

Military, Law, and more ...

Thank you to the Memphis Safe Task Force and National Guard!

One year in, Memphis Safe Task Force delivers on Pres. Trump signing memorandum to establish it for safety



By U.S. Sen. and TN Candidate for Governor Marsha Blackburn

September 21, 2026 - One year ago on Tuesday, Tennessee marked an incredible milestone: the one-year anniversary of President Trump signing the memorandum to establish the

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Memphis Safe Task Force. Since then, this historic, iconic city has transformed for the better.

Just two years ago, Memphis was the most dangerous city in

As one Memphis mother recently put it, the Task Force has brought “long-awaited peace and quiet.” “Neighborhood blocks that had grown used to constant crime went weeks without gunfire,” wrote Dalisia Ballinger, who nearly lost her son to a shooting outside her home. “This year, for the first time in six years, my family celebrated a birthday in our own backyard.”

America, suffering the nation’s highest violent crime rate. To get this crisis under control, I met with now-FBI Director Patel ahead of his Senate confirmation vote and urged him to surge federal law enforcement to the city. During last week’s Senate Judiciary Committee hearing, I had the chance to talk with Director Patel about all that the task force has accomplished—and the numbers speak for themselves.

Within the last year, overall

crime has fallen 36 percent, with burglaries and aggravated assaults down 27 percent, robberies down 43 percent, shoplifting down 44 percent, motor vehicle thefts down 57 percent, and murders down 35 percent. By coordinating operations among more than two-dozen local, state, and federal agencies, the Task Force has made more than 12,800 arrests, recovered more than 2,100 illegal firearms, apprehended more than 1,400 known gang members, and located 189 missing children.

The criminals getting taken off Memphis streets are among the worst of the worst. Just on Thursday, the Task Force made 26 arrests, including for two men charged with second-degree murder, one charged with possession of firearms during the commission of a dangerous felony, and another charged with assault with a weapon.

It’s important to note that ICE has been a huge part of the success of the Task Force. As of July, there were close to 900 ICE arrests in Shelby County since the

launch of the Task Force—with 536 ending in deportation. Many of these illegal aliens have lengthy criminal records. In a single raid on a Memphis nightclub in August, ICE agents arrested more than 120 illegal aliens, including those with histories of domestic violence, assault, child endangerment, driving while intoxicated, larceny, and prostitution. Memphis is safer with these criminals off our streets and out of our country.

Thanks to the Task Force, downtown Memphis is being re-invigorated with new businesses and restaurants. Crowds are returning to Grizzlies games and Beale Street. And many Memphians feel safe in their own homes for the first time in years.

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shooting outside her home. “This year, for the first time in six years, my family celebrated a birthday in our own backyard.”

It should come as no surprise that the Trump administration is hoping to replicate Memphis’s success across the country. This summer, the Justice Department announced its Model Cities Initiative, which will bring the Memphis Safe Task Force blueprint to cities nationwide and distribute \$300 million in public safety funding. Every American should applaud this initiative, and I look forward to working with the administration to ensure that Tennessee has all the resources it needs to continue to combat crime.

The Memphis Safe Task Force has confirmed a simple fact: When you enforce the law, crime goes down—and communities can thrive. Every Tennessean deserves to live in safety, and the Memphis Safe Task Force has helped make that a reality in just one year.

Fewer Americans in Europe, but more in Poland!

By Lukasz Wojdyga, Director Center for Strategic Studies Warsaw Enterprise Institute

September 22, 2026 - A few days ago, Donald Trump wrote on his social media that “significant progress” had been made toward establishing a US Army base in Poland and that its location may soon be announced. For now, this is still a political declaration by the US President, not a formal Pentagon decision to build a specific base.

The talks are serious, however. In June, the US Department of Defense responded positively to Poland’s proposal, although no final decision was taken. At the same time, the Pentagon is re-

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viewing the broader US military presence in Europe. Pete Hegseth launched that review in June. Around 80,000 American troops are currently stationed on the continent, and one option being considered would cut that number by as many as 25,000. The review is expected to be completed by the end of the year. That does not necessarily mean fewer American troops everywhere. Washington may simply decide that some places matter more than others. Troops could be reduced in Italy or Germany while NATO’s eastern flank becomes relatively more important. In other words, politics is moving faster than military planning. Trump has already signaled where he wants the relationship with Poland to go, while the Pentagon is still deciding what the future US military footprint in Europe should actually look like. Around 10,000 US troops currently serve in Poland, although much of that presence is rotational. In May, the Pentagon halted the planned rotation of an armored brigade of roughly 4,000 troops. A few weeks later, the decision was reversed and the rotation resumed. The lesson is simple: rotational deployments can be changed quickly. A permanent base is harder to move. It means infrastructure, logistics, command structures and people tied to one place for years. According to unofficial reports, Lower Silesia, Lubusz or West Pomerania are among the areas under consideration, with Wrocław and Oleśnica mentioned as possible locations. The

