



COUNTY OF DUTCHESS

Marcus J. Molinaro
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

To: Mary Ellen Still, Chair, Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council

From: Marcus J. Molinaro, County Executive 

Date: January 27, 2022

Re: Nassau County Executive Order on Effects of Bail Reform

Since Bail Reform has been enacted in New York, specifically the sections regarding “no bail” offenses, there has been considerable discussion concerning the impact these changes have had on the level of criminal activity. The 2019 bail reform law prohibits the setting of cash bail by judges for most misdemeanors and non-violent felonies. I am interested in knowing how much crime is occurring in Dutchess County by individuals who before the reforms might have been incarcerated and thereby unable to commit any crimes while awaiting adjudication of their original offense.

On January 19, 2022, Nassau County Executive Bruce A. Blakeman issued Executive Order Number 4-2022 directing the Nassau County Police Department to increase transparency by disclosing in daily reports pending criminal case data and bail status of individuals re-arrested by the department. Presently, the Nassau County Police Department is developing new policies to enable them to identify and publicize the names of defendants not given bail on a previous charge who are re-arrested. The purpose of the directive is to inform the community about the impact of the 2019 bail reform law.

I am requesting the Criminal Justice Council to explore whether a similar report could be developed for Dutchess County. I recognize that certain considerations may need to be taken into account since our county has more law enforcement agencies and courts than Nassau County. Please research this issue and provide me with a recommendation for creating a similar type report that provides information on defendants released with no bail who are re-arrested while pending a criminal charge.

Thank you.

cc: William F.X. O’Neil, Deputy County Executive/Chief of Staff