

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AMENDMENTS**

2020 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Eric K. Hutchings**

Senate Sponsor: Daniel W. Thatcher

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill directs the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Public Safety to create a multi-agency joint strike force and the Joint Organized Retail Crime Unit to combat certain crimes.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- directs the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Public Safety to create and coordinate a multi-agency joint strike force to combat crimes that may have a negative impact on the state's economy;
- directs the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Public Safety to establish the Joint Organized Retail Crime Unit; and
- establishes reporting requirements.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

ENACTS:

**67-5-36**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **67-5-36** is enacted to read:

**67-5-36. Multi-agency joint strike force -- Joint Organized Retail Crime Unit.**

(1) The Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Public Safety shall create and coordinate the operation of a multi-agency joint strike force to combat criminal activity that may have a negative impact on the state's economy.

(2) The attorney general and the Department of Public Safety shall invite federal, state, and local law enforcement personnel to participate in the joint strike force to more effectively utilize their combined skills, expertise, and resources.

(3) The joint strike force shall focus the joint strike force's efforts on detecting, investigating, deterring, and eradicating criminal activity, described in Subsection (1), within the state, including organized retail crime, antitrust violations, intellectual property rights violations, gambling, and the purchase of stolen goods for the purpose of reselling the stolen goods for profit.

(4) In conjunction with the joint strike force, the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Public Safety shall establish the Joint Organized Retail Crime Unit for the purpose of:

(a) investigating, apprehending, and prosecuting individuals or entities that participate in the purchase, sale, or distribution of stolen property; and

(b) targeting individuals or entities that commit theft and other property crimes for financial gain.

(5) The joint strike force shall provide an annual report to the Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Interim Committee before December 1 that describes the joint strike force's activities and any recommendations for modifications to this section.