

# **Citizens' Petition Regarding Personal Recognizance Bond Usage in Fremont County Colorado.**

**TO:**

- **The Honorable Jared Polis, Governor of Colorado**
- **Stephanie Luck, State Representative for Fremont County**
- **Mark Baisley, State Senator for Fremont County**
- **Jeff Lindsey, District Attorney for the 11th Judicial District**
- **Judges of Fremont County**
- **Fremont County Commissioners**
- **Cañon City City Council**
- **Republican and Democratic Candidates for Governor**

## **Citizens' Statement of Concern Regarding PR Bond Usage**

**We, the citizens of Cañon City and Fremont County,** are deeply troubled by what appears to be an excessive use of Personal Recognizance (PR) bonds in our community.

### **Our specific concerns include:**

1. Multiple arrests, same-day releases: We have documented instances where individuals are arrested twice in a single day and released on PR bonds both times, undermining any immediate consequence for criminal behavior.
2. Bond revocation followed by immediate re-release: We have observed cases where individuals arrested for bond revocation are subsequently released again on PR bonds, creating a revolving door that renders the original bond conditions meaningless.

These patterns raise serious questions about our justice system's commitment to public safety and its ability to provide meaningful deterrence against criminal activity. We understand this likely needs a legislative solution and is bigger than our own community.

**The Impact on Our Community:**

As law-abiding citizens, we are witnessing the erosion of consequences for criminal behavior, which deeply concerns us on multiple levels:

- Officer morale: We worry about the impact on our dedicated law enforcement officers who risk their safety to make arrests, only to see those same individuals back on the streets within hours with no tangible accountability.
- Community confidence: Our faith in the justice system's ability to protect us is being tested when arrests appear to result in immediate freedom rather than appropriate consequences.
- Public safety: We are experiencing an unsettling reality where it appears that the rights and convenience of those who commit crimes against our persons and property take precedence over the safety and security of law-abiding citizens.

**Our Position:**

We are not advocating for punitive measures without due process, but we are calling for a justice system that takes criminal behavior seriously and provides meaningful deterrence. The current approach seems to prioritize the freedom of alleged offenders over the safety and peace of mind of the citizens they are accused of victimizing.

We deserve a community where criminal behavior has real consequences, where our law enforcement efforts are supported by appropriate judicial responses, and where citizens can feel confident that their safety and property rights are truly protected.

We respectfully request a thorough review of current PR bond policies and their implementation to ensure they serve the interests of justice and public safety.

## **Signed,**

Shylah Robinson, Erin Smith, Becky Morin, Edward Martin, Chris Wood, Gary Fagan, Becky J. Langston, Brenda Biggs, Kurt McDermott, Shanna Jenkins, Kristen McGarvin Namminga, Zoetta Basgal Staehle, David Silverman, Will Namminga, Deborah Butner, Sherril Scott, Jenette Medley, Jeff Lofgren, Carry Black, John Williamson, Rayna Gunter, Renee Rethwisch, Will Smith, Mike Fowler, Candace Bailey, Elizabeth Herring, Bev Wahl, Julie Nash, Angel Azrael, Lindsay Kittel, Isomila Gafan, David Shoemaker, Catherine Sorge, Angie Rodenbeck, Jennifer Howard, Lori Jones, Leon Drew, Nikesha Sartor, GM Williams, Robin Shaw-Rivard, Aaron Malejko, Kevin Rivard, Molly Hamilton, Mike Johnson, Callie Wolking, Mary Anne Surcouf, Sandra Smith Mendoza, Andrew Basham, Jerry Smith, Amanda Platt, Dustin Sargent, Kerry Smith, Isabel Montano, Jennifer Clements, Ashley Hart, Misty Chappel-Heifner, Sandi Montague Wimmer, Heather Allen, Wendy Foster, Helen Jones, Rachel Timlin, Gerald L. Schott, Cathy Schmidt, Amy Jordan Massa, Constance Duncan, Jennifer Keegan, Daphne Underwood-Horn, Audra Hopkins, Katherine Brown-Keeney, Brenda Burkett, Shirley Shoemaker, Linda Stone, Lindsay Saylor, Dawn Lincoln, Dee Dee Smelker-Leonhardt, Joy Jones, Clara Zenisky, Phil Lund, Rae Garcia, Berna Repar, Cindy Gaffney, Lacey Unruh, Martha Teigen, Abby Burton, Lynette Howell, Jodie L. Dale, Erika Cain, Kevin Smith, Krista Ahrens, Emilia Rust, Danata Smith, Natasha Clogston, Karen Spohr, Stacy Rodenbeck, Jaysen Guthmueller, Marcia Elliott, Jeannie Vigil, Paula Z. Lopez, Racheal Kessler, James Vigil, Barbara Schouweiler, Judi Paxton, Kim Piner, Sherry Nixon, Tyler Kingery, Dorene Faye Brandsoy, Nicole Charnet Harper, Kerri Kingery, Aaron Richter, Debbie Solko, James Davis, Sarah Fulmer, Joseph M. Parnell, Virginia W Richter, Vicki Smith, Catherine Stitt, Silvia Blondine Gowdy-Hipp Winter, Marina Hildebrand, Kay Hunsaker, Michele Barnes, Jaime Copeland, Lana Parks, Shelley Harmon, Vivian Lackey, Wendy Hall, Sarah Payne, Laurie Wertzbaugher, Lloyd Roebuck, Josiah Hunter, Chris Brady, Corby Gunter, Roberta Brady, Rick Ratzlaff, Jim Stotler, Kim Beicker, Debbie Hilburn, ,

Marla Sanders, Mark Palmer, Josh Schuster, Karla Knepper Palmer, Tammy Morrow, Jackie McDonald, Robert Harper, Krista Brady, Cheri Evango, James Moore, Crystal Garrison, Christina Revelle, Barbara Hudson Sampson, Keith Johnson, Linda Swanburg Brozek, Judy Hoffa, Wil Smith, Charles Hoffa, Logan Hilburn, Nicole Harper, Joseph Anderson, Lloyd R Smith - Custer County Sheriff, Edward Rethwisch, Devon Graham, Cynthia Pharr, Jodi VanderMolen, Stephanie Redinger, Melvita Smith, Jenny Moore Lowe, Robert Smith, Casey Mass, Paula Christensen, Carol Smith, Jessica A. Ary, Tamie McCarrell Muniz, Glenn Norberg, Tonya Marques, Sandra Samples, Erin Pearson Norberg, Tom Samples, Madisyn Naab, Rebecca Cardinell, Richard Ripley, Chelsea Kovac, Frances Wahl, Cynthia Martellaro, Robert Wahl, Tori Kline, Tammy DeWolfe, Charles Kline, Alysha McCormick, Paula Mason-Sheagley, Penny Riggins, Joseph Riggins, Cathy Finney, Austin Riggins, Izak Riggins, Dorene Babb, Tia Rose, Tracy Walters, Pam Hastings, Terry Hamilton, Sherry Turner, Robin Hamilton, Danny Turner, Pamela Stettler Simmons, Shirley Eilebrecht Baney, Roberta Jo Pacheco, Jason Starika, Christina Starika, Cherie Baker, Deborah Lee Jenkins, Lila Lee Thomas, Ronald Lee Jenkins, Tracy McKissack, Roger McKissack, Sharon Thompson,