

Dear USSC:

I write to urge that you end the practice of "stacking" sentences and allow the judges who see and understand the cases before them to determine sentences. Mandatory sentences were legislated when politicians from both parties--despite the evidence of what really works to reduce crime--vied to show who could be toughest on crime. The crime rate has dropped and Americans now understand that excessive incarceration is destructive to the fabric of the very communities hurt by criminal offenses. I hope that you, like the Supreme Court, will keep in mind that standards of public morality change. We cannot jail our way out of crime and never could; but now the evidence for this is well established.

Please do what is right for the country, its taxpayers, and for struggling communities. After ten years of working directly with incarcerated people, would welcome any request for further input on this issue.

Sincerely,

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