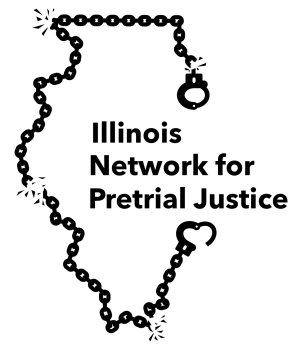


September 13, 2023

Morgan County State's Attorney Gray Noll  
President, Illinois State's Attorneys Association  
Morgan County Courthouse, Third Floor  
300 West State Street  
Jacksonville, IL 62650  
*Sent via email* [REDACTED]



**Re: Implementation of the Pretrial Fairness Act**

Dear State's Attorney Noll:

The 80 undersigned faith, policy, advocacy, legal, and community organizations write to call on you to work with your fellow court stakeholders to properly implement the Pretrial Fairness Act on September 18th. With the court cases behind us, elected officials and court actors in all counties have a responsibility to work together for the good of all Illinoisians. Any further attempts to undermine the Pretrial Fairness Act would dismiss the will of the people and jeopardize public safety.

This law was supported by people across our state, passed by our legislature, and signed into law by our governor because wealth-based jailing is one of the most flagrant injustices in our criminal legal system. For decades, Illinois has locked up tens of thousands of people, not because they posed a threat to others, but only because they were poor. This practice has disproportionately impacted people of color in Illinois, particularly low-income Black people. The money bond system extracted millions of dollars from our state's Black, Brown, and poor residents, causing them to lose their homes, jobs, and custody of their children.

Some members of your association have opposed this legislation and spread misinformation about it from the moment it was introduced and have continued to engage in fear-mongering about its impact even after it was upheld by our highest court. Others have supported this reform from the beginning, while more came to the table to collaborate on making modifications in the trailer bill. Some prosecutors have acknowledged your collective responsibility to abide by the law in the wake of the recent ruling. Every member of the State's Attorneys Association has a responsibility to call on its members to cease all continued attempts to deliberately obstruct the law's implementation. Ample time and space was provided to craft this policy and prepare to enact it—now it's time to put differences aside to protect community safety and the rights of those harmed and those accused.

Every Illinoisan deserves a court system that follows both the letter and the spirit of the law. This is true whether they reside in a large or small county, in an urban or rural setting, are seeking protection from someone who has caused them harm, or are providing for their family while mounting their legal defense. The Pretrial Fairness Act is not a suggestion or guideline—it is a law that was crafted thoughtfully over many years and has now been duly enacted or upheld by all three branches of our state government. Elected officials and court actors in all counties have a sworn duty to adhere to this law.

We are committed to bringing a fairer system to our state through the successful implementation of the Pretrial Fairness Act, and we ask that you join in the collective effort to bring about the safety and justice that everyone in our state deserves. Our Network intends to closely monitor the implementation of the law across the state. As we did throughout the process of the Supreme Court working groups and in negotiating the trailer bill, we stand ready to participate in good-faith discussions with stakeholders committed to effectively implementing the law. We welcome additional discussion on how we can jointly ensure successful implementation of the Pretrial Fairness Act. Please reach out to us at [info@endmoneybond.org](mailto:info@endmoneybond.org) to schedule a conversation or reply to this letter.

Sincerely,

Illinois Network for Pretrial Justice and supporting organizations:

33rd Ward Working Families	First Defense Legal Aid
A Just Harvest	First United Methodist Church of Oak Park
ACLU of Illinois	Fox Valley Citizens for Peace & Justice
American Friends Service Committee - Chicago	Health & Medicine Policy Research Group
Apna Ghar, Inc.	Illinois Aging Together
Ascend Justice	Illinois Alliance for Reentry & Justice
Asian Americans Advancing Justice   Chicago	Illinois Black Advocacy Initiative
BlackRoots Alliance	Illinois Harm Reduction & Recovery Coalition
Brighton Park Neighborhood Council	Illinois NOW
BUILD, Inc.	Illinois Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism (RAC-IL)
CAIR Chicago	Illinois Social Justice Alliance
Champaign County Bailout Coalition	Impact for Equity
Change Peoria	Indivisible Chicago - South Side
Chicago Abortion Fund	JCUA
Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation (CAASE)	John Howard Association
Chicago Appleseed Center for Fair Courts	JOLT Foundation
Chicago Community Bond Fund	Law Enforcement Action Partnership
Chicago Council of Lawyers	League of Women Voters Illinois
Chicago United Solidarity Project	Live Free Illinois
Children's Best Interest Project	Loevy & Loevy Attorneys at Law
Coalition Legal	Lucy Parsons Labs
Color of Change	Mujeres Latinas en Accion
Community Renewal Society	National Lawyers Guild of Chicago
Concerned Citizens of Precinct #12	Nikkei Uprising
Criminal Justice Task Force at First Unitarian Church of Chicago	Northside Transformative Law Center
Elliott Counseling Group	Palenque LSNA
Equality Illinois	Parole Illinois
Faith Coalition for the Common Good	Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation
Farmworker and Landscaper Advocacy Project	Pretrial Justice Institute
	Prison Policy Initiative

Pushing Envelopes Chicago  
Resistor Sisterhood  
Restore Justice  
Revolution Workshop  
Rockford Urban Ministries  
She Votes Illinois  
Silver Law Office PC  
SisterReach Illinois  
Southsiders Organized for Unity and Liberation  
(SOUL)  
Students for Sensible Drug Policy  
Texas Jail Project

The Network: Advocating Against Domestic  
Violence  
The People's Lobby  
The Porchlight Collective SAP  
Unitarian Universalist Advocacy Network of  
Illinois  
United Congregations of the Metro East  
Uptown People's Law Center  
Urbana-Champaign Reproductive Justice  
Women's Justice Institute  
YWCA Champaign County  
YWCA Southwestern Illinois