



# Department of Justice

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**STATEMENT OF**

**PAMELA BONDI  
ATTORNEY GENERAL**

**BEFORE THE  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE**

**AT A HEARING ENTITLED  
“OVERSIGHT OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE”**

**PRESENTED  
FEBRUARY 11, 2026**

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Chairman Jordan, Ranking Member Raskin, and distinguished members of the Committee, thank you for hosting me here today. I am grateful for the opportunity to answer your questions, highlight the work of the Department of Justice, and discuss the most important topic of all: keeping the American people safe.

A little over one year ago, I was sworn into office as the 87<sup>th</sup> Attorney General of the United States. I came into office with a goal of refocusing the Department of Justice on its core mission after years of bloated bureaucracy and political weaponization. The Department of Justice’s core mission is to fight violent crime, protect the American people, and defend the rule of law above all else.

While our work is never done, we have made tremendous progress to Make America Safe Again. In 2025, we saw the lowest murder rate in 125 years. That is nothing short of historic.

If you compare 2025 to 2024, here’s what you find: the murder rate is down 21%. Robbery is down 23%. Carjacking is down 43%. Gun assault is down 22%. I could go on and on. Crime is declining.<sup>1</sup>

This did not happen by accident. The numbers tell an important, yet straightforward, story: the American people are safer today than they were before President Trump took office. President Trump has given us the resources, the support, and the leadership to protect the American people.

I cannot think of a policy outcome more important than protecting the lives of American citizens. Can you?

This trend has been especially clear in Washington, DC and Memphis, Tennessee. These are two iconic American cities that spent years in the grip of horrific violent crime. The

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<sup>1</sup> Council On Criminal Justice, “Crime Trends in U.S. Cities Year-End 2025 Update,” January 2026

Department of Justice surged law enforcement resources, and the results came quickly: crime plunged in both cities. **And I want to make one point loud and clear: we achieved these results by working closely with Democrat Mayors.**

Public safety does not have a party registration. When your constituents call 911, they do not ask for the political views of the responding officer. They ask for help. I have federal agents in each and every one of your districts. They are there to help. I am here to help.

Many cities and states have worked with us and taken advantage of our federal support. Some have not. Some have—and I quote elected officials here—declared that they are “at war with the federal government” and encouraged widespread obstruction of law enforcement.

The result? Avoidable clashes on the streets. Rioters storming a Christian Church. Citizens and law enforcement officers both endangered by reckless rhetoric. We have charged 41 individuals in Minneapolis so far, including nine individuals for storming the church. Many of these charges could have been avoided by simple compliance with federal law.

Of course, our efforts reach beyond our urban centers. We are striking crucial blows against terrorist organizations such as MS-13, Tren de Aragua, the Sinaloa Cartel, and Antifa. We have either charged or taken custody of dozens of cartel leaders—including the narco-terrorist Nicolas Maduro. And as we seek to dismantle drug trafficking networks that poison Americans, in 2025 DEA agents seized more than 47 million pills of fentanyl and 4,500 kilograms of fentanyl powder—that represents 369 million potentially deadly doses.<sup>2</sup>

Meanwhile, our attorneys are fighting for President Trump’s agenda in courtrooms across the country. This administration has been sued more than 620 times<sup>3</sup>—more than the prior several administrations combined. We have been hit with temporary restraining order after temporary restraining order from activist judges across the country. America has never seen this level of coordinated judicial opposition towards a presidential administration. It is not only an unlawful attack on the executive branch’s authority, but a serious attack on the democratic process.

Despite this unprecedented judicial activism, we have attained 24 favorable rulings<sup>4</sup> from the Supreme Court with more to come. We have done so while ending the weaponization of the Biden administration by dropping FACE Act prosecutions against peaceful pro-life protesters, shining a light on the Arctic Frost scandal via congressional disclosure, and restoring one tier of justice in this country.

Finally, I want to address the Epstein Files. Hundreds of our attorneys spent thousands of hours painstakingly reviewing countless documents to comply with the law that this House passed. We have released millions of new pages to the public while taking every precaution to protect victims. The prior administration could have done the exact same thing. They never even cared to try. This has not been a perfect process, but this Department of Justice has done

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<sup>2</sup> Internal DEA Data

<sup>3</sup> Justsecurity.org litigation tracker (updated February 9, 2026)

<sup>4</sup> Internal OSG Data

more to secure transparency for Epstein victims than all our predecessors combined. I continue to welcome members of this body to visit Department and see for themselves.

That is a show of good faith. If you'd like an example of bad faith, here's one: saying nothing about Epstein and Epstein survivors for years until you found it politically useful to do so.

With that, I look forward to your questions today.