

PRISON POLICY INITIATIVE

PETER WAGNER

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March 28, 2015

Kneyl Burnette #W34381
M.C.I. Cedar Junction Walpole
Departmental Disciplinary Unit C4 #243
PO Box 100
South Walpole, MA 02071-0100

Dear Kneyl,

We write to you today because we wanted to share an update on our work to expose the broader harm of mass incarceration and over-criminalization.

Please find enclosed an excerpt of our 2013-2014 annual report, highlighting the progress that we have achieved on our campaigns, including our core work to extend the victories against prison gerrymandering in Maryland and New York to the entire nation (pages 6-7). We are particularly excited to have had campaigns or bills pending in Connecticut, Illinois, Minnesota, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Virginia this year. We are also preparing for trial in our federal voting rights lawsuit challenging prison gerrymandering in Cranston, Rhode Island. We're hoping that with this momentum and the necessary pressure, the Census Bureau will finally start counting incarcerated people at home in 2020.

As you might know, we have expanded our work from ending prison gerrymandering to also include bringing fairness to the prison and jail phone industry (pages 8-9), and we've done a lot since we finished the annual report in September. In November, the Federal Communications Commission announced an intent to extend its earlier ruling capping interstate calls home from prisons and jails to all phone calls home, including those that do not cross state lines. The FCC sought comments until January 12, 2015 about extending the regulation to in-state calls as well as this billion dollar industry's other abusive practices. We responded with eight major briefings on the need for regulation of in-state calls, why the industry's "compromise" proposal should be rejected, how the industry secretly and illegally pockets tens of millions of dollars from families when a loved one is released from prison or jail, among others. We are expecting the FCC to rule sometime late this spring or summer.

In addition, we released a new report, *Screening Out Family Time: The for-profit video visitation industry in prisons and jails*. It is the first national survey of the for-profit video visitation industry that insists on replacing traditional in-person visits with expensive video chats. Our research found that over 500 correctional facilities nationwide have adopted video visitation and that county jails are using video visits to *replace* traditional visits. We're proud to share that our report got great coverage in *The Economist*, *Street Roots*, and *NBC*. We have even had a victory! A few weeks after we released our report, the Portland, Oregon sheriff announced that he is changing their contract with Securus to bring back in-person visits. You can find a factsheet on video visitation on the reverse of this letter.

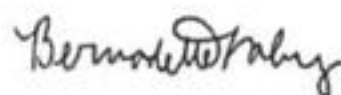
In the enclosed excerpt, you'll also see that we produced a series of groundbreaking reports to better help the public grasp that mass incarceration is both unprecedented and counterproductive (pages 14-16). Further, we continued our fight against ineffective criminal justice policies such as overreaching geography-based penalties (pages 10-11) and driver's license suspensions for drug offenses unrelated to driving (page 12).

As you can see, we've been keeping busy. We'll stay in touch with updates, and we thank you for your support of this movement!

Sincerely,



Peter Wagner
Executive Director



Bernadette Rabuy
Policy & Communications Associate

VIDEO VISITATION:

The for-profit video visitation industry
in prisons and jails

by Bernadette Rabuy and Peter Wagner
January 2015

For-profit video visitation is quietly sweeping the nation's prisons and jails. While the technology has existed since the 1990s, the video visitation industry has grown tremendously in the past few years. Currently, over 500 correctional facilities in 43 states and D.C. have implemented video visitation systems. While video visitation systems vary, the process typically requires that visitors pay and schedule visits in advance:



Ironically, video visitation is the least prevalent in state prisons, where, given the remote locations, it would be the most useful, and the most common in county jails where the potential benefits are fewer. In state prisons, video visits *supplement* traditional visits, but in county jails, video visits typically *replace* traditional in-person visits.

