

CONGRESSMAN

TONY GONZALES

Proudly Serving the *23rd District of Texas*



Curbing Offenses on Policing Services (COPS) Act

More and more frequently, our first responders and law enforcement officers are assaulted in the line of duty. During the Fourth of July holiday weekend, responding police officers were [attacked by youths](#) with fireworks – preventing the officers from doing their official duties to keep cities safe. Even more recently, in San Antonio, [five police officers](#) were assaulted in the line of duty. Our first responders and law enforcement officers put their lives on the line to keep us safe.

Any criminal who assaults a police officer or emergency responder should face severe consequences.

Congressman Gonzales recently introduced the Curbing Offenses on Policing Services, or the COPS Act, which would:

- Include explosive materials, such as a firework, as a dangerous or deadly weapon;
- Increase penalties for using a dangerous or deadly weapon against first responders or law enforcement officers during their official duties.
 - Fines would be increased to \$500,000, up from \$250,000, and
 - Jail time would be increased to up to 25 years in prison, up from 20 years.

We must ensure the safety of our first responders and law enforcement officials, while they do their duties to keep us safe. Increasing penalties for bad actors who assault those in the line of duty will do just that.