



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

- Proposed [MI Safe Communities](#), a \$75 million framework to reduce crime and keep families safe by tackling the court backlog, expanding resources for law enforcement, and investing in jobs programs, counseling, and education.
- Proposed [funding for 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.
- [Proposed funding](#) for a Michigan State Police (MSP) trooper recruit school, professional development and training for law enforcement, and attraction and retention bonuses for first responders.
- [Proposed funding](#) to tackle retail crime, cybercrime, and unemployment fraud.
- Proposed funding for [gun violence prevention research](#).
- Launched [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.
- Invested [millions](#) for the training and hiring of hundreds of state police officers and troopers, a new trooper recruit school, 911 upgrades, and mental health services and training opportunities law enforcement and first responders.
- 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.
- 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.

- 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 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](#).