

# Governor Lee's Investments in Tennessee Law Enforcement & Proven Crime Prevention

*“As Americans face rising crime nationwide, Tennessee is equipping law enforcement with the tools needed to keep every community safe. Unprecedented times call for unprecedented support, and Tennessee is making significant investments in proven methods that will curb violent crime and strengthen public safety. Every Tennessean deserves to feel safe in their community, and our local law enforcement agencies deserve access to the resources needed to deliver that quality of life.”*

- Governor Bill Lee



## Local Law Enforcement Support:

**\$100 Million**

**Violent Crime Intervention Fund** to provide grants to local law enforcement agencies for violent crime prevention products and strategies

**\$30 Million**

to support **recruitment and retention** bonuses for newly-hired police officers

**\$24 Million**

in state funding to support local law enforcement access to **basic training and onboarding** cost

**Increased frequency of training**

for **new recruits and transfers** from out-of-state to get law enforcement officers on the job faster

## Resources for Local Jails:



- Over **\$25 million** in Evidence Based Programming grants for local jails to start and operate proven crime and recidivism reduction programs for inmates, including treatment programs and workforce development classes

## Local Correctional Officer Support:



- Creation of a statewide network of **Correctional Officer training programs** in partnership with TCATs and Community Colleges
- Over **\$4 million** in professional development programs for local correctional officers



# Tennessee Highway Patrol:



- **100 additional Tennessee Highway Patrol troopers** funded by the state to provide additional support on highways and in communities



## Mandatory Supervision:

- Supervision after a prison sentence is critical to a safe and successful return to society, and in 2021, Gov. Lee worked with the General Assembly to enact a new law requiring individuals sentenced after July 1, 2021, to have at least one year of mandatory supervision.
- This applies to individuals who are not parole eligible or who are denied parole. No person should serve years in a prison facility and return to society without supervision.

## Strengthened Penalties for Violent Crimes:



- Enhanced penalties for gun crime and unlawful possession of a firearm
- Increased the penalty for theft of a firearm from a misdemeanor to a felony, increased the mandatory minimum for theft of a firearm from 30 days to 180 days, and provided a sentencing enhancement for theft of a firearm from a vehicle
- Increased sentences for unlawfully providing a firearm to a juvenile or allowing a juvenile to possess a handgun
- Increased penalty for fentanyl trafficking to a Class B or A felony
- Increased penalties for human trafficking offenses to a Class A felony



## Enhanced School Safety:

- Doubled school safety funding in 2019
- School Resource Officer grants put **200+ new SROs** in schools
- **Funded** a school-based behavioral health liaison in every county
- Invested **\$250 million** in the Mental Health Trust Fund
- Created the **SafeTN app** to confidentially report threats or concerns
- Strengthened relationships between schools and law enforcement in the community

