

August 11 Tracker: “The Slow Squeeze”

Framing the Narrative:

- Opens with “crime is out of control” framing
- Cites cherry-picked crime stats ignoring downward trends
- Uses recent high-profile incidents as emotional anchors
- Directly criticizes D.C. leadership as incompetent or dangerous

Federal Surge Announcements:

- Expands existing joint task forces (FBI, ATF, DEA, Park Police)
- Announces more visible patrols in tourist/“high-crime” areas
- Frames it as “support” for MPD rather than replacing them

Jurisdiction Expansion:

- References U.S. Marshals, MOUs, or “unified command” language
- Signals shift of certain prosecutions from local to federal court

National Guard Positioning:

- References Guard as “ready if needed” for security or event support
- Frames potential Guard use as temporary or situational
- Does not announce immediate deployment (would come later)

Command Structure Shift:

- Announces creation of a “Public Safety Coordinator” or similar role
- States that position will oversee interagency operations in D.C.
- Implies the role answers to the executive branch, not local government

Political Theater:

- Brings “victims of D.C. crime” on stage or in audience
- Uses them to underscore “failure” of current leadership
- Promotes the approach as a “model” for other cities
- Explicitly names other target cities as needing the same approach

Bottom Line Signals to Watch:

- If you see 3 or more of the “Federal Surge / Jurisdiction Expansion” boxes ticked, that’s Phase 2 in motion.
- If a Public Safety Coordinator role is announced, we’re moving into Phase 5 well ahead of schedule.
- If Guard deployment is explicitly tied to a timeline, we’ve skipped straight toward Phase 4–6 planning.