



# Department of Justice

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## HOGSETT DISCUSSES JOINT INITIATIVE TO COMBAT VIOLENT CRIME WITH RIPLEY COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT

*United States Attorney's Office working to target violent criminals who prey on Hoosier  
communities*

INDIANAPOLIS - In an effort to keep Hoosier neighborhoods safer, United States Attorney Joseph H. Hogsett joined with local law enforcement officials in Versailles today to discuss an initiative to attack violent crime and prosecute the most violent criminals throughout Indiana.

Announced in March of this year, this joint federal-local collaboration will focus on drug trafficking and on individuals who misuse firearms by involving them in illegal activities. "Here in Versailles and throughout Ripley County, I have asked police and prosecutors to help identify the 'worst of the worst' offenders with criminal histories who cycle in and out of local jails and decide who among those repeat offenders should be prosecuted under federal law for offenses that make the defendant eligible for stiffer sentences," said Hogsett.

In addition, Hogsett reaffirmed a commitment that the United States Attorney's Office (USAO) will continue to:

(1) prosecute more gun crimes than ever before and increase efforts to identify and vigorously prosecute in federal court violent, repeat offenders, especially those who misuse guns to further their illegal activities and criminal enterprises.

(2) increase the use of law enforcement and prosecutorial tools including court-authorized wiretaps, undercover and covert operations, surveillance, search warrants, and use of the grand jury to develop the best possible cases.

(3) actively utilize federal drug laws and federal gun laws for the "worst of the worst" to allow for pre-trial detention and stiffer sentences.

(4) aggressively employ a multi-agency law enforcement approach to investigate, arrest, and aid in the prosecution of these violent, repeat offenders and gangs. Federal law enforcement partners include the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and Homeland Security Investigations (HSI). Most of these agencies have task forces which include local and state law enforcement officers.

(5) offer training to all law enforcement officers on the evidence necessary to maximize successful federal prosecutions.

(6) help find the financial support necessary to aid in sustaining local crime-fighting efforts.

(7) commit the personnel necessary to prosecute individuals who illegally possess guns, drugs and narcotics trafficking and gangs.

"In March, I appointed Matt Brookman to head the unit charged with the primary responsibility of overseeing this initiative. Matt's leadership will bring new energy and vision to the United States Attorney's Office. In addition, Matt and I have designated one of our most aggressive Assistant United States Attorneys, Barry D. Glickman, to spearhead this initiative and to coordinate our efforts to bring the most violent offenders to justice. Barry has successfully handled thousands of cases and has tried over 100 jury trials," said Hogsett.

While this initiative is expansive in scope and purpose, its success will ultimately be measured solely by results. Since its inception the initiative has already produced a dramatic increase in the number of violent gun crimes being prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office.

"These cases are indicative of the commitment that this office and our law enforcement partners have in the effort to diminish the use of illegal guns and drugs by those who terrorize our neighborhoods and diminish our quality of life. No meetings. No titles. Just results," Hogsett declared.

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