



March 17, 2022

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland
Attorney General of the United States
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

We write as four members of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, and not on behalf of the Commission as a whole, to enumerate our urgent concerns about the drastic increase in violent—and in some cases, property—crime that has affected our nation over the past two years. This increase harms all Americans, but it especially hurts our most vulnerable and disadvantaged citizens, particularly those who live in our largest cities. Because we are so alarmed, we ask that you direct the Department of Justice to study the cause of this increase and direct the U.S. attorneys to escalate their prosecution of these violent criminals. It is particularly important that U.S. Attorneys increase prosecutions in cities where local prosecutors have declared their reluctance to prosecute crime.¹

We are concerned. Americans in general are concerned.² But too many of our elites seem not to be concerned.³ Perhaps insulated from the destruction of crime, they may be apathetic about the plight of their fellow citizens or mistakenly believe that the police are a greater threat to minority

¹ *E.g.*,

Baltimore is not prosecuting shoplifting or drug-possession crimes. Despite recent violent protests and occupations, St. Louis is not pursuing cases for looting and rioting, while Portland isn't pursuing charges for trespassing. Philadelphia won't allow prostitution charges. San Francisco is not prosecuting indecent exposure offenses. Chicago declines arrests for thefts of less than \$1,000. Did a sudden decision from the Supreme Court invalidate these crimes? Are the police on strike? Are the prosecutors' offices short-staffed? No: each office is not prosecuting these cases based on the discretion of the city's chief prosecutor.

Thomas Hogan, *Prosecutorial Indiscretion*, CITY JOURNAL (June 22, 2021), <https://www.city-journal.org/progressive-prosecutors-abuse-prosecutorial-discretion>. We know that not all these cases will involve violations of federal law, but many will involve violations of both state and federal law, such as crimes involving the use of firearms. Federal prosecutors should begin prosecuting these crimes rather than deferring to local prosecutors, as they might do in saner times.

² Gallup has polled Americans on different aspects of crime since the 1960s. Several polls conducted by the firm in recent years reveal growing concerns over crime: 42% of respondents in 2022 were "very dissatisfied" with "the nation's policies to reduce or control crime," up from 20% in 2019; 51% of respondents in 2021 said there was "more crime in [their] area than there was a year ago," up from 39% in 2018; 74% of respondents in 2021 said there was "more crime in the U.S. than there was a year ago," up from 60% in 2018; 33% of respondents in 2021 said they frequently or occasionally worried about getting mugged, up from 25% in 2018. *Crime*, GALLUP, <https://news.gallup.com/poll/1603/crime.aspx> (last visited Mar. 17, 2022). And these sentiments reflect the data.

³ *E.g.*, John Pfaff (@JohnFPfaff), TWITTER (July 8, 2021), <https://twitter.com/JohnFPfaff/status/1413317254968709120>; e.g., Joy-Ann (Pro-Democracy) Reid (@JoyAnnReid), TWITTER (July 2, 2021), <https://twitter.com/JoyAnnReid/status/1411065786123362305>.



communities than are criminals. Even some of our colleagues at the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights approach the increase in crime with similar sentiments,⁴ despite their leadership in a federal agency whose mission is “to inform the development of national civil rights policy and enhance enforcement of federal civil rights laws.”⁵

But this drastic increase in crime is not and should not be a partisan issue.

Serious crime undoubtedly is increasing. According to FBI data, homicides increased nearly 30% from 2019 to 2020. Likewise aggravated assaults increased by 11.5%. Motor vehicle theft increased by 11.7% and arson by 23%.⁶ Sixty-three of the 66 largest police jurisdictions saw increases in at least one category of violent crime in 2020, which include homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.⁷ And although the FBI will not release 2021 crime data until

