

# Portland Prosecutor Likely To Drop Charges Against Rioters Who Injure Cops

written by GEG | August 13, 2020



Multnomah County District Attorney Mike Schmidt announced that he is refusing to prosecute most crimes by rioters including interfering with an officer, disorderly conduct, criminal trespass, harassment, escape in the 3rd degree, and riot. Attacks on police officers and resisting arrest will be scrutinized based on whether police caused rioters to react because they used tear gas or other crowd-control measures causing rioters to “instinctively lash out.” The city is at 75 days of riots and now most of the rioters won’t see the inside of a courtroom much less the inside of a jail cell. That means there will be no disincentive to rioting. Portland will suffer greatly. -GEG

Well, we’ve heard it all now. Rioters have been given what is tantamount to carte blanche in Portland. It’s open season on Portlanders, open season on cops, and open season on the rule of law.

Scores of the 500 people who were arrested during the nearly 75 days of violent Portland riots will have their charges dropped by the new Black Lives Matter-approved district attorney.

Multnomah County District Attorney Mike Schmidt announced that his default position is not to prosecute and that most crimes by rioters will be forgiven and forgotten.

That list of crimes includes interfering with a police officer, disorderly conduct, and rioting.

- interfering with a police officer
- disorderly conduct
- criminal trespass
- harassment
- escape in the 3rd degree

- riot (sometimes in some circumstances)

Attacks on police officers and resisting arrest will be scrutinized based on whether – and we’re not making this up – police caused rioters to react because they used tear gas or other crowd-control measures causing rioters to “instinctively lash out.”

*...the instinctive reaction of people who have been gassed repeatedly, who have been struck with kinetic projectile weapons, and who have seen other protestors arrested in ways they deeply disapprove of.*

He told Oregon Public Broadcasting that “his attorneys will scrutinize every case to determine if the person’s intent was to resist arrest or injure a police officer.”

That’s right. Schmidt basically said that if an assault on a police officer or resisting arrest occurred when police were clearing an area with tear gas, for example, that he would consider dropping those charges.

*[We’ll take] a particularly hard look at resisting arrest and assault of a public safety officer if those cases occurred when an individual was being tear gassed or otherwise exposed to a use of force at the time of the resistance.*

His staff plans to determine the intent with which the rioter used violence to determine whether he or she is worthy of **prosecution or “restorative justice.”**

He told the local taxpayer-funded **radio station** that “the presumption on a lot of these cases that are listed out there is that we won’t prosecute... But if there are egregious circumstances or something about the case that stands out, we can always choose to prosecute.”

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