



# The Democratic Party: Securing Our Nation

---

“America needs a new strategy for homeland security that asks Americans to do more and takes steps as big as the threats we face”  
-John Kerry, Democratic Presidential Candidate

## The Bush Administration Has Failed to Secure Our Nation

Bush pays lip service to making the nation secure, but did you know that His Budget:

- ❖ Cut \$684M (15%) from the budget for ‘first responders’?
- ❖ Cut \$959M (32%) from the budget in aid for help state and local law enforcement agencies?
- ❖ Cut \$79M (63%) from the budget to help secure our sea ports?
- ❖ Cut \$85M earmarked to improve Inter-Agency Communications?
- ❖ Cut \$779M from a Postal Service request to implement bio-detection technology?

Did you know that These Cuts impact **California** Directly?

- ❖ \$74M cut from its First Responders Monies cut
- ❖ \$655M cut from its Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Program
- ❖ \$11.5M cut from its Center for Disease Control (CDC) grant to Handle the Bio-terrorism Threat

Did you know that Republicans have thwarted Democrats in their National Security efforts?

- ❖ The House Rules committee did not even allow a vote on a bill providing \$250M for local transit system security improvements.
- ❖ The Democratic budget proposal for 2005 proposes \$5B more in national security spending: on our aviation systems, our ports, our railroads, and our borders, than the Bush Budget.
- ❖ Republicans on the budget committee defeated the Democratic security budget proposal on a party-line vote
- ❖ At least 21 times between 9/11/01 and 2003, Bush and the Republicans restricted or rejected requested resources to improve national security: here at Home!

“Nothing is more important in the face of war than cutting taxes.”  
-Representative Tom DeLay (R) Texas

**Sorry, George Bush and Tom Delay:**  
**Democrats say that securing our nation is!**

## The John Kerry Plan for National Security:

John Kerry will do more than pay lip service to national security. He has a plan:

- *The First Defenders Program*: Designed to make sure first responders, police officers, firefighters, and EMTs, have the proper gear. This includes a Father Judge Fund to hire 100K new Firefighters and a Proposal to fund the COPS program, so it can reach its original goal of 100K new police officers. No less important this plan proposes developing *Standards of Preparedness* to help local communities meet specific security goals.
- *The National Defend America Initiative*: On 9/11, Americans showed they want to contribute to their communities and our country. Yet, the Bush Administration has asked little of Americans, telling us to travel and shop, while focusing on tax cuts for the wealthiest among us. The War Against Terrorism will require the best our country has to offer and asking more of Americans. Homeland security will become, once again, the central mission of the National Guard, as well as AmeriCorps. John Kerry's Plan will also include a new Community Defense service for volunteer manpower in the event of an attack. Kerry will also call on the private sector to bring technical innovation to the War on Terrorism.
- *Defending Our Borders: Seas, Skies, and Land*: 95% of all non-North American imports arrive by sea in a relatively small number of sea ports. We need improvements in sea port security. Our economic power and global prosperity depends on an efficient and stable commerce system. First, Kerry's National Security Plan will develop *Standards for port security*. We cannot improve overall commerce security without standards that sets the goals. John Kerry also believes in accelerating the timetable for action plans agreed to in the U.S./Canada and U.S./Mexico "*Smart Border Accords*."
- *A National Homeland Health Initiative*: America's public health system can rise to important challenges, but it currently lacks necessary means to detect or contain major outbreaks of illness or injury. John Kerry believes we must connect the nation's public health systems with a real time detection system to pool patient data nationwide. This initiative provides training in developing plans for surges of outbreaks. We also need to increase research –bringing together the best of the public and private sectors to develop broad-spectrum designer antidotes. With these plans in place, First Responders and the general population will be protected from the widest range of attacks.

## Helping the Community and the Average Citizen Prepare:

Do you or your local law enforcement know what to do when the alert level changes? John Kerry has a 5-Point Plan to help the average community and individual citizens be prepared. Enough of these color-coded vague warnings and undefined fear!

Go to: <http://www.johnkerry.com/issues/homeland/orange.html> and Learn More!

# John Kerry and The Democrats: An Action Plan to Secure Our Nation

Santa Clara County Democratic Party | [www.sccdp.org](http://www.sccdp.org) | 408-445-9500

For more info on National Security: <http://sccdp.org/talkingpoints.php?linkID=talkingpoints/HomelandSecurity.htm>