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Statement of Columbia University Justice Lab Co-director Vincent Schiraldi on Release of Philadelphia Rap Artist Meek Mill

Mill’s release occurs on eve of new Justice Lab Report showing PA’s extraordinarily high rates of parole and probation supervision contributing to state’s incarceration rates.

New York - “There may be a temptation for some to breathe a sigh of relief now that Meek Mill has been released,” stated Vincent Schiraldi, who is also the former Commissioner of Probation in New York City. “But Meek Mill was not alone. Although the High Court’s action should be applauded, 296,000 people are still on probation and parole in Pennsylvania – almost the population of Pittsburgh. They were filling Pennsylvania’s jails and prisons yesterday, and will continue to do so tomorrow and the day after that, until policymakers reduce the size and punitiveness of mass supervision in Pennsylvania.”

The Columbia Justice Lab will release the Pennsylvania Community Corrections Story tomorrow analyzing the high rates of probation and parole supervision and the contribution that is making to incarceration in Pennsylvania at http://justicelab.iserp.columbia.edu/.

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