



The United States Conference of Mayors

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USCM PRESIDENT DOUGLAS PALMER PARTICIPATES IN SENATE MEETING ON CRIME

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Conference of Mayors President Trenton (NJ) Mayor Douglas Palmer, along with Rochester Mayor Robert Duffy, USCM Criminal and Social Justice Chair, will participate tomorrow in a Senate Democratic Caucus Meeting on federal law enforcement priorities to renew the mayors' collective call for more help from the federal government to fight crime in cities. **This meeting is closed to the press.**

Mayor Palmer and Mayor Duffy will also participate in a press conference subsequent to the meeting to discuss funding cuts for important initiatives such as the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grant program, in addition to what the new FBI crime report means for local crime-fighting efforts.

In response to the recent spikes in crime in America's cities, the nation's mayors have called for stronger federal, local partnerships on hometown security, as well as Congressional support for anti-crime programs. This priority is reflected in the Mayors' 10-Point Plan -- *Strong cities, Strong Families, for a Strong America*. Unveiled in January of this year, the Plan is the mayors' bi-partisan legislative agenda endorsed by the entire body of the organization (www.usmayors.org to view).

In the 1990s, mayors and police chiefs put extensive effort into increasing public safety and establishing a partnership with the federal government. As a result, many cities saw crime rates drop to historic lows. In recent years, however, those partnerships were dissolved and crime is now on the rise with gun violence becoming more and more prevalent.

"The release this week of FBI statistics citing an increase in violent crime in this country only confirms the need for stronger local-federal partnerships. Mayors around the country have consistently worked with police chiefs to push for strong federal crime prevention and anti-gang measures. We must do everything we can to let Congress and the Administration know that cities cannot fight this battle by themselves," said Mayor Palmer.

WHO: Trenton Mayor Douglas H. Palmer, USCM President
Rochester, NY Mayor Robert Duffy, USCM Criminal and Social Justice Committee Chair
Senator Leahy
Senator Stabenow
Senator Lautenberg
Rhode Island Attorney General Patrick Lynch

WHAT: Press Conference re. Funding for Law Enforcement

WHEN: 10:30 AM

WHERE: Senate Swamp (next to the Russell Senate Office Building at Delaware & Constitution Aves.)

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,139 such cities in the country today, each represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the Mayor.

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