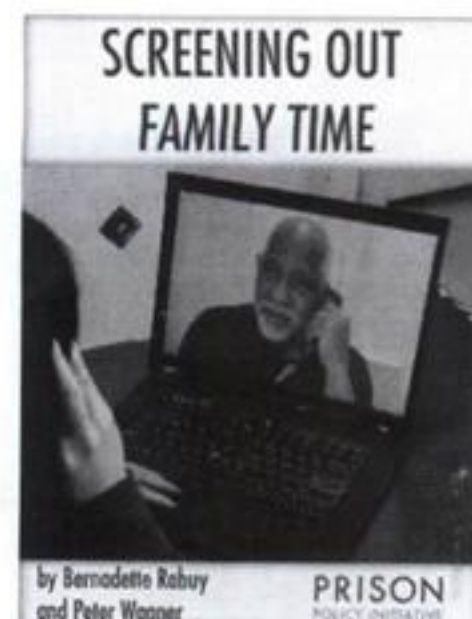
Families with loved ones in county jails are left with two options: take the time and expense to travel to a jail for a visit with a computer screen or pay \$1/minute for a visit from home. This practice of banning in-person visits violates best practices put forth by the American Correctional Association and the American Bar Association. Research has long found that in-person visits have positive outcomes for public safety.

County jails should follow the lead of Dallas County, Texas, which — in response to pressure from the community — was the first to reject a video visitation contract that would have banned in-person visits and Multnomah County, Oregon (home to Portland) where the sheriff reversed the ban on in-person visits.

Punishing families who are seeking to stay together in order to gain profits is bad public policy. **Sheriffs and the video visitation companies are simply wrong that expensive computer chats and grainy images are equivalent to visiting someone in the flesh.**

This fact sheet is based on our report, *Screening Out Family Time: The for-profit video visitation industry in prisons and jails*, available at:

<http://www.prisonpolicy.org/visitation/>



PRISON
POLICY INITIATIVE
2013-2014
ANNUAL REPORT
September 2014

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Executive Director's letter

Dear Friends,

I'm proud to share our 2013-2014 annual report recapping the Prison Policy Initiative's most recent accomplishments. It's been a whirlwind year for criminal justice reform, and I'm proud to say that the Prison Policy Initiative has been at the center of the action. We've made real progress on our core campaigns and took on some new ones (pages 6-13), and along the way we issued a number of groundbreaking reports and collaborations that are expanding the scope and effectiveness of the larger movement against mass incarceration (pages 14-17). Your partnership gave us the necessary financial flexibility to make all of this work happen, and I thank you for your encouragement, your feedback, and your generosity.

I co-founded the Prison Policy Initiative to build winnable justice reform campaigns that accomplish two goals: achieve real change on specific issues and make the larger point that the harm of mass criminalization extends far beyond the people who are locked up. While our campaigns remain at the center of our work, your increased support this year made it possible for us to produce a series of broad, national reports and collaborations to propel our larger movement forward.

Part of the Prison Policy Initiative model is to go deep down into the weeds of a complicated problem and then distill it to develop a nice, clean, actionable solution. For example:

- Our work sparked and sustains the national movement against prison gerrymandering. We've won victories in four states and the U.S. Supreme Court, and we're making progress towards convincing the U.S. Census Bureau to count incarcerated people at their home addresses in the next census (see pages 6-7).
- Our research and advocacy has been keeping the exploitative prison and jail telephone industry in check, and this year we won a historic ruling from the Federal Communication Commission capping the cost of calls home from prisons and jails (see pages 8-9).

This year, our work and our model gained national recognition commensurate with our victories. In June, I received the 2014 American Constitutional Society's David Carliner Award, named for one of the great public interest lawyers of the 20th Century. I consider the award both a great personal honor and a milestone for the criminal justice reform community: a clear sign that our movement has come a long way

The non-profit, non-partisan Prison Policy Initiative produces cutting edge research to expose the broader harm of mass incarceration, and then sparks advocacy campaigns to create a more just society.



After receiving the American Constitutional Society's 2014 David Carliner Public Interest Award, Peter addresses attendees at the Society's annual conference.

since the Prison Policy Initiative was founded in 2001. At that time, prison populations were skyrocketing with no end in sight. Both the powers that be *and the established progressive movement* were ignoring the need for criminal justice reform. Since then, our movement has successfully focused national attention on the problem of mass incarceration, and the Carliner Award was a great opportunity to celebrate how times have changed now that criminal justice reform is solidly on the progressive agenda.

The Prison Policy Initiative's work has always been designed to fuel the larger movement, but this year — thanks to your support — marked the first time that we had the resources to explicitly focus on building the movement's capacity by filling major knowledge gaps. In an article generously entitled "Every Graph, Star and Data Point You Need For Research on U.S. Mass Incarceration," Prison Photography creator Pete Brook summed up this shift:

The small, independent and incredibly effective Prison Policy Initiative (PPI) has delivered us a great service once more.

