



# Department of Justice

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RELEASE AT 9 A. M., EDT  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1972

ANAHEIM, California -- The Department of Justice under the Nixon Administration -- by working in close cooperation with state and local authorities -- has returned the nation to the path of becoming a safe and lawful society, Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst said today.

Addressing a convention of city officials here, the Attorney General said the successful cooperation of all three levels of government "has brought the shocking crime wave of the 1960s under control."

Mr. Kleindienst said the Justice Department has made record achievements in its war on crime and narcotics trafficking, and warned that the election of Senator McGovern as President "would be a disaster" for the country's drive to eliminate these problems.

One of the Department's most significant accomplishments, Mr. Kleindienst said in his speech to the 74th Annual Conference of the League of California Cities, was the tenfold increase in the funding to state and local governments by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

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"The LEAA program has made and is making a recognizable impact on the improvement of criminal justice in this country," he said, adding that California was one of three states cited by the U. S. Conference of Mayors as a "notable example of positive action" in improving the flow of federal funds to the cities.

Mr. Kleindienst listed a half-dozen programs and projects funded by LEAA in California which have had "proven results," including a burglary prevention and control program established in Los Angeles and Orange County, San Diego, San Francisco and Oakland.

Justice Department programs aimed at organized crime and drug peddlers have made "effective inroads" into these two areas, he said, which has helped to reduce street crime.

"Serious crime increased by only one percent in the first six months of 1972, the lowest percentage increase since 1959," he said, and nearly half of the cities with more than 100,000 population recorded an actual decrease of crime during this period.

The Attorney General said Senator McGovern has shown little interest in supporting legislation designed to reduce crime.

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"He missed 21 of 29 votes on the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act legislation which created the LEAA program," Mr. Kleindienst said.

"He missed all six votes on the Organized Crime Control Act of 1970. Only one of six law enforcement bills sponsored by Senator McGovern has ever passed, and that bill authorized the U. S. District Court to hold session in Deadwood, South Dakota."

The Attorney General also discussed Senator McGovern's positions on marijuana, the Pentagon papers, pornography and amnesty, and concluded by saying that "Senator McGovern's election would be a disaster for this country's drive against crime, a drive that has been built up with such effort and dedication by America's peace officers at all levels, and which has now hit its full and successful strides."

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