

Vera Institute of Justice

Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

<https://www.vera.org/research/bridging-the-divide-between-police-and-community>

Policy Issue Resources

Increased national attention on policing in America, as well as national calls for police reform, have pushed many law enforcement agencies to examine current police practices, and assess how effectively those practices contribute to ensuring public safety, officer safety, and building public trust in local police agencies.

Vera's [PEACE Initiative](#) is designed to help police agencies work collaboratively with the communities they serve, to enhance or repair police-community relations, and cultivate trust between all stakeholders. In Asheville, North Carolina Vera worked with local law enforcement and community groups to develop new use of force and de-escalation policies, and is working with other jurisdictions to facilitate police-community engagement and enhance public safety.

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On September 26, thousands of people held in Alabama state prisons went on strike. The Alabama Department of Corrections (ADOC) has been under federal investigation since 2016, and conditions inside the state prisons are among the deadliest in the nation. Strikers say the horrific conditions include overcrowding, neglect, abuse, and a drug epidemic ...

As we approach the first midterm election since the January 6 Capitol Hill riot, the integrity of our elections is under more scrutiny than ever. Fearmongering around the myth of voter fraud is a deliberate tactic at the local, state, and federal level, and mass incarceration is central to that strategy. This summer, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis ...

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