Not content with "only" filing lawsuits, pressing states to move away from Prison Based Election Gerrymandering; battling corrupt and expensive jail phone systems; and protecting prisoners' rights to communicate... PPI is committed to providing fellow prison reformers with accurate up-to-date data on mass incarceration.

Pete is talking about four exciting Prison Policy Initiative reports that our movement had been waiting for:

- Racial and ethnic disparities are an unacceptable but defining characteristic of our prison system, yet the federal government stopped publishing information on racial disparities by state seven years ago. We used our knowledge of U.S. Census data to fill the gap with a report and 200+ graphs.
- Similarly, there wasn't a simple way to access data about the growth (and occasional decline) of the prison population in each state, so, we produced another report with 100+ graphs showing that state policy decisions drive mass incarceration.
- There wasn't a straightforward way to understand how many people were locked up in different kinds of facilities and why they were there. So we produced the groundbreaking report, *Mass Incarceration: the Whole Pie*.



Meeting Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor at the American Constitution Society's 2014 conference. (Image source: ACS)



- Finally, recognizing that we could use an international perspective to further encourage criminal justice reform in the comparatively less punitive U.S. states, we worked with data artist Josh Begley to show that criminal justice policy in every state is out of step with the rest of the world.

The instant popularity of these four publications was a testament to their necessity. These reports brought web traffic that overwhelmed our server, and sparked more discussions and media coverage than we were able to count (although we give a few highlights on pages 14-17). Having too much traffic and too much interest is a rare problem for the criminal justice reform movement to have.

As our work is growing in both scope and impact, so is our organization. This year, we were excited to announce our first-ever formal job opening. (Both of our previous full-time hires were people we had worked closely with for many years.) After a national search, we were thrilled to find our new Policy and Communications Associate, Bernadette Raboy. Bernadette graduated from the University of California, Berkeley and previously worked with our friends at the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, Voice of the Ex-Offender, and Californians United for a Responsible Budget.

In other staff news, long-time member of the PPI team Leah Sakala is now a full-time graduate student in the dual Master of Public Policy/ MBA in Nonprofit Management Program at Brandeis University. While she has relocated to the Boston area, I'm pleased to share that she's staying with us part-time as a Senior Policy Analyst.

Our Board of Directors has also gained several accomplished new members this year. We are thrilled that Rachel Bloom, Ruth Greenwood, Michael Leo Owens, and Jennifer Sellitti have joined our team.

Moving forward, I'm encouraged by the progress we've made over the past year to diversify our funding and take on new projects. Our biggest challenge for the next year, however, remains funding our work to end prison gerrymandering. In last year's annual report I shared that the shifting priorities of the two major funders of our work to end prison gerrymandering prevented them from continuing their support. Both funders remain big fans of our work, and the Public Welfare Foundation, which was supporting our work with "special opportunities" grants that normally can't be renewed, was even generous enough to give us two years notice that other funders needed to step up. We still have a year to replace that funding, and we're making progress. I'm excited to report that the Joyce Foundation has agreed to invest in a special project to end prison gerrymandering in the Midwest. We still



This year, we worked with YouTube celebrity Hank Green on a video explaining mass incarceration as a failed \$75 billion/year experiment. So far, the video has been watched more than a million times.

need other funders, however, to support our work in other regions and nationally.

The Prison Policy Initiative is at the heart of the movement to end prison gerrymandering and we must bring in new support to sustain our work during this critical mid-decade Census planning period. We've come so far and are closer than ever to a national victory, so I'm confident that you'll help us, as you always have, to make the necessary connections to sources of support so that our work can continue to flourish.

Thank you for your partnership, and for being a key part of our victories over the past year. Please celebrate with me.

In gratitude,



Peter Wagner
Executive Director
September 29, 2014

PS. We always welcome feedback and we continue to expand the ways that you, and the public at large, can get updates about our work. Those methods include:

- Email newsletters for prison gerrymandering, the research clearinghouse, and our general work. See <http://www.prisonpolicy.org/subscribe/>
- RSS to follow our blogs: <http://www.prisonpolicy.org/feeds.html>
- Twitter, Facebook and YouTube. We're @PrisonPolicy on Twitter.

"...for the general public, a crucial first step is to denormalize the current system. This is not the way it has always been—and this is not the way it has to be."

