

**James Nolan**

Minority Whip  
Legislator, 15th District  
Chair, Committee on Appointments



Committee Assignments:  
Budget & Appropriations  
Parks & Recreation

I am writing this letter to recommend that Yonkers and Eastchester's Albany Delegation do what is needed and make necessary reforms to our Criminal Justice laws in New York State. The 2019 Cashless Bail Reform Law and The 2017 Raise The Age Law have allowed violence to augment in our Community and its time for our delegation to reform these laws.

I am the brother of someone who was murdered because someone was released from jail and shouldn't have been. I will continue to advocate to protect my constituents from criminals who shouldn't be out on the streets.

Recently, two NYPD officers were murdered while on the job. P.O. Jason Rivera's widow gave the eulogy at his funeral. She said "This system continues to fail us. We are not safe anymore, not even the members of the service. I know you were tired of these laws, especially the ones from the new DA. I hope he's watching you speak through me right now." These words have never been truer.

This policy of catch and release for criminals in New York State needs to come to an end. It begins with us working together. I encourage you to amend the "Cashless Bail Law" and empower Judges to make decisions whether or not to release a criminal. I encourage you to amend the "Raise The Age Law" so that minors who conduct heinous crimes are held responsible & let the judges see their arrest records. Other reforms that I think are necessary are reforms for the discovery process and desk appearance tickets that will help protect our community. These tweaks may seem daunting but to the Police Officers, Judges, and District Attorneys, they will help go a long way. The residents of Westchester County Legislature, District 15, as well as the rest of the residents of New York State depend on you to help make home a safer place.

Attached are recommended changes to the aforementioned laws. If my office can be of any assistance, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Hon. James Nolan  
Westchester County Legislator, District 15