

# Vera Institute of Justice

## Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

<https://www.vera.org/state-of-justice-reform/2017>

### Policy Issue Resources

In order to drive change in the justice system, one must pay attention to the map. In this interactive report, Vera Institute of Justice (Vera) identifies the major trends and developments that occurred across the country during the first year of a new administration. It also looks ahead, to how this new landscape will inform criminal justice reform work in a critical election year. This isn't the last word, but rather the start of a conversation about what is and isn't working to reform America's justice system.

Join us.

Much of police reform in the United States takes place at the state level and in the approximately 18,000 local law enforcement agencies.

Like many justice reform organizations, Vera is often asked, What are the latest and most interesting developments in the field? This question has grown more common as more and more people confront the need to improve the nation's broken justice system and want to help.

Across the country, judges, jurisdictions, police chiefs, public defenders, prosecutors, and allies took up the mantle of justice reform. Our interactive report, *The State of Justice Reform*, cites major trends and developments during the first year of a new administration, and informs reform in a critical election year. Below, we highlight some of our favorite justice-related podcasts, books, documentaries, and social media influencers from 2017:

Share the facts about criminal justice reform with your networks. Together, we can build and improve justice systems that ensure fairness, promote safety, and strengthen communities.

Explore how justice reform issues play out in the media and popular culture through these spotlights on key moments in the news.

What does justice reform look like in your state?

We are grateful to the many people who helped bring the State of Justice Reform 2017 to life. This project was made possible in part by the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#) and [Open Philanthropy](#).