Matt Ford
The Atlantic
July 23, 2014

Who we are

The non-profit, non-partisan Prison Policy Initiative produces cutting edge research to expose the broader harm of mass incarceration, and then sparks advocacy campaigns to create a more just society.

The Prison Policy Initiative was founded in 2001 to document and publicize how mass incarceration undermines our national welfare. Our team has grown to four dedicated staff members who, along with student interns and volunteers, shape national reform campaigns from our office in Western Massachusetts.

Staff

- Akiba Kajama, Legal Director
- Bernadette Raboy, Policy & Communications Associate
- Leah Sakala, Senior Policy Analyst
- Peter Wagner, Executive Director

Students, interns and volunteers

- Catherine Cain, Smith College Work Study
- Sadie Gold Shapiro, Smith College Work Study
- Corey Frost, UNC School of Law
- Sarah Herrell-Fernandez, Summer Research Associate
- Kip Houser, Stanford Law School
- You Yan Kim, Smith College Work Study
- Sophia Roberts, KRASC Intern
- Aarile Sharma, UConn School of Law
- Naomi Tatten

Consultants:

- Bill Cooper, GIS Consultant
- Elena Lavarello, Research Consultant
- Bob Machuga, Graphic Consultant
- Jordan Miles, Programming Consultant

Board of Directors*:

- Nirban Arya, Director
Research Director, Epstein Program in Public Interest Law and Policy, UCLA School of Law
- Rachel Bloom, Director
Director of Membership and Special Projects, Funder/Committee for Civic Participation
- Ruth Greenwood, Director
Fellow, Chicago Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
- Annena Johnson, Director
- Drew Kukarowski, Clerk,
Attorney, Council for Children's Rights
- Eric Lonke, President,
Senior Research Analyst, SEIU Public Division and author of 2044.
- Michael Lee-Owens, Director
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- Jennifer Sellens, Director
Deputy Public Defender, Middlesex Trial Region, NJ
Office of the Public Defender
- Christopher Smart, Director
Co-editor, Dollars & Sense Magazine
- Heather Ann Thompson, Director
Professor of History, Temple University
- Peter Wagner, Director
Executive Director, Prison Policy Initiative
- Sarah Walker, Director
Co-founder, Minnesota Second Chance Coalition
- Angela Wisniewski, Treasurer

*Organizations for identification purposes only.

Advisory Board*:

- Andrew Beveridge, Sociology, Queens College
- Nils Christie, Criminology, University of Oslo, Norway
- Alec Ewald, Political Science, University of Vermont
- Barbara Feldman, UNC School of Law
- Alex Friedmann, Prison Legal News
- Barbara Graves-Palmer, Supervising Attorney at MFY Legal Services
- Joseph "Jeri" Hayden, plaintiff, Hayden v. Parole
- Dale Ho, Director of Voting Rights Project, ACLU
- Daniel Jenkins, democracy activist, plaintiff, Longway v. Jefferson
- Bruce Keffly, Formerly Incarcerated and Convicted People's Movement
- Brigitte Sarabi, Partnership for Safety and Justice
- Janice Thompson, Midwest Democracy Network
- Brenda Wright, Downside: A Network for Ideas and Action
- Rebecca Young, Attorney

*Organizations for identification purposes only.

Protecting our democracy from mass incarceration by ending prison gerrymandering

<http://www.prisonersofthecensus.org/>

The Census Bureau's practice of counting more than two million incarcerated people in the wrong place encourages state and local governments to dilute the votes cast by everyone who doesn't live next to a large prison. For more than a decade, we've been leading the movement to prevent the prison system from exerting undue influence on the political process.

Before we released our first report documenting prison gerrymandering in New York just over a decade ago, no one knew that prison gerrymandering was distorting our democracy and impeding criminal justice reform. Today, our work has sparked successful legislation in multiple states, won major civil rights victories in the courts, and made the problem of prison gerrymandering a key issue for state legislators, local government officials, voting rights and civil rights advocates, researchers, and journalists.



This year marked unprecedented progress at the national, state and local levels. The highlights:

- We joined with the ACLU and Dēmos as counsel to local residents of the city of Cranston, Rhode Island to sue the city for prison gerrymandering. The City gives every three voters in the district containing the state's prison complex as much voting power as every four voters in any other city district.

