



GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

REDUCING CRIME AND PRIORITIZING PUBLIC SAFETY



As a former prosecutor, public safety is a core issue for Governor Whitmer. She has worked closely with local leaders, law enforcement officers, and community 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.

"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

Made investments to keep communities safe

- Invested over [\\$1 billion](#) directly into public safety across 4 bipartisan budgets.
- Delivered [\\$155 million](#) to communities to help them hire more cops, firefighters, EMTs, and first responders. This builds on the \$1.4 billion they have received over the last 3 years to hire local public safety officials.
- Secured [millions](#) in the FY 2023 budget for a range of public safety investments:
 - Increasing patrols on secondary roads and in high-crime areas.
 - Investing in gun violence prevention research for the first time in Michigan history.
 - Offering more professional development and training for law enforcement officers.
 - Establishing units to tackle retail crime, cybercrime, and unemployment fraud.
 - Training and recruiting more Michigan State Police troopers.
 - Funding new scholarship and training grants for EMTs.
 - Expanding the Detroit Police Athletic League (PAL) program to connect law enforcement to the communities they serve.
 - Bolstering the jail diversion fund which ensures individuals with mental illness receive appropriate treatment services.
- Invested [millions](#) to train and hire hundreds of state police officers and troopers, fund a new trooper recruit school, make 911 upgrades, and fund mental health services for first responders.
- Delivered \$30 million for the Public Safety Academy Assistance Program [that offers scholarships to local public safety department recruits](#) to attend training academies.
- Delivered \$30 million for [scholarship and training](#) for new emergency medical services and paramedics.
- Secured funding to increase [mental health resources](#) for public safety professionals including firefighters and law enforcement officers.
- [Proposed](#) attraction and retention bonuses for cops, firefighters, EMTs, and first responders.
- Signed a bill to [increase road patrol funding](#) by 50% to put more law enforcement officers on the roads and keep communities safe.
- Launched [Operation Safe Neighborhoods](#) to reduce gun violence by getting illegal guns off the street and out of the hands of people who cannot legally be in possession of a gun due to prior criminal history.

- Signed an [executive directive](#) to instruct state departments and law enforcement to coordinate efforts and utilize all possible federal resources to reduce crime and gun violence.
- Established and [funded Jobs Court](#), a court diversion program to put hundreds of Michiganders accused of low-level, nonviolent offenses in good-paying jobs to reduce recidivism and help businesses struggling with workforce shortages.
- Delivered [\\$40 million](#) in hazard pay for local law enforcement and first responders and over [\\$10 million](#) in premium pay for MSP troopers during COVID-19.

Supported relationships between the public and law enforcement

- 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 MSP leadership to provide the department with an outside perspective into their practices.
- Directed the [Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards](#) to provide guidance to law enforcement agencies on educational efforts 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 community policing across the state.
- Delivered \$15.5 million for [community policing grants](#), including money for community violence intervention programs.
- Invested [\\$5 million](#) in the Advocates and Leaders for Police and Community Trust (ALPACT) program to bring together community and law enforcement leaders to build relationships and expand trust.
- Leveraged [a federal grant](#) for community policing development and de-escalation training to build trust in communities and ensure local law enforcement have the tools they need to keep communities safe.
- Signed a [package of bills](#) to provide behavioral health crisis response grants to local governments or expand community-based mobile crisis intervention services in addition to traditional law enforcement services.
- Signed [bills](#) that increase compensation and expand access to mental health resources for crime victims.
- Signed a bill guaranteeing [access to college tuition grants](#) for the children of police and firefighters who lost their lives on the line of duty in Michigan.
- Signed bills to [extend benefits](#) to Michigan firefighters injured in the line of duty and those who [develop certain cancers](#).