

#LessIsMoreNY

Less Mass Supervision = More Safety and Justice

LESS MASS
SUPERVISION
EQUALS
MORE SAFETY
AND JUSTICE

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The Impact of #LessIsMoreNY: Frank's Story

BACKGROUND: Frank was incarcerated for 12 years in the New York State prison system. He was on parole for an additional six years until he was discharged from parole early due to the Less Is More NY, parole reform law. He currently lives in Rochester.

FRANK POVOSKI, KATAL MEMBER:

"The anxiety and stress I experienced while being on parole was extremely overwhelming. Knowing that at any moment I could be re-incarcerated—simply because I could have been late for curfew, among other noncriminal technical violations. While on parole, there was an instance when I was walking my dog in the afternoon right before my curfew; I got stung by a bee and went into anaphylactic shock. Police were called and the ambulance came to assess the situation. On that day, my biggest concern was not my health, but making sure I could call my parole officer to let him know where I was so I wouldn't get violated. I was on parole supervision for six years without a violation and finally, because of Less Is More, I was discharged on March 1st.

Personally, the greatest impact of this reform for me has been the ability to leave the ever ominous and restrictive supervision a full two years early, significantly improving my quality of life. Continuing on supervision for such an extended period when I exhibited adherence to the law and supervision rules simply made supervision a frivolous exercise, wasteful of my resources and that of other taxpayers. Now I am able to return to a normal existence without the stress and anxiety of worrying about my parole conditions. I do not have to worry that I might not make it home on time from a family event, events that were usually cut short because of my curfew. I don't have to worry about 6 a.m. visits and home "searches," when I might not hear the door and be presumed to be in violation of parole. I can now travel out of state to visit my relatives I have not seen in years because of supervision. I don't have to spend an entire morning once a week waiting in line to visit my parole officer when I could otherwise be working. I can be employed without the fear that my employer or co-workers will have an adverse reaction when my parole officer makes a visit to my workplace. I can simply walk my dog outside of a 7 a.m. or 9 p.m. curfew, like many other citizens do. **Less Is More is drastically improving the lives of those on parole and their families."**

For more information about Less Is More or to share your story, please contact:

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