



Terry Bowling



Derrick Smith



Richard Riddle



Paul Pozniak

VO-4: STOP REPEAT VIOLENT OFFENDERS

It is time to take the worst repeat violent offenders off our streets, so they can no longer wreak havoc on our communities.

- **Strengthen Michigan's Habitual Offender Law** to ensure repeat violent offenders are kept where they belong: behind bars.
- Hardened criminals with three prior felonies would receive a **minimum 25-year sentence** when convicted of an additional serious violent crime, stopping the pattern of violence in its tracks.
- Under the VO-4 legislation, the 25-year minimum **sentence would kick in on the violent offender's fourth felony conviction** in cases when the offender is classified as a 4th Habitual Offender and convicted of a serious violent offense.
- Examples of qualifying crimes include: 2nd Degree Murder; Attempted Murder; Assault with Intent to Murder; Criminal Sexual Conduct (1st, 2nd, 3rd Degree); Carjacking; and Kidnapping.

REAL THREATS POSED BY REPEAT OFFENDERS

With VO-4 in place, these convicted murderers would have been behind bars instead of committing murder in our communities:

- **Terry Bowling:** Convicted of 2nd Degree Murder and other crimes for a home invasion that resulted in the death of Livonia Police Officer Larry Nehasil. Prior Record: 6 felonies, 9 misdemeanors.
- **Derrick Smith:** Convicted of 1st Degree Murder, Torture. Prior Record: 12 felonies.
- **Richard Riddle:** Convicted of 2nd Degree Murder. Prior Record: 8 felonies.
- **Paul Pozniak:** Convicted of 1st Degree Murder. Prior Record: 12 felonies.





THE HIGH COST OF VIOLENT CRIME UNDER THE STATUS QUO

Violent crime creates both tangible and intangible costs to Michigan communities every day.

- Research published by the Journal of Forensic Psychiatry conservatively estimates **\$275,000 in criminal justice costs** alone of repeatedly investigating, arresting and adjudicating a repeat criminal.
- A study published on the National Institutes for Health website estimates that just one murder creates approximately **\$8.9 million in costs**.
- As long as our communities remain unsafe, the much-needed economic recovery will remain stalled. Employers will not create jobs in a climate of fear.

VIOLENT CRIME COSTS MICHIGAN FAMILIES

The following offenses, using the NIH estimates in the chart to the right and 2010 Michigan crime data, create **annual costs** as follows:

- **Murder**
 - 556 victims
 - \$710M tangible costs
- **Sexual Assault**
 - 4,908 victims
 - \$200M tangible costs
- **Aggravated Assault**
 - 31,253 victims
 - \$600M tangible costs
- **Robbery**
 - 11,386 victims
 - \$240M tangible costs

For just these four crimes alone, Michigan communities are facing over \$1.7 Billion in annual tangible costs. Intangible costs to victims and communities add even more to these estimates.

COMMUNITY COST OF CRIME BY OFFENSE

Total (Tangible Plus Intangible) Per-Offense Cost for Different Crimes in 2008 Dollars

Type of Offense	Tangible Cost	Intangible Cost	Total Cost*
Murder	\$1,285,146	\$8,442,000	\$8,982,907
Rape/Sexual Assault	\$41,252	\$199,642	\$240,776
Aggravated Assault	\$19,472	\$95,023	\$107,020
Robbery	\$21,373	\$22,575	\$42,310
Arson	\$16,429	\$5,133	\$21,103
Motor Vehicle Theft	\$10,534	\$262	\$10,772
Stolen Property	\$7,974	N/A	\$7,974
Household Burglary	\$6,169	\$321	\$6,462
Embezzlement	\$5,480	N/A	\$5,480
Forgery and Counterfeiting	\$5,265	N/A	\$5,265
Fraud	\$5,032	N/A	\$5,032
Vandalism	\$4,860	N/A	\$4,860
Larceny/Theft	\$3,523	\$10	\$3,532

*The Cost of Crime to Society: New Crime-Specific Estimates for Policy and Program Evaluation", Drug and Alcohol Depend., published April 2010

“A catch and release policy is not how our criminal justice system should work. As long as fear of crime persists, no company will create a job, no student can learn, and no family can walk the streets of their own neighborhood in peace. It’s time to change the game with VO-4.”

– Bill Schuette