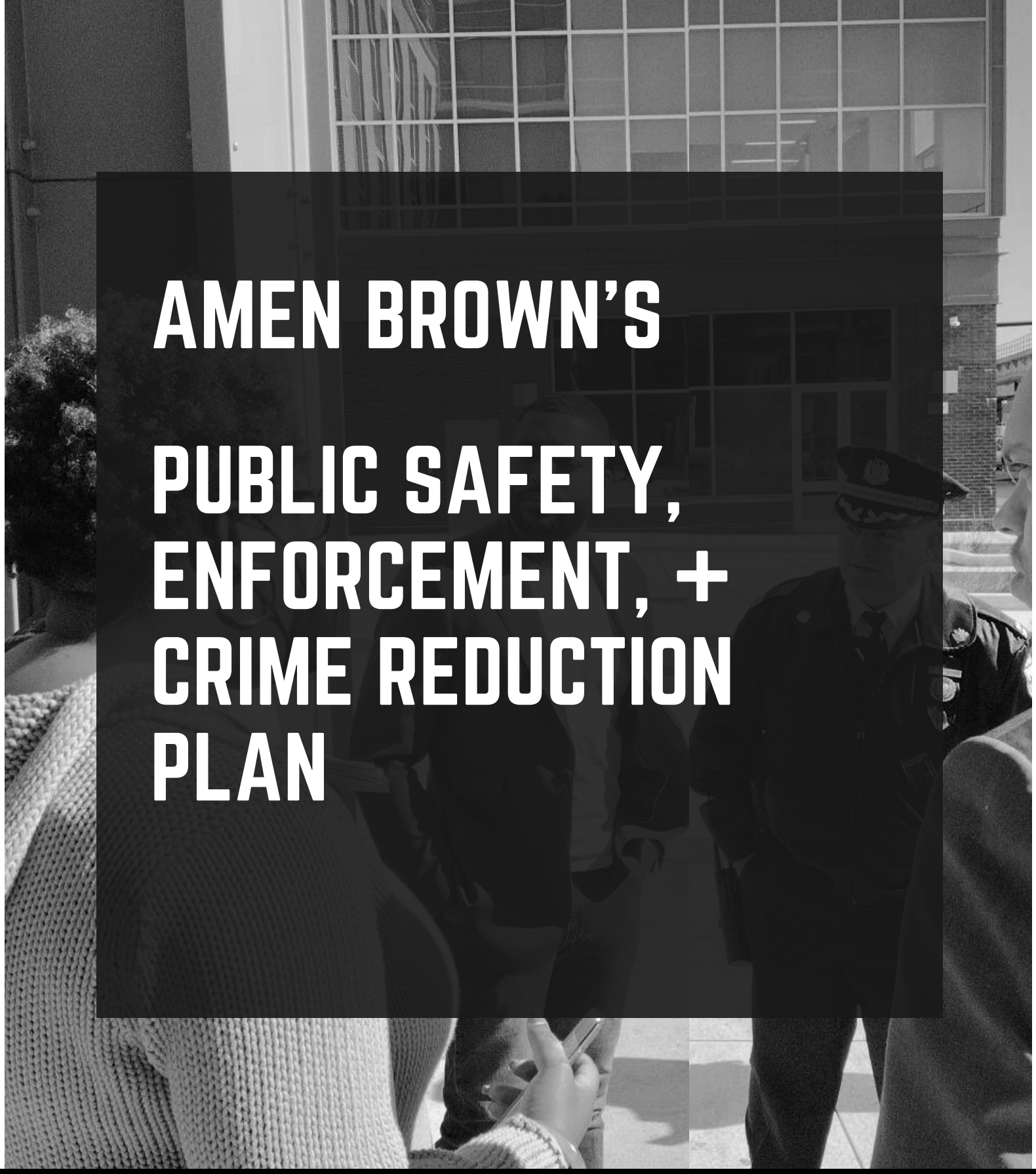


AMEN BROWN'S

PUBLIC SAFETY, ENFORCEMENT, + CRIME REDUCTION PLAN

AMEN BROWN FOR MAYOR

MY LETTER TO PHILLY

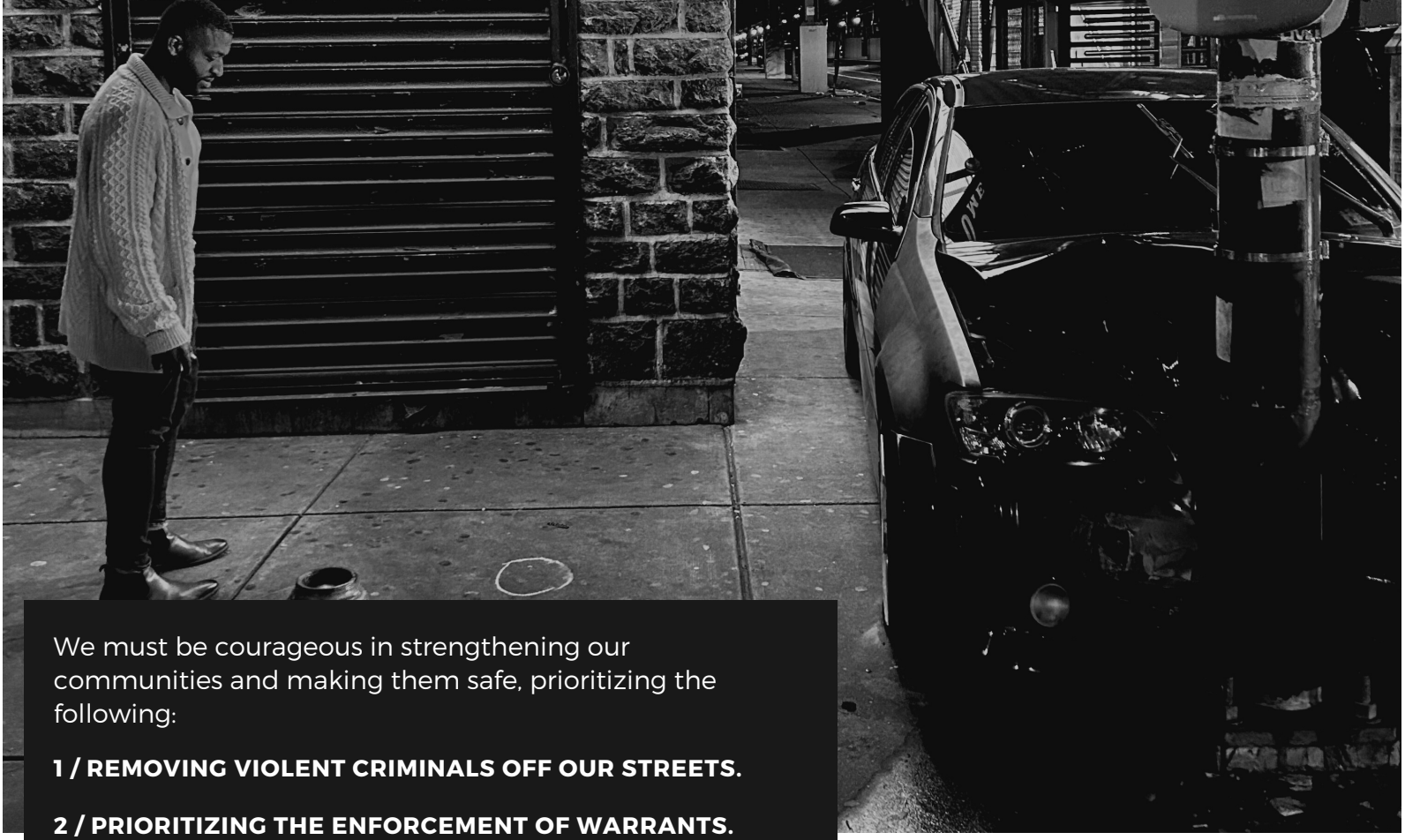
Like many Philadelphians, I have been personally affected by gun-related violence in my lifetime. What I have witnessed over the past several years is disheartening and disturbing - I hate to see our communities ravaged by gun violence. And, it is evident that immediate changes are needed to restore this city to the "City of Brotherly love and Sisterly Affection." The senseless bloodshed and continuous loss of lives is inexcusable and requires immediate action. However, those elected to important positions, who were responsible to act, neglected their collective duty to protect this city.

