

## Mayor Nutter's First Year in Office: How Did He Fare?

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## A Look Back at Mayor Nutter's First Year: Bold Moves, Aggressive Solutions - and a Few Surprises

By Tim Fitzgerald  
January 2, 2009

PHILADELPHIA - In his first year on the job, it's hard to deny that Mayor Michael Nutter hasn't already achieved much of what he set out to do. As many veterans are beginning to admit, the Nutter administration in its first year has made tremendous gains against the problems that have overwhelmed city government for years: gun crime, poverty, dysfunction in city services, and even the performance of the Phillies, which, against all expectation, went on to win the National League pennant after Nutter's election in 2007.

"In 2008, we took on problems that no one had been willing to fix, we took those problems to task, and I am proud to say that we made some serious gains," said Mayor Nutter, speaking in front of City Hall as snowflakes drifted down. "Shootings are down 18 percent. For the first time in 11 years, we gained more jobs than we lost, due to a fairer city government; we've put those resources back into our schools, hiring more staff and breaking down class sizes."

During 2008, Mayor Nutter's policy proposals came at a furious clip into a city council revitalized with energetic new members.

Some of the strongest moves - like the mayor's ex-offenders program and the high-school dropout prevention measures - were funded by the surprise success of Mayor Nutter's "Philadelphia Gear" clothing line, which became a wild runaway hit in Japan after Justin Timberlake took off a LOVE shirt in his most recent music video.

"We have been lucky this year," said Mayor Nutter. "We have



"It's been a great year in the city of Philadelphia," said Mayor Nutter. "But I can't take credit for that Justin Timberlake thing."



JIMMY ROLLINS PROVEN RIGHT: "It was our year," said shortstop.

worked hard, and we have made progress. I thank you again for giving me the opportunity to do what's right for the city. Over the next three years, I look forward to doing even more."

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## Michael Nutter is in second place in the Mayor's race.

If he makes it to first by Election Day, he will be the mayor of Philadelphia. Probably for eight years. At least until 2012.

He can do this. But he needs your help.  
He needs you to renew your commitment to what this city could be, and fight for everything that you know Philadelphia could become.

Please pick up the phone now, and call 215-545-9700 to [volunteer](#) this weekend, or (even more) [donate](#).  
Email: [info@nutterformayor.com](mailto:info@nutterformayor.com)

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And it's about time we turned on the lights.

So turn on the light.  
Pick up the phone...and **turn on the light.**

Your friend,  
Hannah Miller

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