

Department of Justice

STATEMENT OF

PAMELA BONDI ATTORNEY GENERAL

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY UNITED STATES SENATE

AT A HEARING ENTITLED "OVERSIGHT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE"

PRESENTED OCTOBER 7, 2025

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Good morning Chairman Grassley, Ranking Member Durbin, and members of the Committee. I am grateful for the opportunity to testify in front of you here today.

When I was confirmed as the 87th Attorney General of the United States, I took office with two main goals: to end the weaponization of justice and return the Department to its core mission of fighting violent crime.

While there is more work to do, I believe that in eight short months, we have made tremendous progress towards those ends.

Our surge of federal resources into Washington, D.C. is a perfect example of how the Department of Justice should operate. We created a strong partnership with local leadership, working hand-in-hand with the city to surge resources where they were needed most. 19 different federal law enforcement agencies came together as one team to support D.C. police. The results came quickly and proved a simple truth: when our law enforcement officers get the green light to do their jobs with the support they need, our citizens become safer. We have made over 3,800 D.C. arrests and seized over 365 illegal guns in D.C. since the beginning of our operation. Statistics show that crime in our nation's capital is down across the board.

We are replicating that tough-on-crime approach across the country. Our Department of Justice components have been doing historic work to Make America Safe Again. In addition to the FBI under the leadership of Director Kash Patel, who testified to the Senate and House Judiciary Committees last month, the hard work of our US Marshals, ATF, and DEA deserves to be touted.

Under the leadership of Director Gadyaces Serralta, our U.S. Marshals have made over 51,000 fugitive arrests since January 20th. Our Marshals have also been the tip of the spear in Washington, D.C., coordinating the joint activities of the various law enforcement groups in our nation's capital. In a case that is close to my heart, last month the Marshals arrested two young men in D.C. accused of murdering Eric Tarpinian-Yachym, a congressional intern who was shot and killed on June 30th, 2025.

Under the leadership of Administrator Terry Cole, the DEA has seized 3121 kilograms of fentanyl powder, 33.2 million counterfeit pills, 43,157 kilograms of methamphetamine, 137,278 kilograms of cocaine, and 936 kilograms of heroin since January 20th. That represents millions of potential overdoses safely removed from our streets. Our DEA agents have also performed 21,327 arrests in that same time period. The DEA has also returned remarkable results in their nationwide effort to target

the Sinaloa Cartel. From just August 25th to August 29th, agents in 23 domestic field divisions and 7 international regions carried out coordinated raids that resulted in 617 arrests, 480 kilograms of fentanyl powder, and over \$11 million in currency seized.

Under the leadership of Acting Director Dan Driscoll, the ATF has arrested over 4,200 suspects since January 20th. They have seized 22,837 illegal firearms in that same time period. More than 13,000 of those guns came out of trafficking cases, with over 3,300 being trafficked to cartels in Mexico. Just one month ago, our ATF agents in Houston, Austin, and McAllen arrested eight members of La Nueva Familia Michoacán Cartel in Texas.

Cartels have been prosecuted and brought to justice. Organizations including the Sinaloa Cartel, MS-13, Tren de Aragua, Los Zetas and CNJG are being shut down and sentenced. High profile leaders such as El Mayo and El Musico have been prosecuted and will serve as an example to any member of these organizations that we will find you, arrest you, and at the very least you will serve the rest of your life in Federal prison. These cartels rely on drug and human trafficking to finance its terrorism against the American people while spreading poison and crime in our communities. We are proud to support President Trump's mission of dismantling and destroying the cartels.

While we have restored the Department to its core mission of protecting the American people, this Administration has faced unprecedented judicial attacks since President Trump took office. We have been sued more than 420 times. Lower court judges have issued more than 90 temporary restraining orders against our policies – more than the prior four presidencies combined. This has been a coordinated wave of judicial overreach designed to halt an agenda that won the popular vote and all seven battleground states less than a year ago.

We have stepped into the breach to defend President Trump's Article 2 powers – not just for this president, but to protect the separation of powers for presidents to come. Our record includes 22 Supreme Court victories since January 20th. We have won court victories to protect President Trump's hiring-and-firing authority over federal personnel, defend the use of the Alien Enemies Act to address the prior administration's admission of violent, illegal-alien gang members into our communities, secure the government's right to halt the waste of taxpayer dollars on wasteful foreign aid projects, and enable ICE to conduct its law enforcement operations. The President has the right to carry out his foreign policy, control his personnel, and stop wasteful government spending. We are the mechanism that protects his right to exercise those core authorities.

While major cases involving government powers generate the most headlines, this is a massive organization of more than 110,000 employees: our other legal components are doing incredible work that deserves to be highlighted. Our Environmental and Natural Resources Division has filed complaints against multiple states to roll back unconstitutional climate superfund laws that unfairly burden domestic energy production. Our Civil Rights Division has ended discriminatory consent decrees, filed lawsuits to ensure accurate voter rolls, and taken legal action to halt the wave of anti-Semitism that has swept our country since the terrorist attacks by Hamas two years ago. Our National Security Division has protected our homeland from threats foreign and domestic – for example, arresting key leaders in the nihilistic terrorist group known as 764 and convicting the man who attempted to kill Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh in 2022.

This is what justice looks like: law enforcement officers performing their duties with full support as the finest attorneys in the country defend the United States in court. We are returning the Department of Justice to its core function of fighting crime and keeping America safe. In doing so, we have ended the

weaponization of justice that ran rampant in the prior administration – including holding prior leaders accountable for using their positions of power to willfully mislead the American people.

We look forward to continuing our work and I look forward to testifying in front of you today.