

Wilmington, Delaware
June 20, 2019

#4680

Sponsors:

**Council
President
Shabazz**

Co-Sponsors:

**Council
Members
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WHEREAS, the Delaware Department of Corrections (DOC) Annual Report of 2017 identified through its Unified System, that The DOC operates a unified correctional system (includes detention, jail & prison populations) that in FY 2017, DOC incarcerated approximately 6,400 offenders within its ten correctional facilities (4 prisons; 4 community corrections centers; 2 violation of probation centers). There are six Probation & Parole offices. DOC also supervises approximately 14,500 offenders in the community; and

WHEREAS, within this unified system, DOC maintains 5 offender supervision levels:

- Level V – 24 Hour Incarceration
- Level IV – Work Release Centers, Home Confinement (electronic monitoring), Residential Drug Treatment, & Violation of Probation Centers
- Level III - Intensive Probation Services
- Level II – Standard Probation
- Level I - Administrative Probation

WHEREAS, within this unified system, DOC statistics from FY 2017 indicated that in the Level V offender supervision category there were 5,500 inmates of which 61% were serving sentences longer than 1 year; 9% were serving sentences of a year or less; 21% were Detainees awaiting trial; 9% were serving Life Sentences; and

WHEREAS, within this unified system, DOC statistics from FY 2017 indicated in the Level V offender supervision category by Sex there were 5,111 Males comprising 93% of the population and 389 Females comprising 7% of the population; and

WHEREAS, within this unified system, DOC statistics from FY 2017 indicated in the Level V offender supervision category by Race and Ethnicity there were 1,949 White inmates, 3,316 Black inmates, 225 Hispanic or Latino inmates, 7 Asian/Pacific Islander inmates, 1 American/Alaskan Native inmates; and, 2 Unknown/Missing Race/Ethnicity inmates; and

WHEREAS, in FY 2017, the DOC Annual Report indicated there was an Admissions number of 16,368 inmates into Delaware prisons and a Release number of 16,437; and

WHEREAS, thousands of people return to Wilmington annually from federal, state, and local prisons each year; and

WHEREAS, Wilmingtonians returning from Delaware jails and federal prisons also experience high rates of recidivism; and

WHEREAS, high recidivism rates carry heavy consequences for the individuals, families, and communities most directly impacted; and

WHEREAS, reducing recidivism can produce cost savings that can be invested in preventive approaches to enhance public safety; and

WHEREAS, in Wilmington nonprofits, government and businesses are coming together to create better opportunities for returning citizens to fully re-integrate into their communities; and

WHEREAS, Wilmington's increasing focus on Re-Entry is occurring in the context of a growing understanding of the importance of Re-Entry at the national level, as evidenced by the announcement by the U.S. Department of Justice of the inaugural National Reentry Week in April 2016; and

WHEREAS, Re-Entry advocates support the recognition of June as Re-Entry Month in the City of Wilmington, as a time to remind us that returning citizens should always be afforded the full rights of a citizen, be prepared for and find life supporting employment and access decent, affordable housing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that this Council hereby recognizes June as Re-Entry Month and strongly encourages the Delaware General Assembly to also recognize June as Re-Entry Month in Delaware.

Passed by City Council,

Attest: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution recognizes June as Re-Entry Month and strongly encourages the Delaware General Assembly to also recognize June as Re-Entry Month in Delaware.