⁴ Both political appointees and staff members of the Commission have refused to study the increase in crime. Initially, some staff members engaged in the negotiations over topic selection suggested that studying this issue is somehow anti-black. But we note that a recent poll of Minnesotans (with a special emphasis on Minneapolis African Americans) indicates African Americans are likely *more* concerned about rising crime than whites, not less. When asked “Do you think Minneapolis should or should not reduce the size of its police force?” 75% of African Americans answered, “should not” and 14% answered, “should.” By contrast, 51% of whites answered, “should not” and 33% answered, “should.” African Americans were also more decisive than whites with only 11% “not sure” compared to 16% of whites who were “not sure.” *Minnesota Polls Results: Minneapolis Policing and Public Safety Charter Amendments*, MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE, Sept. 18, 2021, <https://www.startribune.com/minnesota-poll-public-safety-minneapolis-police-crime-charter-amendment-ballot-question/600097989/>. Political appointees—our fellow commissioners and their special assistants—have also refused to study this increase and have even stonewalled our attempts to merely write a letter asking you to address these issues. In regards to the letter, Chair Cantú stated that “we Commissioners disagree about the implications of the FBI data cited,” and Commissioner Yaki attributed the crime increase to “the role model set by executives in the—in the Oval Office with regard to the respect for the rule of law” and thus refused to discuss the letter. Email from Juana Silverio, Special Assistant/Counsel to Chair Norma Cantú, to Carissa Mulder, Special Assistant/Counsel to Commissioner Peter Kirsanow (Feb. 14, 2022, 10:56 AM) (on file with authors); transcript of U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Business Meeting at 14 (Feb. 18, 2022). The result of their obstruction is evident in the Commission’s inaction this year.

⁵ *Our Mission*, U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS., <https://www.usccr.gov/about/mission> (last visited Mar. 17, 2022).

⁶ FBI, Offenses Known to Law Enforcement, Table 12, Crime Trends by Population Group, 2019–2020.

⁷ Laura Cooper, *Violent Crime Survey – National Totals*, MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASS’N, <https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2020-and-2019-Year-End-Final.pdf>; see also Robert Cherry, *2020’s Spike in Urban Homicides Should Not Be a Mystery*, NAT’L REV. (Jan. 13, 2021), <https://www.nationalreview.com/2021/01/2020s-spike-in-urban-homicides-should-not-be-a-mystery/> (“[C]onservatives claim that many violent felons quickly return to the streets because of recent decriminalization and bail-reform initiatives. In Philadelphia, first-time offenders caught with an illegal gun are charged with a misdemeanor, and even a second offense can be pleaded down to another misdemeanor. This past year’s homicide data seem consistent with these claims. The three cities with particularly high increases were Milwaukee (96 percent), Louisville (78 percent), and Minneapolis (72 percent). These were the sites of the three most publicized cases of police misconduct. Another group — Seattle (68 percent), Memphis (58 percent), and Atlanta (55 percent) — also had viral incidents. Aggressive criminal-justice-reform initiatives in Chicago (55 percent), New York (41 percent), and Philadelphia (41 percent) may explain their above-average increases.”); see also Jason L. Riley, *Will Crime Keep Rising? Not Necessarily*, WALL ST. J., June 15, 2021, <https://www.wsj.com/articles/will-crime-keep-rising-not-necessarily-11623795873> (“‘We’re turning loose people who commit repeat offenses,’ he said, in reference to the popularity of so-called bail-reform measures that make it harder to keep defendants locked up until



September 2022, reports from individual cities suggest that violent crime continues to climb. According to media reports, several cities set new homicide records in 2021 and many that did not set new records still experienced increases over 2020.⁸ For example, in 2021 New York City experienced a 4% increase in murders over 2020.⁹ This 4% increase comes on top of the 46.7% increase in murders the city experienced in 2020.¹⁰

Crime harms everyone; but it disproportionately affects our most vulnerable and disadvantaged citizens—particularly those who live in our largest cities,¹¹ and frequently those who are racial and ethnic minorities. We have witnessed how crime destroys these neighborhoods. For example, DC’s H Street Corridor was once “one of the city’s commercial hubs, known for its art and dining scene.”¹² But the riots of April 1968 left H Street “devastated” and with “[d]amaged, burned buildings.”¹³ Growth didn’t return to the neighborhood until decades later.¹⁴

When people are not constantly worried about crime they flourish. As one of us wrote in 2018:

When law-abiding people don’t need to be constantly worrying about crime, they can spend their time achieving their own goals instead. Instead of staying home after dark, they can take a course in accounting at the local community college. They can earn money for a down payment on a house by working a part-time job at a local shopping mall. Instead of spending money to put bars on their windows, they can buy a used car that will get them to an out-of-the-way work site where

trial. We’re ‘demoralizing’ law-enforcement by treating criminals like victims and police officers like criminals. ‘We’re creating a perfect storm,’ he said. The suspect in a triple homicide in Austin, Texas, earlier this year had been out on bail. A man arrested last week in Flint, Mich., in connection with the fatal stabbing of a 13-year-old girl and the sexual assault of her mother, is a career criminal who had been released on bond a few days earlier. A crime wave isn’t inevitable, but that doesn’t mean one can’t be manufactured.”); *see also* Jeff Asher, *Murder Rose by Almost 30% in 2020. It’s Rising at a Slower Rate in 2021*, N.Y. TIMES, Sept. 22, 2021, <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/09/22/upshot/murder-rise-2020.html>? (“The United States in 2020 experienced the biggest rise in murder since the start of national record-keeping in 1960, according to data gathered by the F.B.I. for its annual report on crime.”).

⁸ Bill Hutchinson, “‘It’s just crazy’: 12 major cities hit all-time homicide records,” ABC News, Dec. 8, 2021, <https://abcnews.go.com/US/12-major-us-cities-top-annual-homicide-records/story?id=81466453>.

⁹ Larry Celona and Dean Balsamini, “NYC recorded 485 murders in 2021,” N.Y. POST, Jan. 1, 2021, <https://nypost.com/2022/01/01/nyc-recorded-485-murders-in-2021/>.

¹⁰ “Index Crimes Reported to Police by Region,” New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, Sept. 2021, <https://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/crimnet/ojsa/stats.htm>.

¹¹ *See generally* URBAN AND RURAL VICTIMIZATION, OFFICE OF VICTIM OF CRIME, DEP’T OF JUST. (2018) (available at

https://ovc.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh226/files/ncvrw2018/info_flyers/fact_sheets/2018NCVRW_UrbanRural_508_QC.pdf) (discussing data that shows that “urban areas generally have higher crime rates than suburban or rural areas”).

¹² *History & Renewal on DC’s H Street NE Corridor*, WASHINGTON, D.C., <https://washington.org/visit-dc/h-street-corridor-ne-history-and-revival>.

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ *Id.*



the pay is better. They can have a picnic in the park. They can get to know their neighbors.¹⁵

Instead of flourishing, many law-abiding citizens are unable to access resources and services that others can access. Ineffective governments unable to police and prosecute crime cause these citizens to become essentially prisoners in their own communities: Too many of our children don't play in neighborhood public parks because crime has overtaken them; too many neighborhood schools serve as "pipelines to mediocrity" instead of institutions of learning; too many emergency services become inaccessible when residents are in constant fear.¹⁶

We cannot predict how far this destruction by criminal violence will go. But the notion that the increase is an entirely COVID-19-related one seems disproven by European statistics on crime.¹⁷ So what is the cause?

Is the increase caused by local prosecutors throughout the country whose sole aim is "to obstruct prosecution itself"?¹⁸ Or is it caused by irresponsible state governments that institute criminal justice reform packages that make it difficult, if not impossible, for judges to detain violent and career criminals?¹⁹ Are these violent offenders engaged in a "revolving door of criminality"

¹⁵ Gail Heriot, *Statement of Commissioner Gail Heriot, in U.S. COMMISSION ON CIVIL RTS., POLICE USE OF FORCE: AN EXAMINATION OF MODERN POLICING PRACTICES* (2018) (available at https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3285429).

¹⁶ Peter Newsham, Chief of Police, Prince William County Police Department, transcript of "The Civil Rights Implications of Cash Bail: Briefing before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights" (Feb. 26, 2021) at 92 ("The trauma that's being placed on these communities by this gun violence is so palpable. You have young people that are fearful to go to the store, young people that are afraid to go to school.").

¹⁷ See German Lopez, *Murders are up. Crime is not. What's going on?*, VOX.COM, <https://www.vox.com/22578430/murder-crime-2020-2021-covid-19-pandemic>. ("The increase in murder appears to be a uniquely American phenomenon. While murder rates rose in some developed countries last year, like Canada and Germany, the increases are far below the double-digit spikes America is seeing. That's especially notable because the United States already had a higher baseline of murders, after controlling for population.").