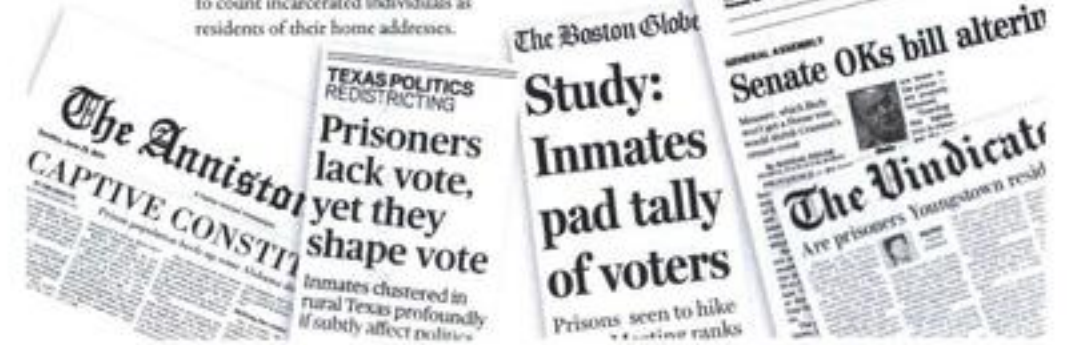


(Left to right) Peter Wagner, Aleks Kajuro, Adam Liaz (Demos), Brenda Wright (Demos), Leah Sokala, and Sarah Hentel-Fernandez outside the federal courthouse in Rhode Island after successful arguments opposing the City's motion to dismiss our suit.

- We organized two meetings with the Census Bureau Director and more than a dozen civil rights groups, at which the Bureau finally pledged to start research on counting incarcerated people at home for the 2020 census. This change would bring a national end to prison gerrymandering.
- We supported the Rhode Island bill to end prison gerrymandering, which passed unanimously in the State Senate. While the bill unfortunately died in the House's Judiciary Committee, we expect that it will be reintroduced in the next session.
- Capping our multi-year organizing effort, the Massachusetts legislature passed a bipartisan resolution urging the Census Bureau to provide redistricting data that counts incarcerated persons at home.

Beyond these wins, we've been hard at work to expand the reach of the movement against prison gerrymandering, both in the media and with our allies. For example:

- Peter presented on a panel organized by the National Conference of State Legislatures about ending prison gerrymandering. Other presenters on the panel included Census Bureau Director John Thompson and state officials from New York and Maryland who implemented the laws ending prison gerrymandering in those states.
- Aleks presented at the League of Women Voters' national conference with League of Women Voters members and the Chief of the Census Bureau's Redistricting Data Office.
- Peter traveled to Ohio and Minnesota to help grassroots groups jumpstart state-based campaigns.
- We joined 15 other civil rights and democracy organizations in endorsing 10 Redistricting Principles for a More Perfect Union, which encourage the Census Bureau to count incarcerated individuals as residents of their home addresses.



Bringing fairness to the prison and jail phone industry

<http://www.prisonpolicy.org/phones/>

Some children have to pay \$1/minute to talk to an incarcerated parent. Why? Because prisons and jails profit by granting monopoly telephone contracts to the company that will charge families the most.

For more than ten years, families trying to stay in touch with incarcerated loved ones had been calling on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to provide relief from exorbitant prison and jail telephone bills. Recognizing yet another way that mass incarceration punishes entire communities, we stepped in to collaborate with partners across the country to generate the research and advocacy that was necessary for change:

- The FCC capped the most expensive interstate prison and jail calling rates, effective February 2014. Our work was cited throughout the nearly 200 pages of technical discussions in the FCC's order, beginning on the second page in a footnote explaining why the Commission took action.
- The FCC imposed new reporting requirements for the prison and jail telephone industry, and placed restrictions on the expensive fees. When the industry sued the FCC to block this progress, the Prison Policy Initiative stepped in to protect the order as an intervenor-defendant. The Court decided to allow the rate reduction requirement to go into action, but stayed other parts of the FCC's ruling pending the litigation.
- We worked with the corporate accountability organization SumOfUs to collect 23,585 comments urging the FCC to take the next step of regulating the high cost of in-state phone calls.
- The FCC requested comment on a number of technical matters about future regulations, so PPI submitted seven detailed briefings. Peter and Aleks also gave invited presentations at FCC workshops in July 2013 and July 2014.



