



## THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO

*HOME OF THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME*



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### **Bail Reform Legislation to be Submitted to Massachusetts House of Representatives**

*Who: Mayor Domenic J. Sarno, Hampden District Attorney Anthony Gulluni, State Representative Angelo Puppolo and State Representative Michael Finn*

*What: Submission of Bail Reform Legislation*

*Where: Springfield City Hall, Room 220, Springfield, MA 01103*

*When: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 at 3:15 p.m.*

**September 21, 2015 -Springfield, MA-** Mayor Domenic J. Sarno, Hampden District Attorney Anthony Gulluni, State Representative Angelo Puppolo and State Representative Michael Finn will hold a press conference on Tuesday afternoon announcing the submission of legislation that puts the Commonwealth on equal footing with defendants as it relates to the ability of appealing bail set in District Court. Currently, when bail is levied in district court, offenders have the right to appeal to a judge in Superior Court and then to a single justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, the Commonwealth cannot.

It is important to note under this proposed legislation an appeal by the Commonwealth must occur by the close of the following business day as to not draw out the process. These proposed changes were initiated after an alarming trend of repeat violent offenders returning to the streets after having to meet and comply with little or any bail after arraignment became apparent. It has been a common occurrence for offenders to be back out on the streets after being arrested multiple times by the Springfield Police Department.

While the proposed legislation seeks to even the playing field it does not take away any current rights of defendants. It is to be one more tool in keeping violent offenders off of our streets and away from terrorizing residents.

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