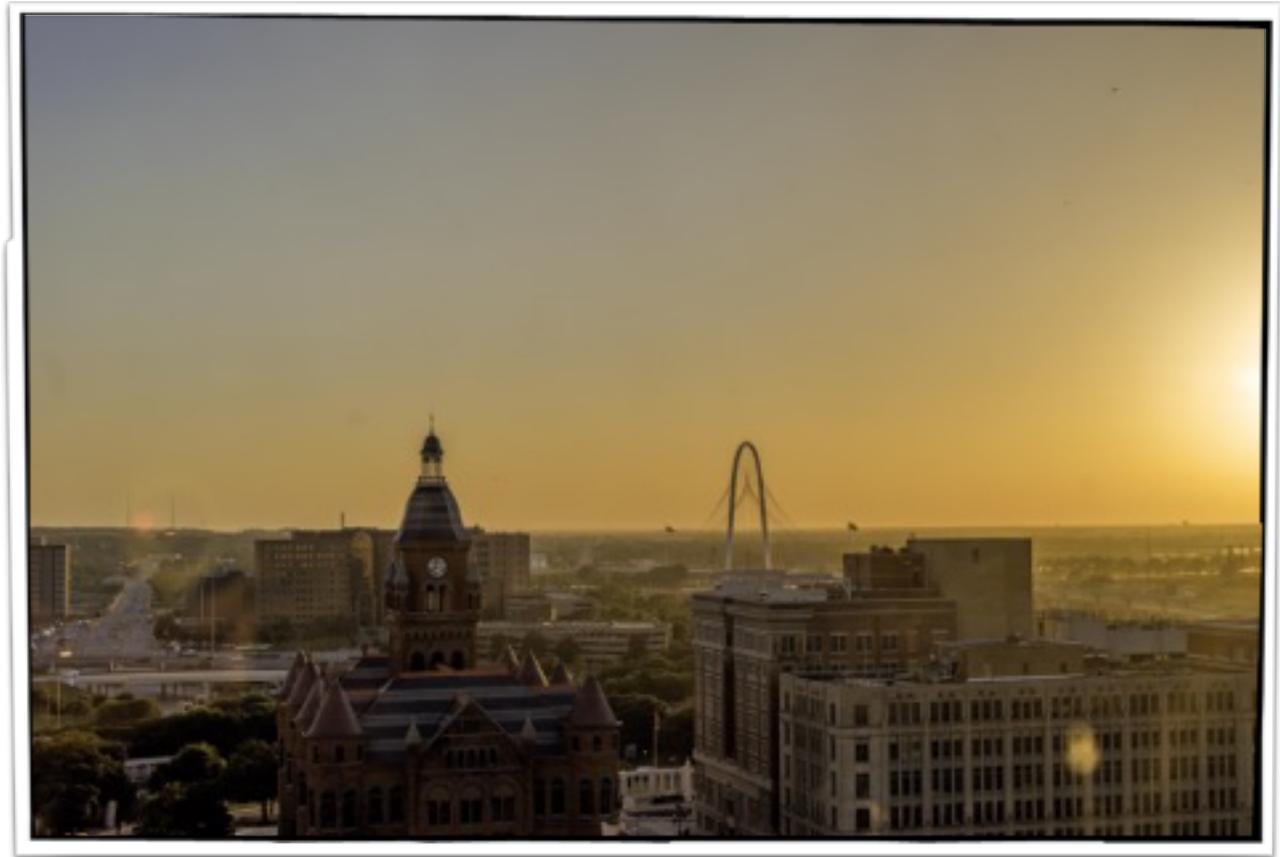


## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dallas County is putting far too many Black, Latino. And low-income White women and men in jail unnecessarily. Although there are people in our justice system attempting to incorporate special programs we are still falling short in the fight to reduce incarceration, hold police, judges and prosecutors accountable and prevent gun violence.

- **Between 1985 and 2014 the per capita jail population in Dallas County more than doubled**
- **Three out of four inmates in Dallas County jails in 2014 had not been convicted of any crime**
- **Blacks make up less than one-quarter of the population of Dallas County, but more than half of the jail population**
- **In 2014, more than 11% of all Texas prison inmates had been convicted in Dallas County**  
**Homicide rates in Dallas are rising, but the city has not adopted an evidenced based Ceasefire approach to interrupt gun violence**
- **Dallas County has followed the lead of Austin City and more than 100 jurisdictions across the country in banning the box on job applications to promote fair hiring of formerly incarcerated men and women. Dallas City does not have a fair hiring policy in place.**
- **Dallas Independent School District currently has Restorative Justice programs designed to break the school-to-prison pipeline in less than 3% of its 227 schools**
- **Dallas County has not put in place policies – including eliminating cash bail – designed to prevent people from spending time in jail simply because they are poor.**
- **While the county's Second Chance courts and diversion court programs are great initiatives, they are limited in their geographic scope, funding, and personnel and there is much more that Dallas could do to divert people with mental health and drug problems out of the jail system.**
- **Dallas County continues to collaborate with ICE detainers rather than leaving immigration enforcement to the federal government, as many cities and counties across the country have done to promote public safety**
- **The Dallas County District Attorney's office has not adopted responsible prosecutor practices, such as reporting on racial disparities in charging and providing pre-trial services within 24 hours to people who've been arrested as standard practice.**

Mass incarceration may be a national issue, but solving it requires sustained local action in Dallas County. The good news is that there are tested research-based policies that other counties across the nation have adopted that have succeeded in reducing the number of people in jail and under the supervision of the criminal justice system, while making communities safer and refocusing public resources on education, training, drug treatment and violence prevention.



**This report is a call for leadership. Elected law enforcement officials, in Dallas County, and across the United States, must choose whether to provide leadership to end mass incarceration and criminalization, or step aside, and let others lead.**