



LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS

To Reduce Crime & Incarceration

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 9, 2020

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Experts available for comment.

Law Enforcement Leaders Submits Written Testimony to the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice

Washington, D.C. – Today, Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime & Incarceration submitted written testimony to the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice. In this moment of deep social unrest following the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis and police involvement in many additional deaths, shootings, and violent incidents, the Commission's work is of great urgency.

The testimony encourages the Commission to advance public safety by recommending reforms that will (1) promote law enforcement accountability, (2) help build trust and legitimacy in communities, and (3) encourage the implementation of innovative, nationwide strategies to reduce unnecessary incarceration by addressing the social factors that often lead to criminal justice system involvement.

“Law enforcement's core responsibility is to protect the safety of all people. While no single incident represents a whole agency, it is imperative that we acknowledge how police misconduct undermines public trust. If we are to build trust and nurture police legitimacy in our communities, we must normalize accountability, address racial disparities in the administration of criminal justice, and promote equal justice under the law.” – **Ronal W. Serpas, Executive Director of Law Enforcement Leaders and former Police Superintendent of New Orleans, Louisiana.**

“The tragic and needless death of George Floyd underscores the urgent need for law enforcement to ensure that police practices respect the dignity, rights, and life of every person who comes into contact with police. As we work for increased accountability and transparency in law enforcement, we need to reexamine policing strategies and metrics of police success so that they better reflect the deep complexity of modern policing and address community priorities.” – **Taryn A. Merkl, Senior Counsel of Law Enforcement Leaders and former Assistant U.S. Attorney of Eastern District of New York.**

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

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About Law Enforcement Leaders

Law Enforcement Leaders unites over 200 current and former police chiefs, sheriffs, federal and state prosecutors, correctional officials, and attorneys general from all 50 states and across the political spectrum to urge for smart practice and policies to reduce 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.