



CBCF EXECUTIVE ORDER TRACKER

Making the District of Columbia Safe and Beautiful

Executive Order #14252

Date Issued: March 28, 2025

Topic: Criminal Justice, Immigration

WHAT DOES THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER DO?

- This executive order establishes the D.C. Safe and Beautiful Task Force, a group to be composed of federal government officials tasked with fighting crime in D.C. by employing the following strategies:
 - Redirecting resources to apprehend and deport undocumented immigrants.
 - Accelerating the process of issuing concealed carry firearm licenses in D.C.
 - Increasing the federal law enforcement presence in key areas of D.C., including the National Mall and Union Station, the city's main train station.
 - Deploying federal law enforcement officers to address misdemeanor crimes like public intoxication, Metro fare evasion, and traffic violations.
 - Superseding D.C.'s current pretrial detention policy in order to incarcerate people who have not been convicted of crimes "to the maximum extent of the law."
- The order also instructs the Secretary of the Interior to lead a coalition of Trump Administration officials in developing a plan to beautify D.C. and increase "safety and prosperity." The order demands that the plan include the removal of all "homeless or vagrant encampments" on federal land.



HOW WILL THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER BE ENFORCED?

- This executive order will be enforced by the D.C. Safe and Beautiful Task Force, chaired by the Assistant to the President and Homeland Security Advisor. The task force includes representatives from the Departments of the Interior, Transportation, Homeland Security, as well as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Notably, the task force does not mandate the inclusion of any D.C. officials.
- The task force reports to the Attorney General and the President and is encouraged to make recommendations on future executive actions that contribute to the mission of “making D.C. safer and more beautiful.”
- The safety and beautification provisions will be enforced by the Secretary of the Interior, in collaboration with the Attorney General, the Secretary of Transportation, the U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, the Administrator of General Services, and the National Capital Planning Commission.
- The National Park Service will oversee the removal of unhoused people and encampments on federal land.





HOW DOES THIS IMPACT BLACK COMMUNITIES?

- Because Black people comprise more than 40% of the D.C. population, and because D.C. is home to a large number of immigrants from countries like Ethiopia and Trinidad and Tobago, this executive order will disproportionately impact Black communities.
- This order authorizes the D.C. Safe and Beautiful Task Force to “monitor D.C.’s sanctuary city status” and dispatch federal immigration officials to identify undocumented immigrants in the District. In just the first ten weeks of President Trump’s term, his Administration has unlawfully detained legal immigrants, deported immigrants with protected status, and deported undocumented immigrants to countries other than their country of origin. The order will not only stoke fear in communities with undocumented immigrants, but, given these recent incidences, may also have implications for legal permanent residents and international students enrolled in D.C.’s colleges and universities.
- The order will also make guns more accessible and less visible, exacerbating D.C.’s gun violence crisis that has ravaged Black communities. In January 2024, the District published a Gun Violence Problem Analysis, which found that 94% of victims and suspects in nonfatal shootings and 95% of victims and suspects in homicides were Black. In 2022, a Black person in D.C. died by firearm homicide on average every three days. This order will increase access to firearms without addressing the rampant gun violence in D.C., thereby putting many more Black lives at risk.



HOW DOES THIS IMPACT BLACK COMMUNITIES?

- By disbanding encampments on federal land, this order will displace thousands of unhoused people in D.C. About 40% of the unhoused population in the United States is Black, but over 75% of unaccompanied unhoused people in D.C. are Black. D.C. homeless shelters are consistently full and overcrowded, and homelessness rates are increasing over time. In early March, President Trump signed an executive order to limit the funding of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, an organization that addresses homelessness across the United States. Together, these executive orders will have a significant impact on low-income Black communities.
- This order directs the D.C. Safe and Beautiful Task Force to amend Federal pretrial detention policies – which currently instruct judges to provide defendants with unrestrictive conditional releases – to ensure that individuals who “pose a genuine threat to public safety” are remanded while they await trial. Over 90% of people in the D.C. Department of Corrections are Black, and this order would increase that percentage by incarcerating people who have not been convicted of crimes. Additionally, studies show that any amount of time in jail correlates to increased rates of mental and physical illness, including depression, hypertension, cancer, and hepatitis. This order not only increases the federal law enforcement presence in D.C. but also increases pretrial detention for people convicted of federal crimes, which will have a significant impact on Black communities in the District.



HOW ARE CBC MEMBERS RESPONDING?

- **Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton** has represented D.C. in Congress since 1991 and is the longest serving member of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC). Congresswoman Norton issued the following statement in response to this executive order:
 - “President Trump’s thoroughly anti-home rule EO is insulting to the 700,000 D.C. residents who live in close proximity to a federal government, which continues to deny them the same rights afforded to other Americans. The task force created by the EO would not include a single D.C. official to represent the interests of the people who reside within the District. [...] Like states, cities, and counties across the country, D.C. has passed laws to support and protect the safety of all its residents, regardless of immigration status. In passing these laws, D.C. followed its values and was convinced of the benefits for the entire city. Anyone watching can see plainly that the immigration provisions in the EO were motivated by President Trump’s longstanding antipathy for immigrants, not concern about law and order in the nation’s capital.” [Full Statement](#)