



LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS

To Reduce Crime & Incarceration

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As Criminal Justice Debate Intensifies, Top Republican Senators and Law Enforcement Leaders Hold Briefing to Support Sentencing Reform Legislation

4 p.m. – 6 p.m in Room 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Amid a high-stakes debate in Congress on criminal justice reform, top Senate Republicans and law enforcement leaders host a briefing today to highlight broad, bipartisan support for the Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act of 2015.

Sens. Charles Grassley and Mike Lee will join current and former attorneys general, police chiefs, and U.S. attorneys to discuss their perspectives on how the sentencing reform measure would both protect public safety and reduce bloated prison populations. Their briefing falls the same day Sens. Tom Cotton and Jeff Sessions hosted a separate event to oppose the bill.

Click [HERE](#) to watch a live stream of the briefing starting Feb. 9, 2016 at 4 p.m.

“As Attorney General and as an assistant U.S. attorney, I oversaw thousands of federal prosecutions, and I presided over hundreds more cases as a federal judge for almost 20 years,” said **Michael Mukasey, former U.S. Attorney General under President George W. Bush**. “It was my job to hold dangerous offenders accountable and keep them off our streets. From my experience, I know keeping our communities safe is less about how many people we lock up than about locking up the right people for the right length of time. The Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act appropriately focuses federal resources on violent and dangerous criminals, while reducing unnecessary incarceration.”

“I was a police officer for over three decades, and every day I worked to fight crime and protect my community,” said **Ronal Serpas, chairman of Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration**, and former superintendent of the New Orleans Police Department. “The way our country currently approaches criminal justice makes that job more difficult. Arresting and imprisoning low-level offenders prevents us from focusing resources on violent crime. The Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act would give law enforcement the necessary tools to be both tough and smart on crime.”

Their briefing follows the release of a pair of letters from top law enforcement officials urging Congress to pass criminal justice reform legislation. The [letters](#), which Republican leaders have circulated to Senate colleagues, were signed by more than 130 law enforcement officials and showcase the strong support for the bill from the law enforcement community.

Confirmed speakers for the briefing include:

- **Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa)**, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
- **Sen. Mike Lee (R-Utah)**, Member, Senate Judiciary Committee
- **Michael B. Mukasey**, Former U.S. Attorney General for President George W. Bush
- **Ronal Serpas**, Chairman, Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration; Former Police Superintendent, New Orleans, Louisiana
- **Tom Manger**, President, Major Cities Chiefs Association
- **Richard J. Pocker**, Former U.S. Attorney, District of Nevada
- **Brett Tolman**, Former U.S. Attorney, District of Utah (moderator)

The briefing will start at 4 p.m. in the Dirksen Senate Office Building, room 226. To RSVP or schedule an interview, please contact Sam Scarrow at sam.scarrow@berlinrosen.com or (646) 755-6106.

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About Law Enforcement Leaders

Law Enforcement Leaders unites more than 160 current and former police chiefs, sheriffs, federal and state prosecutors, and attorneys general from all 50 states to urge for a reduction in both crime and incarceration. We believe that the country can reduce incarceration while keeping down crime, and we support changes to our criminal justice system to achieve that goal.

See a full list of members [here](#). Read our *Statement of Principles* [here](#).

For more information on Law Enforcement Leaders, visit www.lawenforcementleaders.org or [@lawleadgroup](#).