

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 27, 1984

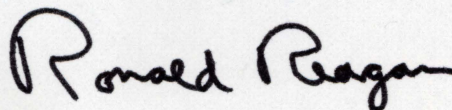
Dear Bob:

On October 12, 1984, I signed into law the Comprehensive Crime Control Act of 1984, which was Title II of House Joint Resolution 648. This law, Public Law 98-473, contains the most dramatic and fundamental adjustment of Federal criminal laws ever enacted. The bail sentencing, forfeiture and insanity defense reforms, in particular, represent a major shift toward recognition in our Federal criminal justice system of the need to protect not only the rights of criminal defendants but the rights of crime victims and society as a whole. Of course, our anti-crime package consisted of much more than these core reforms. It included provisions to permit donation of surplus Federal property to states for prison use, stronger provisions for dealing with labor racketeers, new tools to help control money laundering, and numerous other reforms of laws directed at organized crime, drug trafficking and other Federal offenses.

As finally enacted, the Congress even added to this comprehensive bill other crime-related measures that this Administration had proposed, such as a new victim compensation system and new laws aimed at the scourge of international terrorism. Other initiatives we strongly supported were also added, such as credit card and trademark counterfeiting measures.

Taken together, Title II of Public Law 98-473 is unprecedented in its scope and effect and will strengthen law enforcement in this Nation for years to come. Your consistent support and expertise, as we sought together to develop and enact these fundamental reforms, have been a source of inspiration to your colleagues and we are grateful for your leadership. In recognition of your considerable effort in the passage of House Joint Resolution 648, with the new Comprehensive Crime Control Act included, I am pleased to present to you the enclosed ceremonial signing pen.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Robert Dole  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510