Aleks (center) presents on the pernicious role of fees in the prison telephone industry at the Federal Communications Commission's July 2014 workshop. At left is Donell Baker of the Alabama Public Services Commission, and at right is Lee Petro, pro bono counsel for the Martha Wright petitioners.

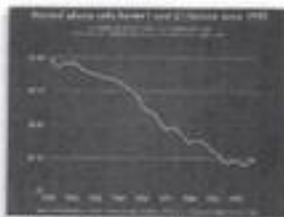
Image source: Human Rights Defense Center



- Leah published a *Huffington Post* column featuring the voices of impacted families to argue that the prison phone companies are "The Father's Day Profiteers That Put Hallmark to Shame." Her piece drew from the PPI/SumOfUs petitions, calling on the FCC to finish the task of enacting comprehensive reform.
- Leah presented PPI's research on the prison and jail communications industry on a panel about parenting and incarceration at the University of North Carolina School of Law's 2014 Conference on Race, Class, Gender, and Ethnicity.
- We helped the FCC and the public focus on related issues in the burgeoning for-profit video visitation industry. For example, some companies ban in-person visits and then require families to pay \$1 or more per minute to talk via computer screen. Our research briefing to the FCC was endorsed by *The New York Times* editorial board, and Peter participated in a *Times* "Room for Debate" on the subject. Our work this year helped to launch a national movement to prevent the video visitation industry from following in the footsteps of the broken prison and jail telephone industry. Stay tuned for more, including a forthcoming comprehensive report on the video visitation industry.



We created a video explaining that prison phone industry giant Global Tel*Link shares a hidden kickback with the Holden County Jail in Massachusetts, driving up the price families must pay to stay in touch.



As we explained in a blog post celebrating the FCC's ruling, the prison telephone industry would have you believe that the family members of incarcerated people still live in world defined by the technology of the 1950s.



Fighting against overreaching and ineffective geography-based penalties

<http://www.prisonpolicy.org/zones.html>

Turning large portions of cities, counties, or states into increased penalty zones may sound good on the campaign trail, but this rhetoric doesn't work in practice. When a legislature decides to treat everywhere as special, nowhere is special.

Our work on geography-based penalties began in 2006 with a research project on the over-large drug penalty enhancement zones around Massachusetts schools. With two reports, we demonstrated how increased penalties in school zone areas fail to protect children and worsen racial disparities in the criminal justice system. Our work led to successful reform of the Massachusetts law in 2013. Since then, we've made great additional progress towards documenting and focusing public and policymaker attention on the harm of geography-based penalties nationwide:

- Our new video overviews why sentencing enhancement zone policy is "one of the worst ideas to come out of the War on Drugs."



Peter explains that sentencing enhancement zone policies don't work, can't ever work, and have harmful effects.



How far is 1,000 feet really? Our demonstration showed that the Massachusetts legislature erred in assuming that 1,000 feet was an effective or reasonable distance for a sentencing enhancement zone.

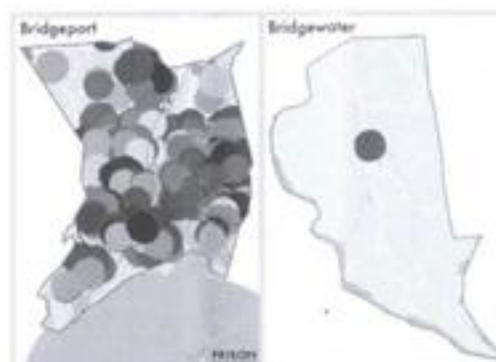


Peter talking about the effects of the Massachusetts sentencing enhancement zone law on racial disparities.

- We released "Reaching too far: How Connecticut's large sentencing enhancement zones miss the mark," a thorough analysis of Connecticut's failed sentencing enhancement zone policy and the unfair "urban penalty" it creates. Aleks, author of the report, gave an invited presentation of our research at a Connecticut legislative briefing event organized by A Better Way Foundation. Connecticut's 1,500-foot sentencing enhancement zones are some of the largest in the country. Aleks described how the law's overreach prevents it from setting apart protected areas for children and arbitrarily increases penalties for urban residents.



Aleks discusses Hartford's zones with Connecticut Representative Brandon McGee at the legislative briefing.



