



Bobby Jindal
GOVERNOR

CRIME SCENE DO NOT

**CRIME AND
SAFETY REFORM:**

BRINGING SECURITY TO
ALL LOUISIANA CITIZENS

Fresh Start **FOR** *Louisiana*

A MESSAGE FROM BOBBY JINDAL

Dear Fellow Louisianians,

In today's world, no Louisiana community is immune to crime.

From our larger cities to our more rural communities, too many of our residents see their nightly local newscast filled with stories of violent crimes like murder, assault and robbery.

Our law enforcement and judicial systems are often stretched thin and hindered in their efforts to battle this epidemic.

It will take a focused and combined effort between state and local resources to reverse this trend and bring security to all Louisiana citizens.

Crime is not simply a problem in New Orleans. Louisiana was recently ranked as the second most dangerous state in the country, with cities all across our state seeing an increase in violent crime.

From Shreveport to Lake Charles, and Lafayette to Monroe, citizens are crying out for a comprehensive plan to take back their neighborhoods and schools.

In 2003, New Orleans' murder rate was nearly eight times the national average — and since then, the murder rate has only increased. In fact, the FBI has recently named New Orleans the most dangerous city in the country when it comes to murder.

We are also seeing increased gang and drug activity throughout our state. These gangs are especially ruthless in their disregard for the sanctity of life and in their efforts to recruit Louisiana's children to a life of drugs and crime.

These trends cannot continue.

It is our children who face the greatest risk. My wife and I, like all parents, do our best to protect our children from today's dangers. Parents hold the primary responsibility for monitoring their children and teaching them how to be safe and responsible. However, government must also do its part.

In addition to threatening the safety of our citizens, increased crime is threatening our economic potential. Companies will refuse to invest in Louisiana if we cannot ensure the security of our citizens.

As Governor, I will aggressively work with law enforcement to form a united front against crime.

The brave members of local, parish and state law enforcement risk their lives every day to keep us safe, but they cannot do it alone. They, along with an effective judiciary, strong parental role models, and neighborhood coordination, represent the core of our efforts to reduce crime in Louisiana.

With a strong commitment at the local level, bolstered by assistance and coordination with state resources, we can take back our streets once and for all.



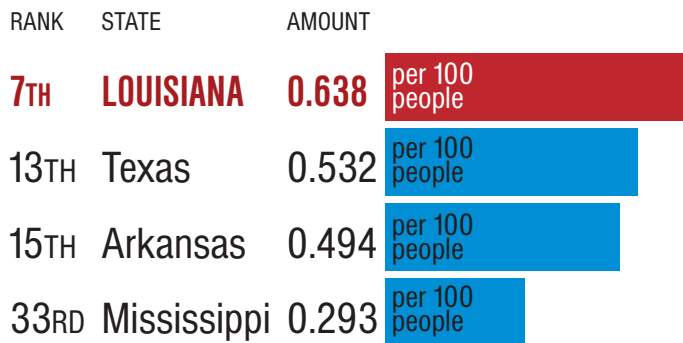
“We must send a clear message to those who aspire to be criminals that breaking the law in Louisiana is not an option. They must know that if they do, they will be caught, prosecuted and severely punished.”

– Bobby Jindal

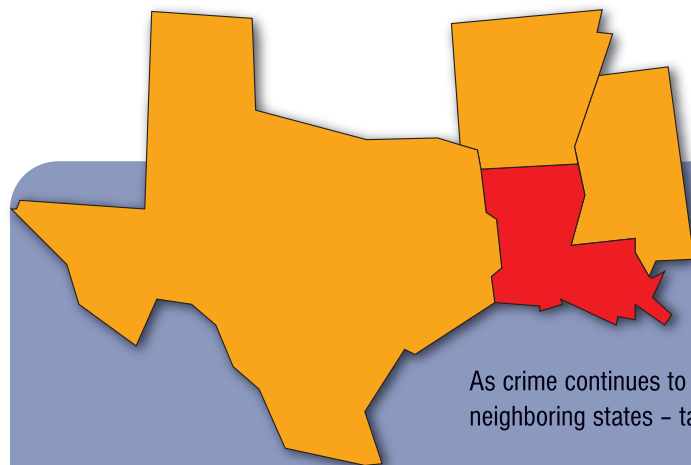
Louisiana was recently ranked the 2nd most dangerous state in the nation. (<http://www.morganquitno.com/dang05.htm>)

