Date December 03, 2021

Attorney General Moody's Week In Review - Dec. 3, 2021



This week, along with the Florida Retail Federation and law enforcement leaders, I announced the launch of Florida’s first statewide task force to combat large-scale retail theft, as well as a new tool designed to help better coordinate prevention and prosecutorial efforts.
The new tool called FORCE, or Florida Organized Retail Crime Exchange, is an interactive database that will help law enforcement and retailers spot trends, identify suspects and take down massive, organized retail theft rings.

Videos from major cities across the country show mobs of criminals ransacking department stores—burglars smashing display cases and running away with ill-gotten gains.

A recent study by the National Retail Federation showed that nearly 70% of store owners nationwide reported an increase in crime over the past year—most alarmingly, retailers report gangs are more aggressive and violent than in years past. About 65% of respondents noted an increase in violence.

While many of the violent cases are taking place outside our state, in cities that entertain anti-police, pro-chaos policies, we continue working hard to ensure diligence against crime to protect our communities.

In addition to FORCE, I am assembling a task force of law enforcement, statewide prosecutors, state attorneys and retailers to help us examine the data from a secure online portal.

Making connections between similar cases, law enforcement agencies will have the ability to piece together information, giving them the tools to consolidate multiple investigations into one and increase penalties for criminals.

By using this new crime-fighting tool, we can prevent these violent crime sprees from taking root in our state and build a Stronger, Safer Florida.



In The News

Florida AG Moody launching statewide task force to take on organized retail theft, FOX Business

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Attorney General Ashley Moody announces statewide retail crime task force during Polk visit, The Ledger

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Florida cracking down on smash-and-grab robberies, NBC 2 Orlando

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Ashley Moody offers Cyber Monday safety tips, Florida Politics

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Tips to avoid fake charity scams this giving season, WFTV Orlando

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Protecting Floridians



Flown into Florida

Attorney

General Ashley Moody is suing President Joe Biden's administration for answers about the handling of the crisis at the Southern Border—particularly how it relates to illegal immigrants being flown into Florida under the cover of night. The litigation comes after Florida prosecutors brought murder charges against an illegal immigrant from Honduras for the death of a Jacksonville man.

Attorney General Ashley Moody said, "Federal immigration policies have real consequences on the lives of Floridians. We need to know how and why the Biden administration is choosing to catch and release illegal immigrants—sending many to live in Florida. I have exhausted all non-litigious avenues for obtaining answers, but since the Biden administration refuses to be transparent with the American people, I have no other recourse than to take this matter to court—to get answers that will better help us protect the safety and security of Floridians." Read More

Events

This week, Attorney General Ashley Moody announced a new, statewide crime-fighting tool called the Florida Organized Retail Crime Exchange. Attorney General Moody unveiled FORCE alongside Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd, the Florida Retail Federation, state attorneys and other law enforcement officials.



Attorney General Moody chairing the final meeting of the Statewide Council on Human Trafficking of the year. For more information on the Statewide Council on Human Trafficking, click here.



Attorney General Moody speaking at the Florida Chamber of Commerce Annual Insurance Summit in Tampa.

