



TBOC Newsletter

Issue 2: January 2018

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"Reducing Crime and Keeping California Safe Act of 2018"

The proposed ballot measure "Reducing Crime and Keeping California Safe Act of 2018" submitted by the California Public Safety Partnership (CAPSP) seeks critical reforms related to accountability for serial theft, the reinstatement of DNA collection for certain misdemeanor convictions, reclassification of certain crimes to the list of violent crimes and parole reform.

On January 4, 2018, the Attorney General of California issued Title and Summary for the initiative, which begins as *"Restricts parole for non-violent offenders. Authorizes felony sentences for certain offenses currently treated only as misdemeanors."* The entire title and summary, which can be [read here](#), may not clearly summarize the true intent of the measure, and will require extensive public outreach and education in a short period of time.

Nearly 366,000 qualifying signatures must be submitted to the county election officials in order to qualify for the November ballot. The collection of signatures began on January 11, 2018 with two kick off events held in Whittier and Sacramento.



Whittier, CA. The collection of signatures in support of "Reducing Crime and Keeping California Safe" began on January 11, 2018. Press conferences were held in Whittier and Sacramento.

LA Sheriff Reports Crime Rate is Down

An interesting side note to consider is the data utilized to prepare the statistics. An article posted by the Association of Deputy District Attorneys (ADDA) suggests that theft crimes are very likely being underreported as a consequence of theft under \$950 being classified as a misdemeanor under Prop 47. So while the LA Sheriff reports a decrease in property crimes based on their stats, the stats quite possibly don't tell the whole story.

discussed crime stats for 2017 which include a 20% decrease in homicides and a 5% reduction in violent and property crimes. These figures are inclusive of all the LA County Sheriffs patrol areas and compare 2016 rates with 2017. The decrease does not however apply to all of its territories on an individual basis. The City of Los Angeles for instance, saw an increase in crime. McDonnell acknowledges the challenging environment presented as a result of Prop 47 and AB 109, stating that there are more people on the streets committing crime in order to support their drug addictions. Late December Sheriff McDonnell of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

LA Times: ["Crime is down in LA County sheriffs territory"](#), Dec. 28, 2017

ADDA: ["Statistics on Theft Offenses May Not Be Telling the Full Story"](#)

Tracking Prop. 57

Proposition 57 has allowed for thousands of prisoners, including those convicted for domestic violence,

rape of an unconscious person, human trafficking, assault with a deadly weapon and other violent crimes (categorized as non-violent) to be considered for early parole. The state Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation tracks how many inmates have been referred to the Parole Board for early release under Prop 57. In the five months between July 1, 2017 and November 30, 2017, the Parole Board reviewed cases for 3,327 inmates, with 617, **nearly one out of five granted early parole**. Prop. 57 further advocates for the prisoner allowing them to appeal the decision of denied parole, whereas prosecutors cannot appeal if parole is granted.

San Diego Union Tribune: ["Prop. 57 swings pendulum from 'warehousing' to early parole"](#) January 1, 2018

Membership Updates

Taking Back Our Community is appreciative of all the cities who have joined the coalition thus far. We are pleased to report, the coalition continues to grow. Please welcome the newest members, the cities of **Chino Hills, Upland** and **Victorville**.



As TBOC moves forward, we would like to hear back from members. If there are crime-victim stories from your community or updated statistics that you are willing to share with the group or even perhaps have featured in an upcoming marketing video, please let us know by forwarding an email to: Info@TakingBackOurCommunityCA.com.



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