable. This will cover the cost of the training and funds for career transitions. This will greatly assist the midsize and smaller agencies in Michigan and help them recruit the best and the brightest into the law enforcement profession.

Training

My administration will conduct a complete review of the current MCOLES mandated training in order to streamline and effectively train new police officers. My administration will support removing training that new police officers have no comprehension or practical skill to understand. In place will be a two year in-service training fully funded by the State of Michigan to enhance training in the first two years of employment. This review will be assisted and completed by actual certified working police officers, deputies and troopers not uncertified bureaucrats.

Training on de-escalation and mental health will be mandatory for every police officer every two years. There will be no unfunded mandates on law enforcement training passed down to local jurisdictions. I will provide the needed leadership to revamp our law enforcement agencies to improve efficiency in police training.

School Safety

All current school safety laws, reports, and requirements will be vigorously enforced. Recent revelations that the current administration failed to follow up on school safety reporting and drills is unacceptable. MCOLES will develop a separate training program for school safety officers specifically to work in schools apart from the MCOLES certification. This will allow more jurisdictions to leverage talented and qualified individuals to keep our students safe. School officials, students, and law enforcement will design this training program together.

Body Cameras

I have already successfully advocated for body cameras for State Police Troopers and Sergeants when the current administration ignored this issue for three years. As Governor, I'll promote the use of body cameras for transparency in policing and protecting both citizens and officers with all police agencies. The Department of Technology Management and Budget will establish contracts for local law enforcement to purchase body cameras. My Office of Community Safety will aggressively pursue grant opportunities for small and midsize agencies to establish a body camera program. My goal is 100% usage of body cameras by police agencies including Department of Natural Resources officers where it will be mandatory during normal duties — the same as the State Police.

Technology

The State of Michigan will implement an automated license plate reader system statewide on interstates and key state routes. In particular this system will assist in preventing and solving freeway shootings in the City of Detroit.

Having personally developed Michigan's first interstate camera system, I know the value of this technology. Michigan will be a safer state — returning missing children, finding murder suspects, and identifying large drug seizures before they arrive in our neighborhoods. The necessary policies to protect civil liberties will be established.

Office of Community Safety

To ensure our public safety goals are being met, I will create an Office of Community Safety that will report directly to the Governor and Lt. Governor. This office will concentrate on providing resources and assistance to both rural, urban and suburban law enforcement. Each region presents its own challenges, and within this office will be experts on rural and urban policing as well as school safety experts.

Pension Reform

I'll call for an immediate end to the pension tax. Our retired officers and public safety personnel worked their entire lives to enjoy their golden years. But now, because they depend on a fixed income, the burdens of high inflation rates hit them especially hard. They deserve immediate relief. The pension tax was ill-conceived from the start. It's time for it to go.