

# GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

## KEEPING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES SAFE



As a former prosecutor, public safety is a core issue for Governor Whitmer. She has worked closely with local leaders and law enforcement officers and organizations to bring down crime and ensure people feel safe whether they're going to work, picking up their kids from school, or grabbing groceries.

### INVESTING TO KEEP COMMUNITIES SAFE

- Since taking office, the governor has signed budget bills delivering \$1.4 billion to local governments to help them fund local police, fire departments, and emergency medical services.
- In 2020, she signed budgets that have provided funding for the training of over 100 new police officers, and mental health support services for first responders and public safety staff and in 2021 she increased funding for highway road patrols.
- She has delivered \$40 million in COVID hazard pay for local officers and first-responders and over \$10 million premium pay for MSP troopers.
- In 2021, she proposed the "MI Safe Communities Investment", a \$75 million framework to invest more money into Michigan's police departments to strengthen training policies and programs and foster collaboration between the Michigan State Police and local departments on specialty services, get illegal guns off the street, and fund expanded opportunities in jobs, education, and the justice system.



*"Every Michigander, no matter where they live or who they are, deserves to live safely. As a former prosecutor, I am committed to protecting public safety and reducing crime so we can build strong, vibrant communities together. I will work with anyone to bring down crime and help Michiganders feel safe in their community. Together, we can build a safer, more just Michigan where every family can thrive, where every kid can get a great education, and where every person has a path to a good-paying, high-skill job."*

- Governor Gretchen Whitmer

### SUPPORTING POLICE AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- Developed a four-pillar plan to strengthen police-community relations in partnership with community leaders and law enforcement organizations.
  - Improve police standards and training to reduce police violence,
  - Build a more emphatic and diverse police force to establish a foundation for future recruiting and hiring efforts,
  - Increase trust between police officers and the communities they serve, and
  - Prevent improper use of force by holding officers accountable, remove barriers that impede officer accountability, and make data available to the public.
- Created the Bridges to BLUE – Build Listen Unite Engage – a citizen advisory council to the Michigan State Police (MSP) leadership. The council improves community engagement by providing MSP an outside perspective into their practices and public perception.
- Called on Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards to provide guidance to law enforcement agencies on continuing education to help officers keep up with the ever-changing landscape of new laws and issues facing the communities they protect.
- Established community service trooper positions to institute a community policing concept statewide.