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Less Is More: Community Supervision Revocation Reform Act (S.1343B – Benjamin / A.5493A – Mosley)

“Parole officers have a power that can be abused, or at least not always be used in the best interest of the person on parole.”
— Wesley Caines, 2017

Wesley Caines, a re-entry and community outreach coordinator with the Bronx Defenders, said “parole officers have enormous power over the lives of those on parole—not only with how they punish violators, but also in determining whether people on parole can get a job and where they can live. It’s a power that can be abused, or at least not always be used in the best interest of the person on parole.”

The system is set up in such an arbitrary way that if a parolee moves from one borough to another he’s playing by a completely different set of rules. Caines said he’s had instances where a parole officer will grant a parolee a curfew extension to keep his job, but when the person on parole relocates, he gets transferred to another parole officer who won’t make the same concession. Caines said that in those cases, the person on parole often ends up losing his job.

*Source: The Appeal. “As New York Decarcerates, the Number of People Under Supervision of Parole Rises”, by Victoria Law. February 1, 2018

About the #LessIsMoreNY Campaign

#LessIsMoreNY is a statewide coalition of community groups, service providers, and public safety experts working together to pass the Less Is More Act to reduce jail and prison populations; support people who are subject to community supervision in the reentry process; promote safety and justice for families and communities; and save taxpayers money. We call on the Governor and Legislature to pass the bill, capture the savings that will result from reform, and reinvest those savings back into the communities most harmed by mass incarceration and crime.

For more info and to join #LessIsMoreNY, contact:  
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