The FBI recently named New Orleans the most dangerous city in the country when it comes to murder, but crime is not just a problem for New Orleans. Every city and parish in Louisiana is feeling the effects of increased crime and gang activity.

STATE RANKINGS: VIOLENT CRIME (PER CAPITA)



(2004 Bureau of Justice Statistics; http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/06prelim/t4il_mo.htm)

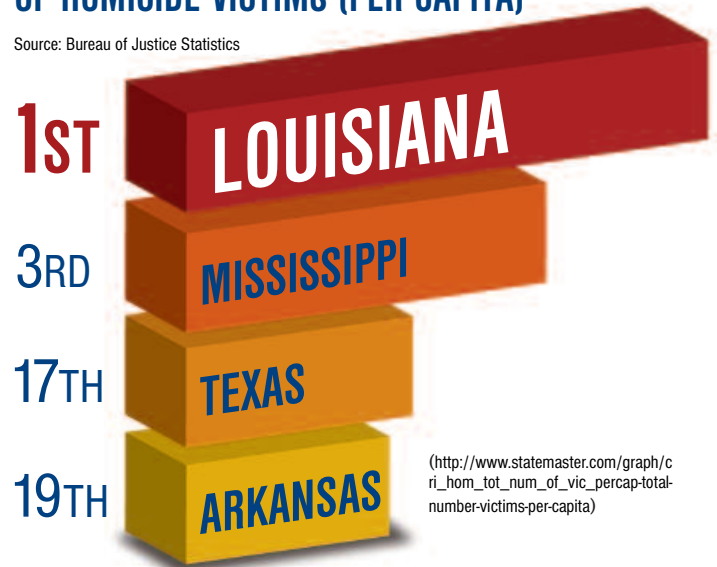


The number of murders continues to rise at a staggering rate.

New Orleans' murder rate was nearly eight times the national average just a few short years ago – and has only continued to climb. In 2006, despite a population decrease, 162 killings still occurred in the Crescent City. By July 1st of this year, the city had already witnessed 95 murders.

STATE RANKINGS: TOTAL NUMBER OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS (PER CAPITA)

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics



(http://www.statemaster.com/graph/c ri_hom_tot_num_of_vic_percap-total-number-victims-per-capita)

Louisiana is consistently ranked worse on crime than our neighboring states.

As crime continues to increase, businesses will continue to pass over Louisiana for our neighboring states – taking with them their jobs and economic opportunities.

The most dangerous state 2005
Morgan Quitno

Aggravated assault by state per capita
Bureau of Justice Statistics

Percent of traffic fatalities where alcohol is a contributing factor
MADD Official Website Statistics, 2004

Homicide victims age 25-34 per capita
Bureau of Justice Statistics

STATE	Most dangerous state 2005	Aggravated assault by state per capita	Percent of traffic fatalities where alcohol is a contributing factor	Homicide victims age 25-34 per capita
LOUISIANA	2nd	7th	2nd	9th
Arkansas	22nd	11th	23rd	29th
Mississippi	17th	37th	31st	24th
Texas	11th	15th	5th	26th

(<http://www.morganquitno.com/dang05.htm>)

(http://www.statemaster.com/graph/c ri_hom_vic_by_bla_mal-crime-homicide-victims-black-male)

(http://www.statemaster.com/graph/hea_alc_rel_tra_fat_as_a_per-alcohol-related-traffic-fatalities-percentage)

(http://www.statemaster.com/graph/c ri_hom_vic_by_age_253-homicide-victims-age-25-34)

