

# Media Release

**The Hon Anthony Carbines MP**

Minister for Police  
Minister for Community Safety  
Minister for Victims  
Minister for Racing



Thursday, 19 March 2026

## **TOUGHER LAWS SHOW EARLY RESULTS – WITH MORE WORK TO DO**

Bail refusals are up and male youth offending has fallen for the first time in years.

Crime is still unacceptably high and there's more work to do – but 2025 crime data shows early signs of progress.

This progress will continue with Labor's Adult Time laws and the final stages of our tougher bail laws coming online.

Labor's tough bail laws are working:

- Bail refusals and revocations are at record highs
- Bail revocations in the Magistrates Court have increased by 84 per cent
- Bail refusals and revocations in the Children's Court have increased by more than a third
- Remand decisions (a judge sending someone to jail not bail) have increased by nearly 70 per cent
- More people are being held on remand for home invasion, aggravated burglary, assault and theft

The growth of serious and violent crime is slowing:

- Offending by boys under 18 has now fallen
- Burglary, robbery, sexual offences and family violence offences are declining
- The growth in carjacking, home invasion, theft and assault offences has slowed

Despite positive signs, crime is still unacceptably high.

- That's why we legislated *Adult Time for Violent Crime*, increasing the likelihood of jail
- That's why we started the Violence Reduction Unit to intervene early and stop crime before it starts
- That's why we back the Chief Commissioner's plan to get more police out on the streets not behind desks
- That's why we're keeping Victorians safe at work with PSOs in shopping centres and tougher ram-raid laws

The Crime Statistics Agency data release covers the period of January to December 2025.

With these measures in place for 2026 and beyond, Victorians can be confident progress will continue in the fight against crime.

Only Labor has new solutions to make life safer for Victorians.

### **Quotes attributable to Minister for Police Anthony Carbines**

*"There's more work to do to keep the community safe, but we can already see the tougher bail laws are working and offending by young males is now falling."*

*"Crime is still unacceptably high and there are too many victims in the community,"*

*"That's why we delivered Adult Time, toughened bail laws, and backed Victoria Police with more powers."*

### **Quote attributable to Attorney-General Sonya Kilkenny**

*"Bail refusals are at record highs because our laws now prioritise community safety above all."*

**Media contact:** Casey Lodge 0410 964 928 | casey.lodge@minstaff.vic.gov.au