

**April 10, 2026**

**DC Chapter, The Conservative Caucus Statement on Juvenile Crime and Public Safety in Washington, DC**

Provided another teen-takeover in DC last weekend, U.S. Attorney for DC Jeanine Pirro didn't mince words this week when she slammed the DC Council for being unwilling to address youth violence, particularly their decision to delay the vote on extending the juvenile curfew. "Whether or not you believe in a curfew, I don't care if you believe. The truth is it makes a difference," Pirro said, exposing the height of hypocrisy from local politicians who would rather play games than protect our streets. "Talk is cheap, and consequences are what's missing."

For years, Washington, DC residents have been forced to live with escalating juvenile crime and chaos, long before President Trump and U.S. Attorney Jeanine Pirro stepped in to clean up the mess. We fully support U.S. Attorney Pirro's clear message: without real consequences, juvenile offenders will continue to terrorize. Those of us who actually live here know the truth- the DC Council and the Mayor's soft-on-crime policies made our streets lawless, destroyed neighborhoods, endangered innocent residents, and ruined far too many young lives. We'll give the Department of Parks and Recreation a bit of credit for trying to organize activities for teens. But let's be honest, throwing big events without proper rules, oversight, or security is reckless and irresponsible. Large gatherings must come with strict behavior standards and coordinated security or they're just creating new opportunities for chaos.

To actually fix this mess and give District youth a chance, we need real solutions not more excuses from local politicians; we propose the following:

**Extend the Curfews.**

Curfews are a basic, common-sense enforcement tool to keep kids off the streets at night, prevent crime, and protect both the community and the kids themselves. The DC Council's repeated foot-dragging on this is ridiculous and proves they are not serious and they are not leaders.

**Ensure Safe and Orderly Dispersal.**

Large-scale youth events must be paired with responsible oversight. The Metropolitan Police Department and the Safe & Beautiful Task Force need to coordinate to supervise and disperse crowds afterward. That means supervised transportation routes, heavy security at Metro stations and bus stops, and zero tolerance for the teen-takeover chaos we've seen far too often.

### **Launch the One & Done Program.**

This is a straightforward early intervention program. It confronts serious juvenile misconduct the first time with clear consequences, paired with real structure, education, and mentorship. No more letting repeat offenders slide. One & Done breaks the cycle early, replacing the current culture of neglect and entitlement with discipline, accountability, and genuine opportunity.

### **Prioritize Smaller, Targeted Youth Programs.**

Cease the large, poorly controlled events. Instead, invest in numerous smaller, tightly supervised programs in partnership with local nonprofits and community groups: real mentorship, job training, sports leagues, and educational trips outside the city. These focused efforts build character instead of enabling troublemakers.

The endless delays and excuses from DC's local politicians and officials on juvenile enforcement once again prove they're completely unwilling to do what's necessary. Curfews aren't a magic fix, but pretending we don't need strong enforcement and accountability, while offering nothing better, is pure political dereliction of duty. Enough with the insincere talk and failed progressive experiments. It's time for decisive action and good governance that actually delivers safer streets and better futures for the people of Washington, DC.

Lori Furstenberg

Chair, DC Chapter, The Conservative Caucus