Unfortunately, every Philadelphian has been forced to accept a reality that is neither healthy, nor normal. Violent crime and the epidemic of gun-related violence has been sweeping; it has touched all neighborhoods in our city as a public health crisis of massive proportions. In part, this is a result of some leaders who were not attentive to repeat offenders, creating an environment where criminal activity is perceived to be allowed. The lack of accountability has left some feeling empowered to commit crimes causing law enforcement officers to feel powerless. Simply put, no accountability means that conditions will get worse, a situation we can no longer ignore or afford as the future of Philadelphia hangs in the balance.

I realize that an emphasis on enforcement sends a strong message, which may be hard to digest at times. But, when it is balanced with compassionate, community-driven responses that are grounded in evidence-based strategies, we can create long term and sustainable solutions for the neighborhoods in this city that experience the most violent criminal incidents, have the highest mortality rates, and experience the lowest graduation rates, because those circumstances are interconnected. To move this city forward, it requires intentionality in addressing gun violence. The people want accountability. I do not apologize for expressing the viewpoints of the silent majority of Philadelphian's who want senseless violence and rampant crime to end.

Restoring public safety in Philadelphia will require re-imagining the way our city supports public safety and our police department as we propose balanced and logical reform efforts to ensure that accountability is not undermined. I am determined to implement changes that send a resounding message to all that victims and their families matter and deserve justice, and that communities will not live in fear.

As your next Mayor of Philadelphia, I will make sure we have access to resources at the local, state, and federal levels to protect this city and to ensure that Philadelphians can thrive. Together, we will restore our city, making sure that Philadelphia is welcoming, inclusive, and safe.



We must be courageous in strengthening our communities and making them safe, prioritizing the following:

1 / REMOVING VIOLENT CRIMINALS OFF OUR STREETS.

2 / PRIORITIZING THE ENFORCEMENT OF WARRANTS.

3 / CREATING A SOCIAL MEDIA TASK FORCE TO AGGRESSIVELY MONITOR GANG ACTIVITY.

4 / MAKING IT ILLEGAL TO WEAR SKI MASKS IN PUBLIC TO HIDE ONE'S IDENTITY.

5 / INCREASING LIGHTING AND CAMERAS IN HIGH CRIME AREAS.

6 / RE-IMPLEMENTING A CITYWIDE FOCUS DETERRENCE VIOLENCE REDUCTION PROGRAM THAT CONSISTS OF AN INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP OF LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL PARTNERS TO ASSESS THE ISSUES RELATED TO GUN VIOLENCE TO DEVELOP A FOCALIZED PLAN.

7 / REVIVING COMMUNITY COURT TO ADDRESS QUALITY OF LIFE CRIMES.

8 / IMPLEMENTING NEIGHBORHOOD POLICE OFFICERS WITHIN COMMUNITIES TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE COMMUNITY.

9 / BOOSTING THE MORALE WITHIN THE PHILADELPHIA POLICE DEPARTMENT AND INCREASING RECRUITMENT.

10 / STRENGTHENING AND INVESTING RESOURCES IN THE ATV/ CAR MEET UP TASK FORCE TO BETTER EFFICIENCY.

AMEN'S PLAN

A safer city provides more opportunities for our children to thrive, families to flourish, businesses to succeed, and an overall improved quality of life for all.

This plan outlines initial steps that my team will use to make the Amen Brown Public Safety vision of reimagining policing and safety in Philadelphia a reality.

REVIVE COMMUNITY COURT

- **PROACTIVE COLLABORATE WITH OUR STATE LEGISLATOR TO OBTAIN FUNDING FOR THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA TO RESTORE THE DEFUNCT COMMUNITY COURT.**