¹⁸ Andrew McCarthy, *The Progressive Prosecutor Project*, COMMENTARY, Mar. 2020. McCarthy notes elsewhere that

prosecutors' dereliction of their duty invites more crime. Professional criminals are recidivists, and if they are repeatedly returned to the streets, rather than prosecuted and imprisoned, they commit lots more crime. The only way to stop it is to stop it. That means enforcing the law, even—or especially, I should say—against the "mutual combatants."

Andrew McCarthy, *What's Behind Rising Violent Crime? Progressive Prosecutors' Non-Enforcement of the Law*, THE HILL (Oct. 10, 2021, 11:00 AM), <https://thehill.com/opinion/criminal-justice/576078-whats-behind-rising-violent-crime-progressive-prosecutors-non?rl=1>.

¹⁹ William Bratton, Executive Chairman of Teneo Risk and Former Commissioner of NYPD and Former Chief of LAPD, transcript of "The Civil Rights Implications of Cash Bail: Briefing before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights" (Feb. 26, 2021) at 76-77.

Many advocates for bail reform and most police practitioners have greatly differing views of the public safety threat. For the advocates, arrested persons have merely been accused of crimes, not convicted, and therefore should be spared incarceration except in the cases of serious violent offenses.



where “[s]uspects are released in a day, only to commit the same offense a day later, then are sprung again”?²⁰

Or is the increase caused by the “defund the police” movement, the ill-considered rhetoric from its most vocal advocates,²¹ and city councils that actually voted to drastically decrease police

Police take a longer view. Many offenders, including many robbers, burglars, and auto thieves have long histories of criminal activity. The same is true of many gun criminals, who often exhibit a pattern of firearm arrests and involvement in prior shootings, without having been convicted yet as the actual violent perpetrator of a particular shooting or murder. They are deeply enmeshed in violence, but not yet charged with an act of violence.

Every major city in America right now is experiencing rapidly increasing incidents of shootings and murders, and part of that, I believe, is as a result of some of the bail reform efforts, while well-intended, are having unintended consequences.

See also William J. Bratton, Executive Chairman of Teneo Risk and Former Commissioner of NYPD and Former Chief of LAPD, Written Statement, “The Civil Rights Implications of Cash Bail: Briefing before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights,” at 2 (on file with the Commission).

The New York State bail reforms stipulate that auto thieves cannot be held even for arraignment and must be released on desk appearance tickets within hours of their arrests. Auto thefts were up 66.7 percent by year’s end. As with burglary, auto thefts have declined for decades in the city, with only one annual increase in any year since 1990. An auto thief with multiple arrests in 2020, was released, as required, on a desk appearance ticket only to be arrested again on the very same night trying to steal a van within blocks of the precinct house from which he had been released.

See also Peter Newsham, Chief of Police, Prince William County Police Department, transcript of “The Civil Rights Implications of Cash Bail: Briefing before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights” (Feb. 26, 2021) at 91-92.

But I think that when we get into violent crime, we’ve got to be very, very careful about those [bail] decisions. I think the pendulum in Washington, D.C. has swung a little bit too far on violent crime. . . .

[T]he violence in Washington, D.C. is restricted to a very small geographic area. So Washington, D.C., although it’s considered a big city, the neighborhoods that are plagued with violence are very, very small.

When a dangerous gun-related violent offender is turned back into that community, everybody knows that that happened. That results in a lack of trust in the system by the folks who live there.

²⁰ Sohrab Ahmari, *Goodbye, Gotham*, THE AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE (Dec. 7, 2021, 12:01 AM),

<https://www.theamericanconservative.com/articles/goodbye-gotham/>

²¹ Rashida Tlaib (@RashidaTlaib), TWITTER (Apr. 12, 2021),

<https://twitter.com/RashidaTlaib/status/1381745303997534216?s=20> (“No more policing, incarceration, and militarization. It can’t be reformed.”); Ayanna Pressley (@AyannaPressley), TWITTER (Apr. 12, 2021),