Bringing security to all Louisiana citizens and taking back our streets once and for all

PROTECT OUR CHILDREN FROM VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL PREDATORS

- Develop tougher laws to help local officials keep predators away from children.
Each community knows best where their children are most vulnerable. We must strengthen existing laws prohibiting sex offenders from being within 1,000 feet of schools and parks so that each community can easily add the specific locations (e.g. bus stops) where children gather in that area.
- Increase penalties for sex offenders that live or congregate near children.
Currently, sex offenders that break the law by being within 1,000 feet of schools or parks are fined no more than \$1,000 or jailed no more than 1 year. **These penalties are dangerously low and must be toughened if predators are to truly be kept away from our kids.**
- Require lifetime registration for all sex offenders.
I supported legislation in Congress that created a national, comprehensive database for sex offenders. At the state level, we should expand GPS monitoring of sex offenders, increase penalties for not reporting, and require annual public reporting in local periodicals and online so every parent knows of any predator in their neighborhoods.
- Better track sex offenders forced to evacuate in an emergency.
No community should have a relocated sex offenders enter a shelter in their area after a storm without full disclosure to the residents of the community and the inhabitants of that shelter.
- Double, from 2 years to 4 years, the minimum sentence allowed for computer-aided solicitation of a minor.
The very first time an adult hunts our children on the Internet, they should know that a real jail sentence awaits them when caught.
- Increase the current one-year minimum sentence given to those convicted of molesting a juvenile.
We must make sure molesters are punished the very first time they take away the innocence of a child. Putting a molester in jail for only a year will not protect our children.
- Stop the ability of sex predators from other states to use the anonymity of the Internet to hunt our children.
Since the Internet allows predators from other states to invade our homes, we should coordinate with other states so that traveling predators will not be able to prey on children in any state.
- Work with local officials to develop local Internet crime task forces across the state to stop online sexual predators.
While some parishes have been aggressive to trap online predators, we need an effective statewide effort to protect unsupervised children from developing inappropriate relationships via the Internet.

- Increase penalties for any person who threatens a teacher or commits a violent crime at a school.
Those who bring violence into any classroom, bathroom, or ball field on school property will be severely punished.
- Require school boards to develop written policies regarding sex offenders and inform parents of these precautions.
A clear dialogue between the school and parents is needed so that they can work together to ensure sexual predators never find a way to infiltrate our school system.

TARGET THE HEART OF MOST CRIMES AND AGGRESSIVELY PURSUE GANGS AND DRUG DEALERS

- Establish the Governor's Criminal Hot Spot Initiative to identify and target localized areas of intense drug and gang activity.
This initiative will partner with local law enforcement to create interactive, real-time crime maps to identify high crime areas that require increased surveillance.
- Work with district attorneys and judges to encourage the establishment of "drug courts" at the district court level.
Courts dedicated to processing drug criminals will help address the backlog of drug-related cases clogging the dockets.
- Crack down on the home-based methamphetamine laboratories infiltrating rural and urban communities alike.
We must better track the information being collected by retailers of over-the-counter drugs used to make methamphetamines so that producers cannot simply hop from store to store to get their supply.
- Improve the coordination between prosecutors and federal, state, and local law enforcement to better share intelligence to help target gang and drug activity in our communities.
Every level of law enforcement should be working with all available information so that no criminal can slip between the cracks.
- Increase the penalties for when someone solicits a minor to join a gang.
We cannot simply allow gang members and drug dealers to sell our kids on a life of crime. **Anyone caught trying to convince our kids to join a gang should be forced to serve jail time.**
- Work with local law enforcement to increase plain-clothes law enforcement and the use of unmarked cars in localized areas of intense criminal activity.
We must take away the comfort zones for gangs and drug dealers so that they can be apprehended when they least expect it.

"For too long we have stood by, helplessly watching criminals invade our communities. I will not stand to have the citizens of this state live in fear at the hands of ruthless thugs."

