

The Real-World Public Safety Impacts of SB 1105

California's Department of Justice Task Force Program brings together federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to combat complex, multi-jurisdictional crime. These task forces play a critical role in rescuing human trafficking victims, removing illegal weapons, stopping violent offenders, and disrupting organized crime networks.

By restricting cooperation between federal, state, and local law enforcement, SB 1105 would slow investigations, reduce intelligence sharing and create enforcement gaps for violent offenders to exploit. The following case studies demonstrate the impacts SB 1105 would have on victims and public safety in California communities.

Human Trafficking Enforcement

The San Diego Human Trafficking Task Force (SDHTTF) is a multi-agency partnership supported by federal partners including the FBI, Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Attorney's Office.

Public Safety Benefit:

- Victims of sex and labor trafficking identified and rescued
- Survivors connected with housing, medical care and recovery services
- Traffickers and buyers arrested and prosecuted – and their networks disrupted

Risk Under SB 1105: This task force would likely be dismantled, delaying or preventing victims from being saved, allowing traffickers to move more victims across state lines, and allowing more traffickers and buyers to continue exploiting more victims.

Illegal Firearms Trafficking

Local law enforcement agencies regularly work with out-of-state and federal partners including the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) to investigate and interrupt illegal gun trafficking networks. These local task forces rely on ATF ballistic databases and coordinated federal investigations to trace weapons used in violent crimes.

Public Safety Benefit:

- Illegal firearms traced and removed from circulation
- Gun trafficking pipelines tracked and disrupted
- More violent gun crimes solved through evidence tracking and sharing

Risk Under SB 1105: Because ATF falls under the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), these interagency operations would likely be banned. Local agencies could see the potential loss of access to embedded federal tools and intelligence, leaving more illegal weapons in circulation if the AG deems non-compliant.

Violent Crime & Kidnapping Investigations

California's local agencies routinely partner with FBI Safe Streets Task Forces to investigate kidnappings, dismantle criminal enterprises and apprehend violent fugitives.

Public Safety Benefit:

- Interstate pursuit of suspects involved in child abductions and violent crimes
- Coordinated investigations that actively intercept violent gang activity
- Shared intelligence and federal investigative tools

Risk Under SB 1105: Prioritizing paperwork, state approval and bureaucratic red tape when time-sensitive investigations are measured in minutes and hours – not days – could lead to more unresolved abductions and fewer violent fugitives apprehended.

Fentanyl & Drug Trafficking

California participates in multiple High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) task forces, including the Southwest Border HIDTA, which coordinate efforts to dismantle fentanyl and narcotics trafficking networks alongside federal partners such as the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

Public Safety Benefit:

- Narcotics operations and cartel-linked supply chains disrupted
- Coordinated arrests and large-scale seizures across jurisdictions
- Intelligence sharing to disrupt trafficking routes

Risk Under SB 1105: These operations would likely be banned because the DEA falls under the U.S. DOJ, weakening efforts to disrupt fentanyl and other drug distribution networks.

The Bottom Line

SB 1105 risks replacing coordination that saves lives with barriers that protect criminals. California communities are safest when law enforcement agencies can work together.