



# Department of Justice

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Attorney General John N. Mitchell said today that "The nation is tired of being promised grand schemes" for crime control programs "without the concurring commitment to adequately finance them."

In a speech before the Federal Bar Association, the Attorney General said that the "over-riding significance" of President Nixon's District of Columbia crime control message "is a firm underlying commitment that this Administration will do everything in its power to obtain all the money necessary to implement" the White House plan.

Other aspects of President Nixon's crime control program in Washington, which the Attorney General said has "national importance" for all urban centers are:

## (1) CITY-STATE COOPERATION.

"For as the federal government has marshaled its resources to help the federal city, so the states must marshal their resources to concentrate on their urban centers."

"You know the basic problem...Too often, this cooperation and help has stumbled on political rivalries and bureaucratic parochialism which divide the urban centers and the state governments."

"We cannot afford to wait any longer. We have not waited in Washington. The Mayor, the City Council and the federal government are working together on the District of Columbia crime control program in a way which should be a model guide for cities and states."

## (2) URBAN-SUBURBAN COOPERATION.

"The District of Columbia crime program envisions regional coordination..."

"In reality there is no such thing as urban crime and suburban crime...For as the residents in the metropolitan area flow from the city to the suburbs and back again without regard to geographical boundaries, so crime flows with them."

"...the only effective solution is metropolitan crime control coordinating councils to pool resources, to coordinate planning and to select common priorities for joint action."

(3) POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS.

"One of the specific proposals in the District of Columbia crime message was a program to increase the size and efficiency of the police."

"While our police face increasing crime, the nation frequently has been less than willing to help them. In many cities the policeman is underpaid and undertrained. He is deprived of sufficient supporting services to do the kind of job we expect in our complex and sophisticated society."

"...many cities today still have no community relations programs or, at best, offer pro forma shams."

"One tragic result in those cities which have no intensive police-community relations programs is a serious corrosion of confidence between the police and the community."

"Well planned community relations programs...are absolute requirements but this type of program costs money. The President and the Mayor are committed to obtaining this money and we urge other urban communities to follow our example."

(4) COURTS, PROSECUTORS AND DEFENSE COUNSEL.

"Efficient police work is of little value if the administration of justice is not just and prompt."

"Thus, I believe that President Nixon's policy for the District of Columbia---in asking for more judges and for a reorganization of the court system---should be a guide for other over-crowded urban court jurisdictions."

"But the President's message also recognizes that justice is a tri-partite procedure in our adversary system. Not only do we need more judges, but we need more prosecutors and more defense counsel."