

\$21,000,000 Per Year

The amount of money the City of Philadelphia could save by releasing some non-violent sentenced offenders from jail (with judicial approval) and putting them on Probation/Parole and in rehabilitation or re-entry programs.

City Cost

1250 Non-violent sentenced offenders in prison:	\$43,750,000¹
1250 Non-violent sentenced offenders on Probation/Parole:	\$875,000²

Place 1250 non-violent sentenced offenders on Probation/Parole by hiring 11 new County Probation/Parole Officers

FOR A TOTAL SAVINGS OF: \$42,875,000 per year

Even 50% SAVES:

(In light of associated costs)

\$21,437,500 per year

Through simple rehabilitation programs, non-violent offenders released from jail can become working tax payers, who contribute to the City of Philadelphia by paying their bills, mortgages, debts and child support. Why keep non-violent offenders in jail, at high costs, when they can be rehabilitated to become productive citizens?

Demand that Mayor Nutter consider this revenue option!

FACTS

Total number of offenders in County prisons:	9,661 ¹
Total number of sentenced non-violent offenders in County prison:	1,636 ¹
Yearly cost per County offender in prison:	\$95 a day / \$34,675 a year ¹
Average yearly cost per County offender on Probation/Parole:	\$680 a year ²
Average caseload for County Probation/Parole Officers:	117 offenders ²

Releasing 1250 non-violent offenders from jail means hiring:

11 New County Probation/Parole Officers

Professional Quote:

“Enhance probation and parole; Jurisdictions have taken a variety of actions including increasing the number of Parole Officers and ensuring that inmates are not returned to custody for technical violations of Parole. Philadelphia should pursue both of these actions.”³

-The present City Finance Director, Rob Dubow, in 2007 when he was the Executive Director of PICA made the above recommendation.

Savings Calculations

$$1250 \text{ (non-violent offenders)} \times \$34,675 \text{ (yearly cost per offender in custody)} = \$43,343,750^1$$

$$1250 \text{ (non-violent offenders)} \times \$680 \text{ (average yearly cost per offender on Probation/Parole)} = \$850,000^2$$

Savings: \$42,439,750 per year

50% of Savings (In light of associated costs): \$21,246,875 per year

1: Philly Stat Meeting on Public Safety, February 18, 2009

2: Senate Judiciary Committee Public Hearing for County Probation and Parole Services; City Hall, Philadelphia, PA; Sept. 12, 2008

3: Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority- City Budget Behind Bars: Increasing Prison Population Drives Rapidly Escalating Costs; March 22, 2007