



# LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS

## To Reduce Crime & Incarceration

July 13, 2016

Hon. Reince Priebus, Chair  
Hon. John Barrasso, Platform Chair  
Republican National Committee  
RNC Platform Committee  
310 First St. SE  
Washington, D.C. 20003

Hon. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Chair  
Hon. Elijah Cummings, Platform Chair  
Democratic National Committee  
DNC Platform Committee  
430 South Capitol St. SE  
Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Chairman Priebus, Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Sen. Barrasso, and Rep. Cummings,

I write to you today on behalf [Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration](#), which represents police chiefs, district attorneys, U.S. attorneys, and attorneys general from all fifty states. As you convene this summer to set your policy platforms, we very much hope that you will consider the perspective of law enforcement. Today, in the attached letter, we joined our nation's largest law enforcement organizations to call on Mr. Trump and Secretary Clinton to do the same.

We put our lives in danger each day to protect this country, and public safety is our utmost priority. We work to keep dangerous offenders off our streets, and behind bars. We are proud that our country is safer than it has been in a generation, and work to continue that trend. However, we also know that our burgeoning prison population creates a new public safety challenge. Though this may seem counterintuitive, we know from our experience as law enforcement officials that over-reliance on incarceration does not deter crime. As prison budgets have continued to rise, funding for state and local law enforcement has been slashed. This makes it harder for us to do our jobs.

We urge you to include the following in your party platforms: (1) prioritizing funding for local law enforcement to eradicate serious and violent crime; and (2) policy changes to reduce overreliance on incarceration through thoughtful and sensible measures that protect public safety.

By committing to these solutions, you can show your strong support for the law enforcement officials of this country. We appreciate your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Ronal W. Serpas  
Chairman, Law Enforcement Leaders