



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Thomas F. O'Mara

O'Mara, Senate and Assembly GOP push comprehensive public safety agenda: Seek to counter pro-criminal, anti-police policies being pushed and enacted by Albany Democrats

THOMAS F. O'MARA January 11, 2022

| ISSUE: **BAIL REFORM. PUBLIC SAFETY**

TAKE BACK **NEW YORK**

RESTORING COMMON SENSE TO PUBLIC SAFETY

SENATE REPUBLICANS ARE FIGHTING FOR A SAFER NEW YORK:

- ✓ Close the revolving door of violent criminals
- ✓ End cashless bail and restore judicial discretion
- ✓ Support and defend our brave men and women in law enforcement

We need to enact legislation that puts crime victims, law enforcement, and safe communities first and begins restoring responsibility, sanity, and common sense to criminal justice and public safety in New York State.

Albany, N.Y., January 11—State Senator Tom O’Mara (R,C,I-Big Flats) and the Senate and Assembly Republican conferences today unveiled a comprehensive package of public safety priorities aimed at protecting crime victims, law enforcement and correctional officers, and communities across the region and state from dangerous pro-criminal, anti-police actions being enacted in Albany.

At a Capitol news conference earlier today, Senate and Assembly Republican legislators stressed that throughout the 2022 legislative session they will highlight rising violent crime rates statewide which, O’Mara and other legislators argue, are the result of state policies being pushed and already enacted by Governor Kathy Hochul and the Legislature’s Democrat majorities, including bail and parole reforms.

O’Mara, a member on the Senate Codes and Judiciary committees, said, “Today, we again stand with law enforcement, speak out, and fight against the pro-criminal mentality and anti-police policies that keep going too far in New York State. The Democrat supermajorities in control of the State Legislature show no signs of letting up in their push for a so-called progressive agenda that only stands to embolden criminals and keep making this state, our communities, and our neighborhoods less safe. It has been alarming to district attorneys, law enforcement officers, and criminal justice experts alike. We need to enact legislation that puts crime victims, law enforcement, and safe communities first and begins restoring responsibility, sanity, and common sense to criminal justice and public safety in New York State.”

The rise of violent crimes in cities and communities throughout New York follows an overall pro-criminal, anti-police climate fostered under all-Democrat rule, the Republican lawmakers said.

The Senate GOP Agenda continues their push throughout the past two years to strengthen protections for crime victims and their families, law enforcement and first responders, correctional officers, and safe communities.

The overriding goals of the GOP agenda call for:

- | • Protecting | Those | Who | Protect | Us: |
|---|--------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| ○ Invest in law enforcement; | | | | |
| ○ Provide them with the support they need to make our communities safe and serve those in need; | | | | |
| and | | | | |
| ○ Fight Democrat efforts to “Defund the Police.” | | | | |

• **Rejecting Dangerous “Reforms” like Cashless Bail:**

- End cashless bail, restore judicial discretion and reject proposals like “Clean Slate”;
- Require state agencies to be transparent about the effects of public safety policies; and
- Enact policies that get dangerous individuals off our streets.

• **Reforming the Broken Parole System:**

- Re-center the Parole process around the protection and rights of crime victims and their families;
- Ensure that cop killers, serial killers, child killers, and other dangerous murderers can NEVER be released; and
- Reject dangerous Democrat proposals like “Elder Parole” and “Fair and Timely Parole.”

• **Passing a Victims’ Justice Agenda:**

- Strengthen penalties for violent and repeat offenders, as well as hate crimes;
- Create and support more victims’ services and resources; and
- Invest in proven mental health, addiction, and homeless programs.

O’Mara said, “It’s clear to most reasonable New Yorkers that rising crime and violence, and weakened public safety and security, are the result of the pro-criminal policies being enacted and pushed by this governor and a State Legislature under one-party control. They have emboldened the criminal element throughout this state through failed bail reform, lenient parole policies, an out-of-control Parole Board, cowing to the ‘defund the police’ movement, and an overall careless approach to criminal justice.”