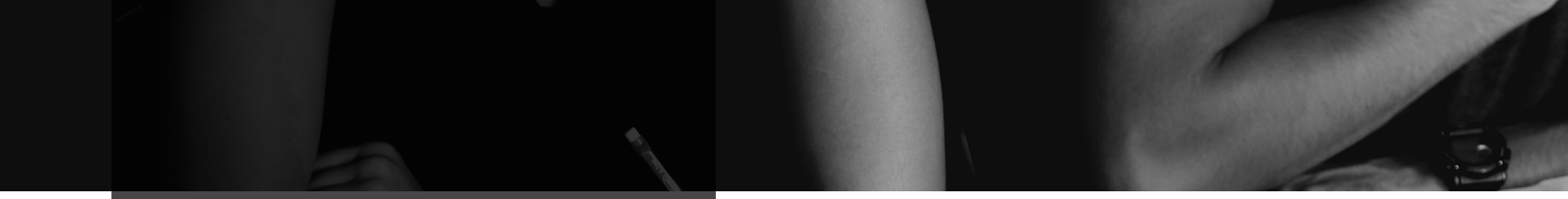
- **AT ONE TIME COMMUNITY COURT WAS A NATIONAL MODEL FOR MAINTAINING QUALITY OF LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITIES BY DIVERTING OFFENDERS TO SERVICES THAT MITIGATED THE CHANCE THEY WOULD RE-OFFEND.**

- **THE COMMUNITY COURT MODEL WAS AN INCLUSIVE APPROACH TO REENTRY AND DIVERSION, USING THE GUIDANCE OF COMMUNITY ADVISORY PANELS TO ENSURE OPEN COMMUNICATION WITH THE DIVERSE COMMUNITIES.**

- **RESTORING COMMUNITY COURT IS ANOTHER IMPORTANT REINVESTMENT INTO THE COMMITMENT OF ACCOUNTABILITY AND TO THE TYPES OF EFFORTS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY SAFETY.**

Poor policy choices that fail to foster accountability have created the current climate of intimidation and lawlessness.

Consistent and early interventions for minor infractions and quality of life violations in our communities must be addressed, whether they occur in the form of shoplifters who create fiscal losses that shutter small businesses or in neighborhoods experiencing repeated incidents of automobile thefts. If the smaller criminal acts are not taken seriously, how can we hope to deter or stop the ever-emergent violent crime epidemic?



CITYWIDE FOCUSED DETERANCE

FOCUSED DETERRENCE WAS A VIOLENCE REDUCTION PILOT PROGRAM THE PHILADELPHIA POLICE DEPARTMENT USED IN 2012, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, THE MAYOR'S OFFICE, ADULT PROBATION AND PAROLE DEPARTMENT, JUVENILE PROBATION, AND SEVERAL OTHER CITY, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES THAT POSITIVELY AFFECTED THE NUMBER OF SHOOTINGS EXPERIENCED IN TARGETED SOUTH PHILADELPHIA NEIGHBORHOODS.

The strategies used can be replicated in each police division by following the following structure:

1. **Divisional police inspectors convene an interagency working group consisting of local, state, and federal partners from law enforcement, corrections, court officials, government, social service providers, community leaders, and university research partners.**

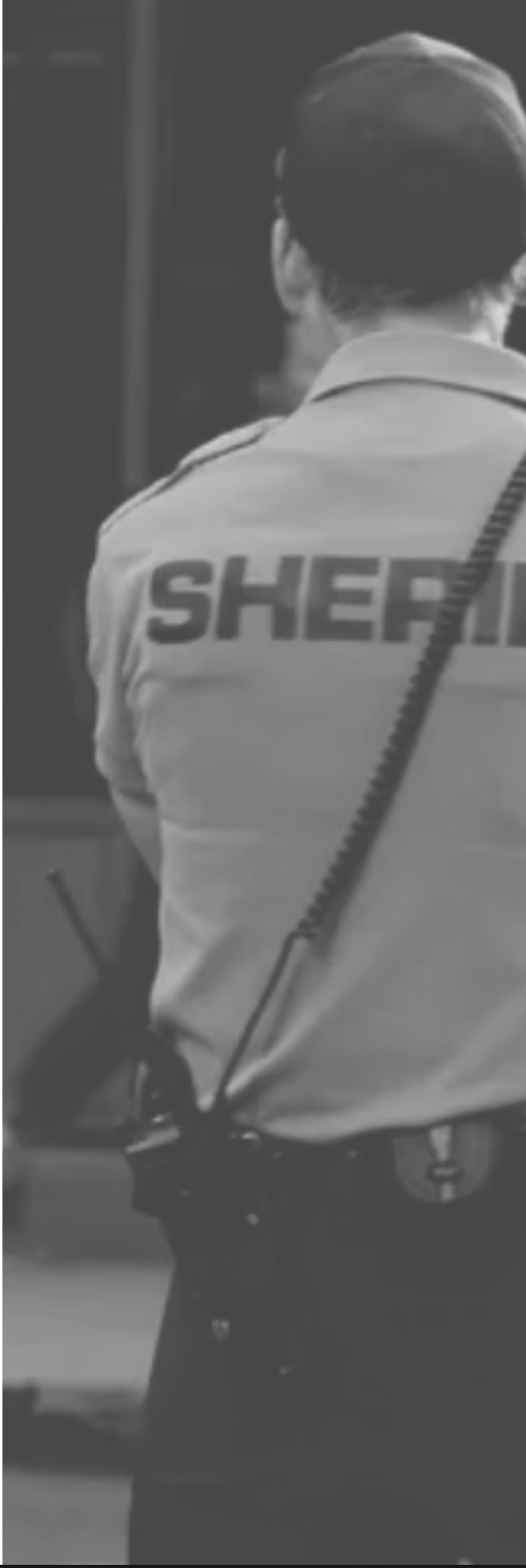
2. **The group will conduct a problem analysis to gather insight on key issues related to gun violence in the police division using available law enforcement data and intelligence.**

