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## **Our View: Facebook Live forum on crime will seek solutions**

**By The Daily Press Editorial Board**

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We've all read and heard a lot about the violent crime wave sending shockwaves through San Bernardino County and the High Desert. Sheriff John McMahon has acknowledged the violent crime rate in the High Desert has risen by 20 percent over the first half of 2017. District Attorney Mike Ramos has vowed enough is enough, it's time to look for solutions. First District Supervisor Robert Lovingood has pitched a sales tax increase to pay for more deputies, more prosecutors and more jail cells.

Meanwhile, Victorville Mayor Gloria Garcia has called for community prayer, while others have cried out for increased personal responsibility, more Neighborhood Watch groups and help from the state legislature.

What's the solution? That's the question of the hour. And that's what the Daily Press will try to help everyone discover when it hosts a 90-minute Facebook Live community forum on crime at 10 a.m. Oct. 2.

Confirmed participants are Sheriff McMahon, DA Ramos, Supervisor Lovingood, Victor Valley College Trustee and businessman Joseph W. Brady and Daily Press Editor and Interim Publisher Steve Hunt. The mayors of all our area cities and town have been invited as well.

We all know how we got to this point: Laws such as AB 109 (prison release) and Proposition 47 (decriminalization of some felonies). And with Prop 57 passed last November, the exodus of violent criminals from our state prisons is expected to continue.

So how do we reverse the negative effects of early prison releases and Prop 47's so-called catch-and-release Catch 22?

That's what these public safety experts will be asked. Ramos, among others, has agreed that it is high time to craft solutions so that High Desert residents are safe again.

The Daily Press has documented the soaring murder rate, the latest death being that of 12-year-old Mikaya Walls of Victorville earlier this month.

What are the right steps we need to take as a region to turn the tide, lock up violent criminals and keep them there? How can we all work together to bring peace and safety to our neighborhoods and streets?

We hope you will join us on Oct. 2 for this important forum. You can tune into the broadcast by visiting [.](#)