

From: [Pauli Halstead](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Requesting a Public Forum on Arrest and Release of homeless felons into the Community
Date: Friday, October 9, 2020 6:26:34 AM

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Dear Supervisors;

Why is it the policy of Nevada County to continue to release mentally ill and addicted felons back into the community and not arrange for permanent supportive housing for them? We are not finding a solution nor budgeting adequately for this situation and it needs to be addressed at the Community Corrections Partnership meetings, which hopefully will resume, after a year and a half of not meeting.

Our no bail, and "lame" risk-assessment policy, leaves the community at risk. Aaron Campbell, a homeless felon, was just released after a few days in jail. No court appearance or risk assessment? How did that happen? Aaron stabbed two people in Grass Valley, one seriously, who was hospitalized in Roseville. How did he get out of jail without a risk assessment? Now we have another dangerous mentally ill homeless felon in our community.

I think it's high time to have a public discussion about this. I am requesting initiating a forum with the Board of Supervisors on this topic. The dumping of homeless felons and individuals with criminal misdemeanors back into the community has to stop. The purpose of AB109 Realignment was to protect the public. It's not going well in Nevada County.

California is getting ready to vote again on the no bail law. I am in favor of no bail for those who cannot afford it, but not if we are circumventing the "risk assessment" hearing. And remember, Gabrielle Strickland did have a risk assessment hearing, (was a high-risk felon) and our system let him out anyway without any supervision in place. Now he is dead as a result.

We keep letting these individuals go without sufficient diagnosis and treatment, or a place to live. It's just a matter of time before we have another Laura Wilcox incident. The people that Aaron stabbed could have been killed. He is still out there just as mentally ill as ever.

It is the responsibility of the County Law Enforcement system, and our Courts, to protect the public. I do not see this happening with the current arrest and release (risk-assessment) policy. Our Stepping up Program is not finding a solution to this problem either. People are not receiving adequate mental health care in jail, or upon release, and many do not have a safe place to live.

What could go wrong, "has" gone wrong.

Sincerely,

Pauli Halstead

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