3. **Members of the division and citywide unit supervisors along with centralized divisional responsibility and law enforcement staff familiar with the most active offenders in the division and the groups/gangs that drive violent crime will determine the divisional initiatives to implement.**

4. **Divisional Inspectors focus on any/all enforcement actions on the identified groups/members as appropriate.**

PRIORITZE WARRANT ENFORCEMENT

- Request Sheriff to form multiple warrant teams to serve warrants 24/7.
- Teams target high crime areas in coordination with Division Inspectors facilitating focused deterrence strategies.
- If the Sheriff continues the lackadaisical approach to warrant service, request the First Judicial District Court Administrator and the three President Judges confer to reassume warrant service responsibilities.
- Ask the US Marshal Service for resources to conduct a warranty initiative every 90 days committing significant PPD resources in each police division, while soliciting assistance from the Pennsylvania State Police, outside county, and federal task force personnel.
- Request that the Sheriff form a felony team that pursue the most violent court fugitives.
- Renew the PPD focus on conducting legal/bias free pedestrian investigations and the proactive enforcement of quality-of-life crimes; authorizing PPD officers to arrest anyone with an outstanding arrest or bench warrant.
- Educate community members who live in high crime areas on how we are removing the most dangerous people off the street.
- In areas experiencing high drug abuse, warrants can be used to encourage people to obtain help with addiction. This accomplishes some of what is intended through Community Court, in lieu of jail an offender can choose treatment.



OVER 30,000 CRIMINAL WARRANTS REMAIN IN ACTIVE STATUS DAILY, WHILE PROBATION, CHILD SUPPORT AND TRAFFIC WARRANTS GO VIRTUALLY UNADDRESSED. THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE WARRANT UNIT HAS BEEN DIFFUSED, WORKS LIMITED HOURS, AND DOES NOT FUNCTION ACROSS 24HRS A DAY, OR EVEN 7 DAYS PER WEEK, LIKE THE FORMER COURT UNIT.