Our research found that in Connecticut, overlapping sentencing enhancement "superzones" blanket 92% of Bridgeport's residents, while Bridgewater contains just one zone that covers only 8% of the town's residents.

- We supported the Connecticut Legislature's proposal to reduce the size of the zones from 1,500 feet. Although the bill did not pass this session, Aleks testified about our research findings at a legislative hearing and our report's findings were a major contribution towards a successful vote in committee.
- Our Connecticut report received excellent attention in media outlets such as *The Connecticut Law Tribune* and *ThinkProgress*.



Working to end driver's license suspensions for drug offenses unrelated to driving

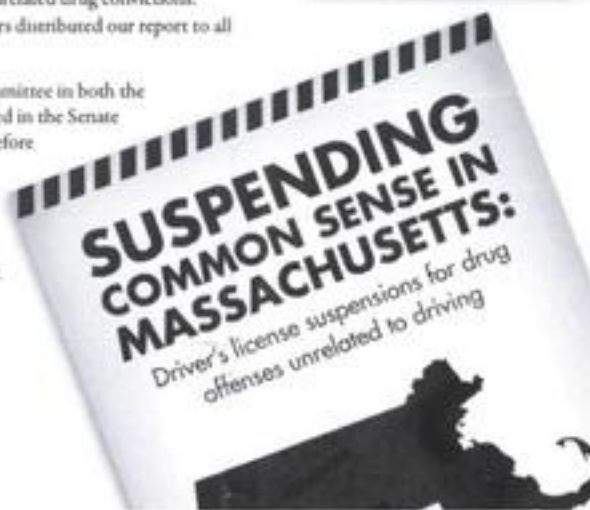
<http://www.prisonpolicy.org/driving/>

Every year, Massachusetts law needlessly suspends the driver's licenses of thousands of the state's residents just because they have been convicted of a drug offense, even if the offense had nothing to do with operating a vehicle or road safety.

- Our May 2014 report, "Suspending Common Sense in Massachusetts: Driver's license suspensions for drug offenses unrelated to driving," is the first to document how these unnecessary license suspensions undermine public safety, destabilize the lives of people with former involvement in the criminal justice system, and waste public resources in the Commonwealth.
- Our report was featured on the home page of the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, a strong advocate for repealing policies that require license suspensions for reasons unrelated to driving.
- Leah, the report's author, gave an invited presentation of our research at a legislative briefing at the Massachusetts State House in support of H3099/S1643, a bill sponsored by Sen. Harriette Chandler and Rep. Liz Malia to end the practice of suspending driver's licenses for unrelated drug convictions. After the briefing, the bill sponsors distributed our report to all Massachusetts Senators.
- The reform bill passed out of committee in both the House and Senate, and even passed in the Senate as an attachment to the budget before the session ended. The bill enjoys a broad base of support within the Massachusetts Legislature, and we're optimistic that it will be successful next year.



Leah presents PPP's research at a legislative briefing at the Massachusetts State House.



Ending the shackling of mothers giving birth while incarcerated in Massachusetts

<http://www.prisonpolicy.org/shackling/>

As a member organization of the Massachusetts Anti-shackling Coalition, the Prison Policy Initiative helped Massachusetts become the 21st state to pass legislation to end the inhumane practice of routinely shackling mothers who are pregnant or giving birth while incarcerated.

Until this year, the state of Massachusetts had no policy to protect incarcerated mothers from being put in harmful restraints (including handcuffs, leg irons, and waist chains) during the later stages of pregnancy and during and after childbirth. On May 15, 2014, after months of dedicated advocacy by the members of the Massachusetts Anti-shackling Coalition, Governor Deval Patrick signed a bill to immediately outlaw the practice of unnecessarily shackling.

To help bring about this victory, the Prison Policy Initiative submitted written testimony in support of the bill, recruited new members of the Massachusetts Anti-shackling Coalition, generated news coverage, and posted blog updates to focus public attention on the issue of shackling.



Pulling back the curtain on mass incarceration

We develop powerful ways to help the public understand that mass incarceration is both unprecedented and counterproductive.

This year we published four innovative reports and a national profile series to provide the movement for criminal justice reform with critical data that was previously — and surprisingly — unavailable. With innovative graphics and hundreds of graphs, our research is laying the foundation for fairer and more effective justice policy.