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Memphis Safe Task Force (MSTF) Report: 13 arrested for trying to steal \$250K worth of chicken from semi-trailer; Murder suspect on the run captured in Slovenia

The MSTF is a multi-agency initiative established via a Presidential Memorandum signed by President Donald Trump on Sept. 15, 2025. Aimed at addressing violent street crime, the task force coordinates federal, state, and local law enforcement and includes mobilized members of the Tennessee National Guard. The MSTF is focused on arresting violent criminals, clearing warrants, seizing firearms, and locating missing children. Since the operation began, the MSTF has located 189 missing children.

MEMPHIS, September 16, 2026 —The Memphis Safe Task Force on Tuesday executed 49 criminal arrests, including one juvenile, and recovered three illegal firearms.

Of note:

Javunte Johnson, 33, was arrested and charged with possession of a firearm after MSTF, executing an arrest warrant for him for aggravated robbery, located Johnson, along with 12 other individuals, unloading stolen pallets of chicken, valued at \$250,000, from an 18-wheeler in the back parking lot of a hotel in the 3800 block of Lamar Avenue. The suspects fled, but MSTF was able to arrest everyone. **Quantrivious Shavers**, 25, and **Jessie Moore**, 37, who were also part of the group, were charged with felon in possession. Officers recovered three handguns. Since the launch of the Memphis Safe Task Force, officers have made 12,796 arrests, including

131 for homicide, 1,367 for controlled substances, 1,279 for firearms violations, and 125 for sex offenses. Of those arrested, 414 were juveniles and 1,415 were known gang members. The task force has seized 2,163 illegal firearms. These enforcement actions reflect a sustained commitment to reducing violent crime and removing dangerous weapons from Memphis neighborhoods.

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has located 189 missing children. This operation reflects the MSTF’s commitment to coordinated enforcement efforts and its mission to identify, apprehend, and hold accountable those who pose a threat to public safety. For more information about the U.S. Marshals please visit www.usmarshals.gov.

Murder Suspect on the Run for Three Years Captured in Slovenia Millington, TN, September 16, 2026 - **Seth Walls**, 23, was wanted on charges of Second-Degree Murder and Reckless Endangerment-Deadly Weapon was captured in Ljubljana, Slovenia. On September 11, 2022, a 15-year-old-female was shot to death at a residence in the 5000 block of Clear Creek Drive in Millington, Tennessee. After an investigation by the Millington Police Department, an arrest warrant was issued through

Shelby County Criminal Court for Seth Walls, who was a Millington resident at the time, on charges of Second-Degree Murder and Reckless Endangerment-Deadly Weapon.

The case was adopted for a fugitive investigation by the U.S. Marshals Two Rivers Violent Fugitive Task Force in Memphis on September 25, 2023. Walls’ trail led out of state and eventually out of the country. Interpol was brought into the investigation to keep police agencies in other countries on the hunt for Walls. On September 12, 2026, Walls was arrested in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Although he was using an assumed name, fingerprints provided by Interpol proved it was indeed Seth Walls. Walls currently remains in custody in Slovenia. The Shelby County District Attorney’s Office and the Shelby County Sheriff’s Office will coordinate the extradition back to the United States.

“This fugitive investigation spanned three years and overseas to Europe, but the U.S. Marshals Service never stopped hunting Seth Walls,” said Tyreece Miller, U.S. Marshal for the Western District of Tennessee. “We are glad to utilize the skills of our Investigators and coordinate with local, federal, and international law enforcement partners to hold him accountable to the justice system and the victim’s family.” “The arrest of Seth Walls in Slovenia is a powerful example of what can be accomplished when local, state, federal, and international law enforcement agencies work together,” said Shelby County Sheriff Anthony Buckner. “I commend the U.S. Marshals Service and all our law enforcement partners for their determination and persistence. We will continue working with the District Attorney’s Office to bring Walls back to Shelby

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