

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 13, 2018**

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**Top Law Enforcement to Congress: Pass Criminal Justice Reforms Bills**  
*Corrections Reform Bill Must Be Taken Up Alongside Sentencing Reform Legislation*

Washington, D.C. – Today, [Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration](#) urged Congressional leadership to take immediate action on both legislation to reform outdated and ineffective mandatory minimums, alongside prison reform legislation backed by the White House.

In [a letter](#) from Law Enforcement Leaders Executive Director and **former Superintendent of the New Orleans Police Department Ronal Serpas**, the group urged swift passage of Sentencing Reform and Corrections Act of 2017 (S. 1917, “SRCA”) and the FIRST STEP Act (S. 2795) together.

“Too often, ineffective and outdated federal mandatory minimum sentencing laws send offenders to prison for far too long. Many such prisoners are struggling with addiction or mental health issues, which prison does not address. As police and prosecutors are forced to spend their time on low-level, non-violent offenses, we miss the opportunity to go after the most dangerous threats to public safety — and taxpayers foot the bill for that unnecessary incarceration. To be serious about public safety, we must recalibrate how long offenders spend in prison and break the cycle of recidivism,” **the letter reads**. “The SRCA contains key sentencing provisions that will fix unproductive mandatory minimum sentences that drain finite law enforcement, prosecutorial, and prison resources away from fighting violent crime. The FIRST STEP Act will improve prison conditions and reentry programs thereby increasing opportunities for men and women to successfully reenter society.”

Law Enforcement Leaders has previously urged the President and Attorney General to support this sentencing reform legislation in a [policy agenda](#).

**To schedule an interview with Serpas or learn more about Law Enforcement Leaders, please contact Fiona Druge at [Fiona.Druge@berlinrosen.com](mailto:Fiona.Druge@berlinrosen.com) or (646) 755-6126.**

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**About Law Enforcement Leaders**

[Law Enforcement Leaders](#) unites over 200 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](#).