Mass Incarceration: The Whole Pie

<http://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/pie.html>



This briefing is the first to assemble data on everyone who is incarcerated or confined in different kinds of prisons, jails, and other correctional and detention facilities in the U.S., showing the whole pie of mass incarceration.



The Prison Policy Initiative has, indeed, given us the "whole pie" — ipso facto altering the original question. Rather than asking "how many people are locked up," the question has become "does it really make sense to be imprisoning this many people?"

—Audrey Williams, American Legislator, April 8, 2014

Breaking Down Mass Incarceration in the 2010 Census: State-by-State Incarceration Rates by Race/Ethnicity

<http://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/rates.html>



Shocking but true: The federal Bureau of Justice Statistics stopped publishing information about racial disparities in incarceration by race/ethnicity in each state in 2006. We found a way to use our familiarity with U.S. Census data to fill that critical gap with 200+ graphs.



"The small, independent and incredibly effective Prison Policy Initiative has delivered us a great service once more" with "the most comprehensive breakdown of demographics in our state prison systems to date."

—Pete Brook, Prison Photography, May 29, 2014

Tracking State Prison Growth in 50 States

<http://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/overtime.html>



State — not federal — policy is driving mass incarceration. In each state is charting its own course. This report includes 100+ graphs showing the rise (and occasional decline) of the incarceration rate in every state.

"If you are looking for an excellent primer on the use of incarceration in the United States, you need to read this."

—National Institute of Corrections



States of Incarceration: The Global Context

<http://www.prisonpolicy.org/global/>



With data artist Josh Begley, we released a report with an interactive graphic that compares every U.S. state's use of prison to that of other nations, showing that incarceration in every state — even those with relatively progressive policies — is out of line with the international community.



50 state incarceration profiles

<http://www.prisonpolicy.org/profiles/>

Our 50 state profiles (and a national one) offer one-click access to both the findings of these four new briefings and the highlights of our work in each state over the last 13 years.



The report is "required reading for those people striving to reform the correctional system." It "definitively shows that the use of incarceration by individual states dwarfs the utilization of imprisonment around the world." —National Institute of Corrections

Popularizing criminal justice reform

We see it as part of our mission to help allies from other disciplines and movements become effective criminal justice advocates.

This year we've expanded our efforts to bring new allies into the movement for criminal justice reform. Some of our work this year included:

- Working with YouTube celebrity **Hank Green** on a powerful 4-minute video on the cyclical harms of mass incarceration. This project began when the internet communications company Visual.ly offered to help Hank make a high quality animated video on any topic of his choosing. When Hank chose to focus on incarceration in the U.S. and asked us to help, we said, "absolutely!"

As of this writing, the video has more than 1,149,000 views on YouTube, helping this country understand that the war on crime was failed policy and that "we are living inside a \$75 billion a year failed experiment."

- Helping the *New York Times* "Haggler" column take on the prison telephone industry to show why the exploitation of the families of incarcerated people is an urgent consumer protection matter.
- Helping the major media illustrate why the U.S. must stop using incarceration as a one-size-fits-all response to social problems. Our recent briefings (see pages 14–16) sparked conversations around the country and around the world about how mass incarceration is punishing every member of U.S. society.



Peter giving a Clason Lecture at Western New England University School of Law about the need for lawyers to take up policy work.



The Atlantic
The Leader of the Unfree World
Less incarceration, perhaps the greatest social cause to modern American history, is widely called on a global scale.

The New York Times
Phoning From Prison, at Prices Through the Roof

Research Clearinghouse and Legal Resources for Incarcerated People

<http://www.prisonpolicy.org/resources.html>

Beyond producing original research, the Prison Policy Initiative edits several databases to empower activists, journalists and policy makers to shape effective criminal justice policy.

Our searchable **Research Clearinghouse** contains more than 1,800 entries with empirically rigorous research on criminal justice issues ranging from policing, to the death penalty, to drug policy.

- In the last year, we've added more than 250 new entries with the most recent cutting-edge research on justice reform issues.
- You can now get the newest additions delivered right to your email inbox by signing up for our Research Clearinghouse updates newsletter at <http://www.prisonpolicy.org/subscribe/>.



- Our Legal Resource Guide for Incarcerated People also continues to grow in popularity. We work with legal services providers to update their entries in our guide each year so that we can assure the incarcerated people who write to us, their loved ones on the outside, or the staff of other policy and legal organizations that the referrals on our list are all accurate.

