



# LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS

To Reduce Crime & Incarceration

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**Law Enforcement: Providing Relief from Collateral Consequences for Those Convicted of Federal Crimes Encourages Rehabilitation, Will Reduce Recidivism and Promotes Public Safety**  
*Police and Prosecutor Group Urges Legislation to Create Federal Certificate of Rehabilitation*

Washington, D.C. – As part of its continued commitment to promote sensible criminal justice reform and reduce recidivism, [Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime & Incarceration](#) today issued an open letter to the U.S. Senate in support of a new bipartisan bill, the RE-ENTER Act, S. 2931, designed to encourage rehabilitation for those convicted of federal crimes.

“Since my days as a beat cop, I keep seeing how many of those involved in the justice system get caught up in seemingly insurmountable obstacles after being released from prison: difficulty in finding employment, housing, health care, occupational licenses, and getting a good education. Relegating those convicted of crimes to permanent punishment in the form of thousands of collateral consequences does not help to keep communities safe. By offering some relief from certain collateral consequences, the RE-ENTER Act encourages those convicted of federal crimes to work towards rehabilitation.” – **Ronal W. Serpas, Executive Director, Law Enforcement Leaders; Former Police Superintendent, New Orleans, Louisiana; and Former Police Chief, Nashville, Tennessee**

“Those convicted of federal crimes face very high barriers to successful reentry to society, often leading to a revolving prison door. The RE-ENTER Act could help those who have finished their sentence and are now committed to a law-abiding life: the bill encourages meaningful rehabilitation, discourages recidivism, and gives people some light at the end of the criminal justice system tunnel.” – **Taryn Merkl, Senior Counsel, Law Enforcement Leaders; Former Deputy Chief of the Criminal Division & Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of New York**

Read Law Enforcement Leaders’ [open letter](#) to the Senate Judiciary Committee in support of legislation that would authorize federal judges to issue a certificate of rehabilitation for those convicted of federal crimes who have demonstrated a commitment to a law-abiding future and who have successfully reintegrated into society.

**To inquire further with Executive Director Serpas, Senior Counsel Merkl and other law enforcement experts, or learn more about Law Enforcement Leaders, please contact Sunwoo Oh at [sunwoo.oh@lawenforcementleaders.org](mailto:sunwoo.oh@lawenforcementleaders.org) or (646) 925-8703.**

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## **About Law Enforcement Leaders**

Law Enforcement Leaders unites nearly 200 current and former police chiefs, sheriffs, federal and state prosecutors, and attorneys general from all 50 states and across the political spectrum 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.