<https://twitter.com/AyannaPressley/status/1381702744310943750?s=20> (“From slave patrols to traffic stops. We can’t reform this.”); Mary Markos, *Mayor Walsh Wants to Reallocate Police OT Funds. Here’s Where the Money Would Go*, NBCBOSTON (June 15, 2020),

<https://www.nbcboston.com/news/local/in-proposed-budget-boston-mayor-walsh-reallocates-police-overtime-funds/2143019/> (“Boston Mayor Marty Walsh has submitted a revised budget for the 2021 fiscal year in which he calls for diverting some police overtime funds to support police reforms and bolster social services. . . . The new budget involves reallocating 20%, or \$12 million, of the Boston Police Department’s overtime budget to invest in equity and inclusion after Walsh on Friday declared racism a public health crisis.”); J. Edward Moreno, *Ocasio-Cortez Dismisses Proposed \$1B Cut: ‘Defunding Police Means Defunding Police’*, THE HILL (June 30, 2020),

<https://thehill.com/homenews/house/505307-ocasio-cortez-dismisses-proposed-1b-cut-defunding-police-means-defunding> (“‘Defunding police means defunding police,’ the congresswoman said in a statement. ‘It does not mean budget tricks or funny math. It does not mean moving school



budgets?²² So many politicians either advocated for this policy or stayed quiet on it since the

police officers from the NYPD budget to the Department of Education's budget so the exact same police remain in schools.""); Ilhan Omar (@IlhanMN), TWITTER (June 8, 2020), <https://twitter.com/IlhanMN/status/1270148561536274439?s=20> ("The 'defund the police' movement, is one of reimagining the current police system to build an entity that does not violate us, while relocating funds to invest in community services. Let's be clear, the people who now oppose this, have always opposed calls for systematic change.").

²² Natasha Brown, *Philadelphia City Council Approves Fiscal Year 2021 Budget That Slashes Police Funding, Features Coronavirus Cuts*, CBS PHILLY (June 25, 2020), <https://philadelphia.cbslocal.com/2020/06/25/philadelphia-city-council-approves-fiscal-year-2021-budget-that-slashes-police-funding-features-coronavirus-cuts/> ("Philadelphia City Council gave final approval to the fiscal year 2021 operating budget on Thursday. They were tasked with filling a massive \$749 million deficit brought on by the coronavirus pandemic. While the budget reduces \$33 million in police department funding, it pours \$45 million into affordable housing, arts funding and social services that address poverty."); Barnini Chakraborty, *Seattle City Council Approves Plan to Defund Police Department, Slashes Jobs and Salaries*, FOXNEWS (Aug. 10, 2020), <https://www.foxnews.com/us/seattle-city-council-approves-defund-the-police> ("The Seattle City Council voted Monday to move forward with a controversial proposal that would begin the process of defunding the police department. . . . Seattle currently has around 1,400 police officers, and the current plan would see about 100 cut. It was also cut the police department's \$400 million budget by about \$3 million."); Jonathan Franklin & Kolbie Satterfield, *DC Council Passes Budget Including a \$15 Million Cut to Policing*, WUSA9.COM (July 23, 2020), <https://www.wusa9.com/article/news/local/dc/dc-council-passes-budget-reducing-mpd-budget/65-81a11840-b887-46f3-832b-db5b31c4db16> ("The D.C. Council held a virtual session Thursday in which members unanimously voted to approve a budget cutting \$15 million from the police department. Previously, on June 25, D.C.[.]'s Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety unanimously approved a \$15 million cut from the Metropolitan Police Department's budget."); Jemima McEvoy, *Austin Cuts Police Budget By A Third As Defunding Efforts Gain Momentum*, FORBES (Aug. 13, 2020), <https://www.forbes.com/sites/jemimamcevoy/2020/08/13/austin-cuts-police-budget-by-a-third-as-defunding-efforts-gain-momentum/?sh=17a123fe56b6> ("The Austin City Council on Thursday voted unanimously to cut its police budget by \$150 million and reinvest the money in social services days after a similarly sweeping defunding effort in Seattle led to the resignation of Police Chief Carmen Best."); Anabel Munoz, *Los Angeles City Council Votes to Cut LAPD Budget by \$150 Million*, ABC7.COM (July 2, 2020), <https://abc7.com/defund-the-police-lapd-los-angeles-mayor-eric-garcetti/6289037/> ("The Los Angeles City Council on Wednesday approved a \$150 million cut to the LAPD's budget for the next fiscal year, a move that followed activists' mounting calls to 'defund the police.'"); *Oakland City Council Votes to Defund Police, Stripping More Than \$17M from Department Budget*, CBS SF BAYAREA (June 24, 2021), <https://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2021/06/24/oakland-city-council-votes-defund-police-stripping-17-million-department-budget/> ("The Oakland City Council approved a budget early Thursday evening that will strip \$17.4 million in funding from the Oakland Police Department and direct the money toward other programs. The \$18 million is over the course of the next two years."); Talia Richman & Yvonne Wenger, *The Baltimore City Council Eliminated \$22 million from the Police Budget. What Does that Look Like?*, BALTIMORE SUN (June 17, 2020), <https://www.baltimoresun.com/politics/bs-md-pol-police-budget-explainer-20200617-4yjweepbkreknjlef4f45jiblm-story.html> ("Rather, it voted to eliminate roughly \$22 million in police spending for the upcoming fiscal year — a move that City Council President Brandon Scott says is a signal of what's to come. 'I am proud to lead a City Council that took the first step to responsibly reduce Baltimore's budget dependence on policing,' said Scott, who is the Democratic nominee for mayor. 'This is just the beginning, and I intend to continue leading this process to redirect our public dollars and reimagine public safety in Baltimore.'"); *Speaker Corey Johnson, Finance Committee Chair Daniel Dromm, and Capital Budget Subcommittee Chair Vanessa Gibson Announce Agreement on FY 2021 Budget*, N.Y.C. COUNCIL (June 30, 2020), <https://council.nyc.gov/press/2020/06/30/1999/> ("The Fiscal Year 2021 Adopted Budget includes \$837 million in cuts and transfers to the New York Police Department (NYPD) expense budget. When combined with associated



