

active segment of our activities ever since. During the last several years, as Washington's crime rates have gotten ever greater, our concerns and activities have intensified annually.

The Board of Trade has devoted its resources toward curbing crime in the Nation's Capital by offering and supporting proposals which we believe would enable our police and our courts to maintain law and order. Let me express appreciation to the District of Columbia Committee which has responded affirmatively respecting most legislative matters brought before it aimed at reducing lawlessness in this city.

Very briefly, we have supported legislation to increase the salaries paid and the strength of the Metropolitan Police Department.

We have backed legislation to increase the salaries and the number of judges in the Court of General Sessions. We have asked the Chief Justice and the Chief Judge of this judicial circuit to endeavor to secure visiting Federal judges to help dispose of the backlogs which have been built up.

We support legislation to increase the number of Juvenile Court judges.

We are supporting legislation which will expand the District Attorney's office to more expeditiously handle the many cases awaiting court action.

We are endeavoring to strengthen the U.S. Marshal's office and all related court functions in order that justice may be administered more speedily.

I am sure all of us will agree that justice delayed is usually justice denied.

We vigorously supported enactment of the Omnibus Crime Bill developed and adopted by this Committee and the Congress and recently signed by the President.

We are now seeking adjustment of features of the Bail Bond Act which make it possible for dangerous criminals to roam the streets and commit additional crimes after being charged in other serious cases.

I have met with the Federal Judges of this jurisdiction and offered to assist them in every possible way to reduce the backlogs and to secure additional facilities which are clearly needed.

Mr. Chairman, I recite this list of activities the Board of Trade is engaged in merely to demonstrate to the Committee that the Board of Trade and the business community is so concerned with criminal activity that it is devoting its attention to every possible factor which could contribute to sky rocketing criminal statistics in the Nation's Capital. Never has the need for legislation and citizen support to curb lawlessness been more urgent, as indicated by the tremendous increase of all types of crimes of violence during the last eight years.

I am sure you recognize that chambers of commerce and boards of trade engaged in attracting visitors and new payrolls to their communities rarely refer to city problems but rather speak only of their attractive and superior features. When we comment publicly about problems you may be sure they are ones we consider to be extremely and extraordinarily serious.