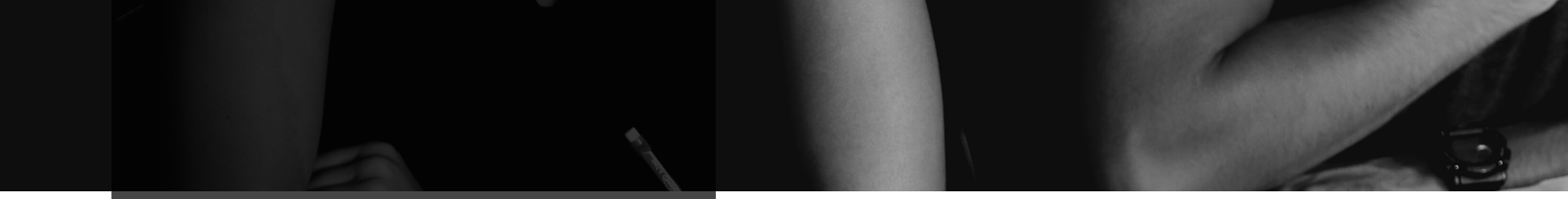
COMMUNITY POLICING

GEOGRAPHICAL BEAT ACCOUNTABILITY

- PERSONNEL SERVING IN EACH PATROL DISTRICT ON EACH SHIFT ASSIGNED BEATS ON AN INTENTIONAL AND CONSISTENT BASIS.
- CONSISTENT GEOGRAPHIC ASSIGNMENTS CONTRIBUTE TO OFFICERS' KNOWLEDGE OF THE PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ACTIVITIES OF THOSE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN ANY AREA WITHIN ANY POLICE DISTRICT IN PHILADELPHIA.
- PROMOTES IMPROVED TRUST AND RELATIONSHIP BUILDING WITH THE COMMUNITY THAT ALLOWS FOR NEIGHBORHOOD POLICING SUCCESS.

NEIGHBORHOOD POLICE OFFICERS (NPOS)

- IMPLEMENT NEIGHBORHOOD POLICE OFFICERS (NPO) PROGRAM IN LIEU OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICERS WHO ARE SPECIFICALLY ASSIGNED TO DESIGNATED POLICE BEATS AS THE PRIMARY POINT OF CONTACT FOR A NEIGHBORHOOD AND OFFICERS WHO WORK THOSE BEATS ON PATROL WHO HELP ESTABLISH NEIGHBORHOOD PROBLEM SOLVING GROUPS.
- GOAL WILL BE TO FACILITATE COMMUNITY PROBLEM SOLVING USING LISTENING SESSIONS AND TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY AND POLICE DEPARTMENT COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION WITHIN BEAT DESIGNATED NEIGHBORHOODS.



LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL COLLABORATION

EXPANDING THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE PPD, ATF, DEA, FBI, PA STATE POLICE, PA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE-BNI, THE US MARSHAL SERVICE, HSI, AND OTHER STATE AND FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERS MUST BE PRIORITIZED WITHIN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA TO PROACTIVELY ADDRESS CRIME.

1. **The PPD is woefully understaffed and the investment into tenured and nonpartisan law enforcement partners who can help our police regain control of our streets is paramount to the success of this city moving forward.**

2. **Each law enforcement agency that operates within this jurisdiction should share critical information, such as targets, license plate records, NIBIN and gun trace data, and work in cooperation and collaboration as a matter of public policy.**

3. **The effectiveness of the collaboration can only enhance their collective ability to interrupt crimes like human trafficking, the proliferation of illegal weapons, and the influx of dangerous and potentially deadly drugs that are so easily accessible in our streets.**

4. **Additionally, the more focused and organized the interdiction efforts, the more effective they can be in loosening the grip that violent crime, illegal drugs, and firearms have on Philadelphia neighborhoods.**

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

In an effort to invest in the future of Philadelphia we must invest in more intensive support for the youth population.