summer of 2020,²³ including the current administration which initially “had little to say about the surge of violent crime.”²⁴ But now that our political winds have shifted,²⁵ you should find very little to deter you from determining the cause of the increase and directing our U.S. attorneys to increase their prosecution of these violent criminals when it is within their jurisdiction to do so.

We look forward to your timely response.

Most respectfully,

Peter Kirsanow
Commissioner

J. Christian Adams
Commissioner

Gail Heriot
Commissioner

Stephen Gilchrist
Commissioner

costs, these cuts remove \$1 billion from the NYPD’s spending. This was a hard-fought battle, which marks the beginning of the Council’s efforts to not only limit the size and scope of the NYPD, but also reimagine how we structure criminal justice and public safety in this city.”)

²³ Occurring over the span of week, those riots resulted in one police officer’s death, over assaults on 2,000 police officers, multiple federal buildings attacked, 97 police cars burned, 624 incidents of arson, 2,385 incidents of looting, and an estimated \$1 billion to \$2 billion in damage (the “[m]ost expensive in insurance history among riots and civil disorders causing insured losses to the insurance industry; across 20 states, covering damages from 5/26/20-6/8/20.”). *Updated and Reposted: RealClearInvestigations' Jan. 6-BLM Riots Comparison*, REALCLEARINVESTIGATIONS, Jan. 4, 2022,

https://www.realclearinvestigations.com/articles/2021/09/09/realclearinvestigations_jan_6-blm_comparison_database_791370.html. Despite these horrendous losses, “90%+ of citations/charges [were]

dropped, dismissed, or otherwise not filed.” *Id.*

²⁴ Ruy Teixeira, *Joe Biden's "Popularist" Politics*, THE LIBERAL PATRIOT (May 5, 2021), <https://theliberalpatriot.substack.com/p/joe-bidens-popularist-politics?s=r>

²⁵ *Remarks of President Joe Biden – State of the Union Address As Prepared for Delivery*, THE WHITE HOUSE, Mar. 1, 2022, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2022/03/01/remarks-of-president-joe-biden-state-of-the-union-address-as-delivered/> (“We should all agree: The answer is not to Defund the police. The answer is to FUND the police with the resources and training they need to protect our communities.”).



Cc:

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The Hon. Patrick Morrissey
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