



HOMELAND SECURITY & COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

I support federal law enforcement. As a former United States Attorney and Chief of the Criminal Division in the U.S. Department of Justice, I know well the value of the men and women of federal law enforcement, who bravely

keep us safe from threats including organized crime and foreign intelligence services. Trump fails these good public servants; worse, he demonizes them to compensate for his incompetence and misconduct.



REVERSING TRUMP'S HAM-FISTED, INEFFECTIVE HOMELAND SECURITY POLICY

For example, the border, organized crime, and drug overdoses remain dangerously out of control not because of a lack of effort or expertise by law enforcement, but because of Trump's malicious, willfully ignorant and wrong-headed policies.

Despite all of his obsessive and inflammatory rhetoric about the border and his wall, illegal border crossings are at their highest since 2007. This is the result of political instability in Latin America that requires a sustained diplomatic effort to address; Trump, of course, has only antagonized the key countries involved without any substantive success.

Trump's mismanagement of the situation and his callous indifference to human suffering have led to

children being separated from their parents and held in inhuman conditions on the pretext of a lack of funding (even as he misappropriates funds for a useless wall). This travesty of justice has stained the reputations of honorable federal law enforcement personnel who did not sign up to treat people like this, or be known for doing so.

Meanwhile, gangs such as MS-13 continue to menace immigrant communities and the general public with gruesome violence. Trump's policy of rampant immigration raids has had very little effect on this. This may be unsurprising: the best way to break a gang's reign of terror is to gain the trust of the people threatened by it so as to encourage cooperation and testimony. That can't happen while Trump is throwing children in cages.

We need a different border policy that focuses on the criminals while offering law-abiding people work visas that will help our economy.

Where gangs are concerned, Trump fails to effectively engage our willing allies in Mexico and the Northern Triangle of Central America (Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua) to stop dangerous migration, drugs and crime at their source. Instead he publicly insults and threatens these countries and their citizens with inflammatory rhetoric.

Another area in which Trump's law enforcement policies have failed this country is the opioid epidemic. Overdose deaths grew by ten percent in the first year of the Trump Administration, to 70,237 fellow Americans, even as Trump proposes cutting the budget of the Office of National Drug Control Policy ninety-five percent. I've long supported decriminalizing marijuana, but opioids and other serious narcotics are another matter. Given a choice, as I've said elsewhere [link: Opioids], I would reallocate the funds, personnel, and other resources currently used to police marijuana toward stopping opioid traffic. Trump, on the other hand, is doing worse than nothing.

We should begin to protect our communities while possible threats are still thousands of miles away, but Trump even cuts successful aid programs which seek to have U.S. federal law enforcement help our southern neighbors help themselves.



FIXING TRUMP'S CATASTROPHIC DAMAGE TO AMERICAN COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE

As bad or worse than Trump's dismal record on immigration, drugs and organized crime is his record on another vital responsibility of federal law enforcement, counter-intelligence.

Illustrative of Trump's errors, he foolishly focuses on his utterly failed efforts to build a "wall" on our southwest border—which he now proposes to pay for by raiding the U.S. military budget of funds for critical defense priorities, and not, as repeatedly and ridiculously promised during the 2016 campaign, by Mexico.

Experts in the Department of Homeland Security know that a wall along the entirety of the border would be physically impossible to build, and practically useless as a tactical law enforcement matter. These professionals would vastly prefer more intelligence, personnel, and training for the Border Patrol, not futile gestures towards a chimerical wall.

In his mounting frustration, Trump has reportedly proposed lunatic ideas such as putting black paint and spikes on this border wall, to burn or impale migrants; digging a moat filled with alligators and poisonous snakes along the border, to bite migrants; having the Border Patrol shoot migrants; and deploying the U.S. Army with bayonets, to stab migrants.

I know that the good men and women of federal law enforcement (and our military) would never break U.S. law and harm migrants in the terrible ways Trump suggests. They know that these migrants are mostly innocent women and children fleeing poverty and violence, looking for better lives in the U.S., the way our own families once did.

In 2016 Trump publicly invited Russian intelligence to hack his opponent's emails—which they did hours later. His sons and campaign chairman secretly met with Russian intelligence operatives, in the U.S. and

abroad, to seek derogatory information on his opponent, and to share his campaign's polling data and strategy. Russia paid few penalties for its interference on Trump's behalf in our election, and an FBI counter-intelligence investigation into whether Trump is under hostile control by the Russian intelligence services is reportedly ongoing.

In 2019 Trump publicly admitted that he would again accept derogatory information on campaign opponents from foreign governments, a clear violation of both election law and his duty of loyalty to the United States as president. Subsequently this year Trump publicly asked for Ukraine and even our adversary communist China to "investigate" a political opponent.

China's espionage against the U.S. has grown more flagrant and pervasive under Trump. And yet, Trump reversed sanctions on cyber-criminals at the sanctions-violating Chinese electronics firm ZTE immediately after China granted his daughter trademarks for her fashion line. Trump also ruined promising allied efforts against cyber-criminals at Huawei, by stating that a U.S. indictment of a Huawei executive was merely a bargaining chip in trade negotiations with Beijing, and not good faith law enforcement.

Trump has improperly disclosed classified information to Russia in the Oval Office, and recently to the world via him tweeting a top-secret photo from the President's Daily Brief: brazen misdeeds that would land any other security clearance holder in federal prison for many years. Meanwhile Trump's children, and their improper mix of government jobs and private family business activities, present serious counter-intelligence risks,

such that the continuation of their security clearances was opposed by his own Administration and career officials.

Trump repeatedly defames federal law enforcement, shamefully referring to dedicated agents and officers as a "deep state" engaged in a "coup" against him, for simply doing their sworn jobs of investigating crimes and counter-intelligence threats, wherever these threats come from.

Is this embarrassing record what we ought to expect from a Republican president? The Grand Old Party used to stand for law and order, and against authoritarian intelligence services. We used to, in the words of a fine old bumper sticker, support our police.

America deserves better.

On day one, I will stop the outrageous misconduct taking place daily in the Trump Administration.

I will work with our Latin American allies and partners to jointly solve the migration, drug and organized crime problems plaguing our shared hemisphere. I will listen to experts about what is really needed to humanely and effectively secure our southwest border.

I will order the FBI to shut down Russian and Chinese intelligence activities in the U.S., especially regarding election interference. And I will order a counter-intelligence damage assessment on classified information the Trumps improperly disclosed to our adversaries.