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### **Passaic Vicinage to Hold Series of Community Forums on Criminal Justice Reform**

Passaic Vicinage will sponsor a series of community forums on criminal justice reform this month at public libraries in Paterson, Wayne and Clifton.

The forums will be held:

- Monday, Dec. 19 from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Paterson Free Public Library, 250 Broadway, Paterson.
- Thursday, Dec. 22 from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Wayne Public Library, 461 Valley Road, Wayne.
- Thursday, Dec. 22 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in Community Room B of the Clifton Public Library, 292 Piaget Ave., Clifton.

The events will provide the public with information about the upcoming reforms, which go into effect on Jan. 1, and the impact they will have on the community. Criminal justice reform will transform New Jersey's justice system from one that relies principally on monetary bail as a condition of pre-trial release to a risk-based system that bases pre-trial release decisions on an examination of objective factors.

The new system will allow for defendants who present a risk of violence to be held without bail, while low-risk defendants will be released with appropriate levels of monitoring and supervision to await trial. It also sets deadlines for the filing of indictments and the disposition of criminal charges for incarcerated defendants.

For more information, call Edward Wingren at 973-247-8099.