



## Why the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia Supports the Safer Stronger Amendment Act of 2023



### **Increases Penalties for Firearms and Violent Crimes**

- Makes the following crimes felonies with higher penalties:
  - Unlawfully discharging a firearm
  - Possessing a machine gun or a “ghost gun” (a privately manufactured firearm)
  - Strangulation, which is predictive of future deadly violence in domestic violence situations
- Allows a judge to give a higher sentence if the crime was committed against a Metro operator or passenger, a public or private for-hire driver (such as Lyft, Uber, or DoorDash), or a vulnerable adult

### **Supports Violent Crime Investigations**

- Provides that law enforcement will collect DNA for the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) earlier in serious sexual abuse cases to help solve and prevent violent crimes
- Clarifies that law enforcement and prosecutors can use location information of defendants wearing a GPS device while on pretrial release to solve and prosecute crimes

### **Enhances Pretrial Detention for Violent Crimes**

- Adds additional presumption of detention in D.C. Code § 23-1322 for a person charged with committing a crime of violence who has a prior conviction for a crime of violence

### **Expands Information Considered in Second Look Sentence Reductions for the Most Serious Violent Crimes**

- Requires a judge to consider the nature of the crime of which a person was convicted when considering a motion to reduce the sentence imposed for that crime
- Requires a judge to consider a person's remorse for the crime when assessing their rehabilitation
- Requires a judge to consider a community impact statement provided by the affected community