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## Trump Jr. Proposes Federal Policing Expansion

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Washington, D.C., April 3, 2025, Donald Trump Jr., speaking at the Alabama Republican Party's Trump Victory Celebration in Birmingham, referenced the ongoing federal intervention in Washington, D.C., and suggested the model could be extended to other cities.

The remarks followed the continued deployment of National Guard forces in the capital. As of late August, nearly 2,000 Guard members had been mobilized, drawn from multiple states including Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, West Virginia, South Carolina, and Ohio. The initial deployment, authorized earlier this year, began with approximately 800 members tasked with supporting federal agencies in crime prevention, homelessness management, and immigration enforcement within the District.

Officials confirmed that Guard personnel are not performing direct law enforcement duties. Instead, their assignments have focused on crowd control, maintaining order near landmarks such as the National Mall and Union Station, and providing security support at federal facilities. Reports from federal and city officials confirm that law enforcement authority remains with established police and security agencies.

Trump Jr. stated that the federal response in D.C. had resulted in improved safety, citing the visible presence of security forces as a key factor. He also raised the issue of whether maintaining a long-term federal presence in the District would be necessary to sustain the changes.

The National Guard mobilization in Washington represents one of the largest such deployments for non-disaster domestic purposes in recent years. Coordination between the Guard, federal law enforcement, and city officials has been ongoing under the framework of federal authority over the District. The District of Columbia Home Rule Act limits local powers in certain areas, giving the federal government authority that is not directly applicable in other U.S. cities.

Policy analysts note that any effort to expand this type of intervention to cities such as Seattle or Portland would require distinct legal mechanisms. Unlike Washington, D.C., which is governed under federal oversight, other municipalities retain full local authority over law enforcement unless state or federal emergencies are declared.

Public reaction in the District has been mixed. Some residents have acknowledged that the expanded presence of security personnel has improved safety in high-traffic locations. Others have expressed concern about the effect of prolonged military deployment on civil liberties and community trust.

The Police Service and local officials continue to report coordination with Guard units while stressing that operational command of law enforcement remains within existing agencies. National Guard leaders have confirmed that their responsibilities are limited to support functions and that the troops have not been authorized to exercise policing powers.

The intervention in Washington has become a focal point of national debate over the scope of federal authority in addressing urban safety concerns. While supporters of the policy highlight the stabilization achieved in the District, critics have questioned whether the approach could or should be extended to other cities.