

# Vera Institute of Justice

## Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

**<https://www.vera.org/blog/new-op-ed-co-authored-by-vera-president-nick-turner>**

## Public Facing Advocacy Writing

*It sounds like the first line of a joke: "Three state corrections teams and some experts who are old hands at visiting prisons go to meet their warden counterparts in Germany and the Netherlands in mid-January to see what they could learn."*

*But it's a true story and what high-level delegations from Colorado, Georgia, and Pennsylvania learned through the Vera Institute of Justice's [European-American Prison Project](#) is no laughing matter. What we learned, in fact, has serious and timely boots-on-the-ground implications.*

So begins an [op-ed](#) by Vera President Nick Turner and Pennsylvania Department of Corrections Secretary John Wetzel in *National Journals* The Next America. Read about what those implications are, how Pennsylvania has taken action, and some strategies for reducing reoffending and creating stronger people and stronger and safer communities.

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