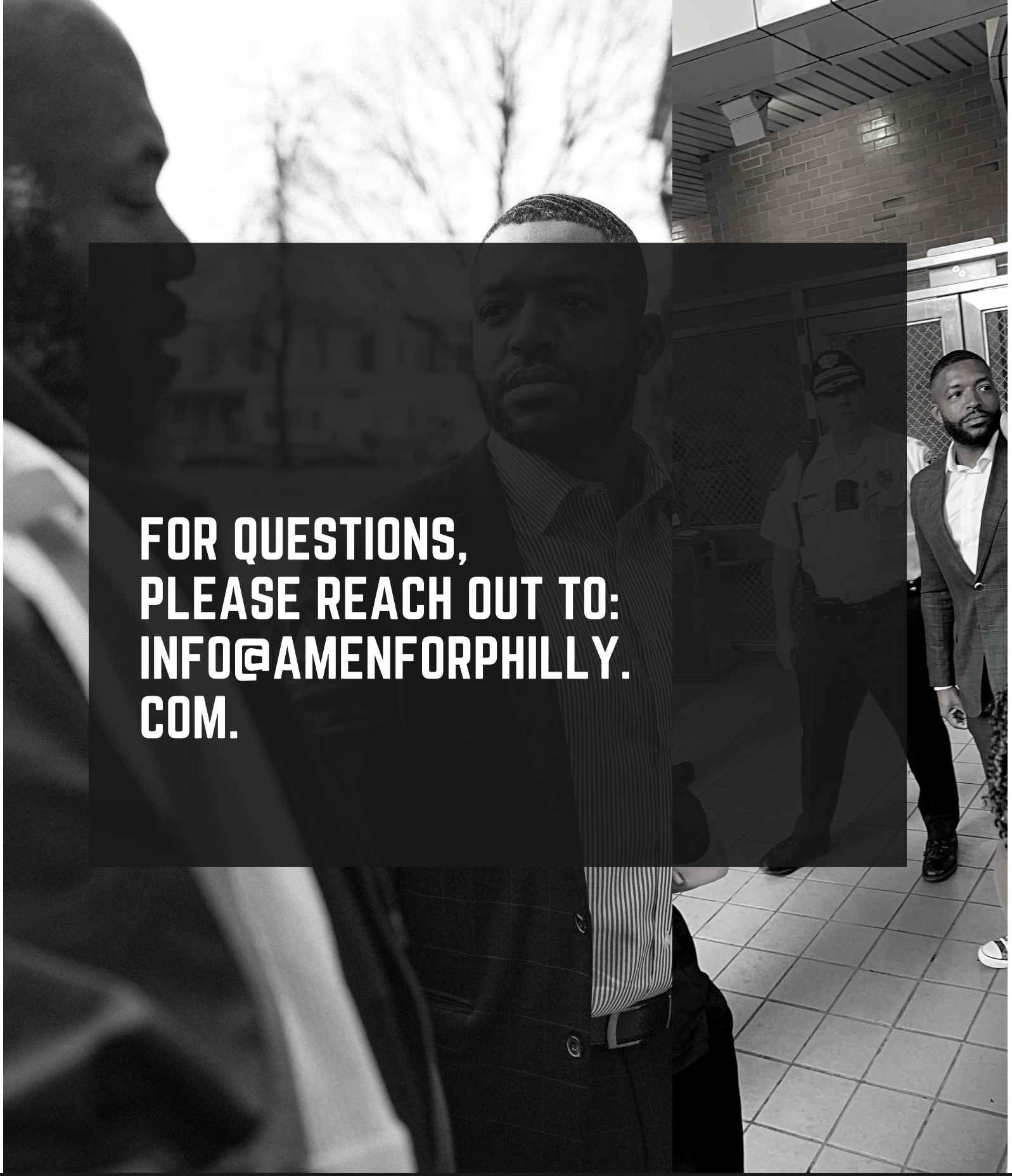
It is proposed that my administration expand and empower the Office of Youth Engagement by appointing a Director of Youth Outreach Services, who will operate independent of the existing Office of Public Engagement.

This new office will expand upon the preexisting focus by facilitating a community-based, peer initiative, that coordinates all citywide youth outreach efforts, as well as offer a variety of youth services specifically designed to address our expansive youth service needs.

The Office will be measured in terms of how well it interrupts the negative health impacts our youths face because of community violence and exposure to community violence, as determined by an oversight board consisting of youth outreach stakeholders and youth themselves.

THE OFFICE WILL ALSO FACILITATE:

- **SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS, WORKING WITH BUSINESSES TO SPECIFICALLY EMPLOY AT RISK YOUTHS DURING SUMMER MONTHS.**
- **DIRECT ENGAGEMENT WITH PHILADELPHIA YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE TO PROVIDE TUTORING, TRAINING IN TRADES, JOBS AND OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES DESIGNED TO ENSURE THEY COMPLETE HIGH SCHOOL.**
- **PROACTIVE CONTACT WITH YOUTH WHO ARE AT-RISK, ADJUDICATED AS DELINQUENT, OR RECENTLY RELEASED FROM CUSTODY, WHO REQUIRE INTENSIVE SUPPORT WITHIN EACH PATROL DIVISION; ENSURING PERSONAL SUPPORT IN A CONSISTENT AND ENGAGED MANNER.**
- **CONTACTING STUDENTS WHO ARE SUSPENDED FROM SCHOOL AND PROVIDING A CONSISTENT SUPPORT NETWORK TO HELP THEM AVOID BECOMING PART OF THE JUVENILE SYSTEM**



FOR QUESTIONS,
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