



## **News from the Shelby County Sheriff's Office**

***Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., Sheriff***

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All news releases may be viewed at [www.shelby-sheriff.org](http://www.shelby-sheriff.org) in the **News Releases Listing**

**March 13, 2009**

### **Public Safety Coalition Seeks Stronger Crime Laws**



Shelby County Sheriff Mark Luttrell, Jr., has joined other Tennessee Sheriffs, Chiefs of Police and District Attorneys in the Tennessee Public Safety Coalition to urge Tennessee lawmakers to strengthen crime laws.

**"I'm asking citizens and neighborhood association leaders across Shelby County to contact their State of Tennessee representatives and senators and urge them to vote in favor of five bills to help keep our community safe,"** said Sheriff Luttrell.

Sheriff Luttrell spoke at a news conference recently at the office of Shelby County District Attorney General Bill Gibbons. Joining Sheriff Luttrell and General Gibbons were Memphis Police Director Larry Godwin, District Attorney General Mike Dunavant, 25<sup>th</sup> Judicial District who represents Fayette, Hardeman, McNairy, Lauderdale and Tipton Counties and Metropolitan Nashville Police Chief Ronal Serpas. Here are the five crime bills being endorsed by the Tennessee Public Safety Coalition:

1. **“Street Terrorism”-provides for stiffer penalties for violent crimes committed by groups of three or more people-House Bill 1194/Senate Bill 929**
2. **“Aggravated Robbery”-enhances penalties for aggravated robbery-House Bill 612/Senate Bill 925**
3. **“Crooks With Guns”-adds enhanced sentences for those who use a gun during the commission of a burglary, aggravated arson, aggravated assault, aggravated robbery and second degree murder-House Bill 1195 and Senate Bill 928**
4. **“Repeat Aggravated Burglary Offenders”-provides that all aggravated burglaries committed by a single defendant within a 24-hour period count as separate convictions-House Bill 2193/Senate Bill 2115**
5. **“District Attorney Staffing”-adds additional assistant district attorney positions statewide to move cases faster through the criminal justice system-House Bill 1401 and Senate Bill 838**

Shelby County citizens may verify the names of their Tennessee representatives and senators by calling the Shelby County Election Commission at **(901) 545-2600**. Other contact information may be found at <http://www.legislature.state.tn.us/>

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**Public Safety Coalition Priorities**  
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**Metro Nashville Police Chief Ronal Serpas, Shelby County Sheriff Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., District Attorney General Mike Dunavant, 25th Judicial District, Memphis Police Director Larry Godwin and Shelby County District Attorney General Bill Gibbons**



**Shelby County Sheriff Mark Luttrell talks about the need for stronger crime laws**

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