— BOBBY JINDAL



GIVE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PROSECUTORS THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO PUT CRIMINALS BEHIND BARS

- Develop an accessible, state-of-the-art criminal database that will allow all levels of law enforcement to better track criminals, arrests, prosecutions and convictions.
Criminals should not be able to leave their record behind when they cross parish lines. I sponsored legislation in Congress authorizing the Department of Justice to award grants to state and local programs to establish a statewide database to track criminals, arrests, prosecutions, and convictions that will help protect our communities from criminals. This fully integrated database will allow law enforcement to combine all data into one comprehensive system that will allow the officer to access all available criminal information about the suspect.
- Ensure a secure and reliable communications network for first responders to use in times of emergency.
State and local governments must have interoperable emergency communication systems so that criminals cannot find a safe haven in an emergency due to poor communication between law enforcement.
- Break the backlog in our state crime labs so that delays in processing evidence never hinder a criminal investigation.
We should better fund our crime labs so they can quickly process evidence. Additionally, prosecutors and law enforcement must coordinate to ensure first responders to a crime scene are gathering evidence properly.
- Make our highways safer by criminalizing the refusal to submit to a blood-alcohol breath test.
Criminalizing the refusal of a drunk driver to submit to a breathalyzer test will close the current loophole and help prosecutors convict drunk drivers.

BETTER COMMUNICATE WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT TO KNOW THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF EACH COMMUNITY

- When making appointments in the area of law enforcement, seek input from those fighting crime on a daily basis.
The experience and knowledge of state and local law enforcement is a valuable resource that I will utilize when making decisions critical to public safety.
- Assemble a panel of experienced law enforcement professionals to review the missions of state, parish and local police agencies.
We must ensure that all levels of enforcement are working together in the most effective manner to fight crime, make our highways safer and protect communities throughout our state.
- Identify best practices from parishes that have model communication between law enforcement and prosecutors and work with struggling parishes to implement similar models.
The first 48 hours of an investigation are critical to ensure the adequate collection and distribution of information needed to put criminals in jail.

- Make our public housing projects safe for residents.

I passed legislation in Congress to prohibit drug dealers, violent criminals, or sexual predators from returning to New Orleans housing projects after the storm so that law-abiding evacuees could return to a safe environment. **I will work at the state level to keep convicted violent criminals and drug dealers out of our housing developments.**

STOP THE “TURNSTILE EFFECT” AND PREVENT REPEAT OFFENDERS FROM BECOMING RECURRING PROBLEMS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

- Amend Code of Criminal Procedure Article 701 to double from 60 to 120 days the time that Louisiana authorities can jail suspects for all felony charges.
While we must do everything possible to ensure an efficient and expeditious judicial process, we cannot release criminals to the street due to paperwork backlogs.
- Put real teeth into the witness intimidation statute.
In many cases, witnesses are too scared to cooperate with law enforcement. **To prevent this from continuing, we should make the current jail time of no more than 5 years the absolute minimum time served for anyone threatening a witness.**
- Revitalize the effort to reform our juvenile justice system.
Over half of our juvenile offenders are not chronic delinquents, only one-time offenders, yet we do not consistently prioritize law enforcement efforts against rehabilitating one-time offenders and providing more intensive correctional efforts for the fewer chronic delinquents who cause most of the problems. We must improve efforts to put juvenile offenders on a more productive path by better utilizing the current funding for community-based services such as counseling, tutoring and mentoring programs, and mental health and substance abuse treatment.
- Limit amenities for prisoners and make jail time more productive by increasing drug treatment, workforce training, and educational requirements.

Our jails must be true rehabilitation centers. Our inmates should not just sit in cells and count the days until they return to the streets. We should resurrect welding training programs in jail and require inmates to take and pay towards skill training, educational programs, or drug treatment while incarcerated.

“If we are to attract businesses, increase graduation levels, and promote Louisiana as a contender in the global economy, we must take steps to end the violent crime and gang activity in our communities.”

— BOBBY JINDAL



Paid for by Friends of Bobby Jindal.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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