

## Trump Orders Increased Federal Law Enforcement Presence in Washington

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The White House announces that President Donald Trump directs a bolstered federal law enforcement presence across Washington, D.C., starting immediately and extending for at least one week amid concerns over violent crime and public safety.

A clear mandate places federal agents, led by U.S. Park Police, on city streets beginning at midnight. The deployment includes personnel from the Capitol Police, Homeland Security Investigations, the Federal Protective Service, DEA, ICE's Enforcement and Removal Operations, ATF, U.S. Marshals Service, and the U.S. Attorney's Office for D.C. Metro and Amtrak police also participate. White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt asserts that the effort ensures "no safe harbor for violent criminals in D.C." and frames it as a move to protect innocent citizens.

The initiative stems from Trump's longstanding criticism of rising crime and civic disorder. A recent violent carjacking assault on Edward Coristine, a figure associated with federal efficiency efforts, serves as the immediate catalyst. Trump suggests that if local authorities cannot restore order, federal takeover might follow, signaling a willingness to explore repealing the Home Rule Act or deploying the National Guard.

Despite the declaration of heightened security, a late-night tour shows limited visible presence beyond the standard Metropolitan Police. Although MPD activity appears robust in hotspot neighborhoods, federal units have yet to manifest in uniform or identifiable form, raising questions about the operational rollout.

Meanwhile, city officials note that violent crime trends in D.C. are on a downward trajectory. Carjackings, for example, dropped from 957 incidents in 2023 to under 500 in 2024. Meanwhile, this year's count remains below 200 halfway through 2025. These statistics suggest improving public safety under local governance.

The push highlights the tension between federal authority and local autonomy. Trump's proposal to override Home Rule would require

Congressional action, a politically fraught challenge. Critics warn that such a move risks undermining democratic principles and the ability of residents to manage their own affairs.

As federal law enforcement mobilizes, the nation watches whether this intervention achieves a measurable reduction in crime, and whether it signals a broader shift toward federal control in city governance. The unfolding situation underscores how public safety concerns can fuel debates over jurisdiction and local self-determination.