



THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO

HOME OF THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME



Press Release, Contact: Jim Leydon, (413) 886-5166, JLeydon@springfieldcityhall.com,

Mayor Sarno Responds to the Hampden County Bar Association's Statement on Low Bail for Violent Repeat Offenders

Mayor Domenic J. Sarno's response to the Hampden County Bar Association's protection of low bail Judges, "I am fighting for the protection of the citizens of Springfield.....They are fighting for the protection of violent repeat hard core gun toting drug dealers and gang banging offenders.

Commissioner Barbieri and our brave and dedicated public safety officials and I have been targeting and arresting the hard core repeat violent offenders. Commissioner Barbieri and I have a litany of cases in which these individuals have been released back on our streets of Springfield to wreak havoc in hot spot areas. I ask these court officials, if they would welcome and/or tolerate these negative individuals on their streets and in their neighborhoods. As far as the bail legislation, we have proposed this is to give an equal playing field to the Commonwealth so that we can, as defendants can, appeal to Superior Court and/or a single justice of the State Supreme Court, again defendants can, we the people can't.

Commissioner Barbieri, public safety officials and I are not looking to point fingers on this devastating Urban American crisis, but we are looking for the spirit of understanding, cooperation and respect about the devastating effects these repeat violent offenders' negative actions have on our residents."

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