

# Vera Institute of Justice

## Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

<https://www.vera.org/research/covid-19-and-jail-releases>

### Policy Issue Resources

This webinar explores how counties are working to release people from their jails during the COVID-19 pandemic and how they can support the people coming out of jail. County justice system representatives and community partners also discuss the mechanisms counties are using to reduce the number of people in jail in order to prevent the spread of infection, how to collaborate with community organizations to facilitate release, and how to communicate with the public about these efforts. Panelists share lessons learned that could be sustained beyond the pandemic.

- Tiffany Iheanacho, Justice Resource Coordinator, Buncombe County, North Carolina
- Era Laudermilk, Deputy of Policy & Strategic Planning, Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender
- Patrick Sullivan, Site Launch Coordinator and Site Manager, The Bail Project
- Claire Starling, Assistant District Attorney, Milwaukee County District Attorneys Office

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It appears to be just a matter of time until things get much worse, especially when one considers the lack of rural health care resources: 128 hospitals have closed in rural counties since 2010. People in jails and prisons are among the people most at risk for contracting COVID-19 and rural America is home to a large number of state and federal pri ...

The coronavirus, or COVID-19, has been declared by the World Health Organization to be a global pandemic. As the number of people infected in the United States grows exponentially, we must focus on prevention and containment in the criminal and immigration legal systems. Vera and Community Oriented Correctional Health Services have created a series ...

When COVID-19 struck, many jails and prisons were poorly equipped to provide even basic medical care. Yet, the onset of the pandemic found the country's mass incarceration system shamefully well-equipped with punitive solitary confinement cells. As it became clear that incarcerated people were in grave danger, public health experts recommended dec ...

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