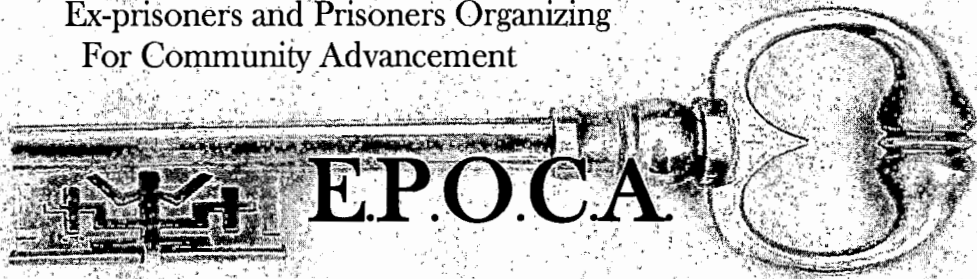


Ex-prisoners and Prisoners Organizing  
For Community Advancement



Joseph Stanton, Clerk  
Massachusetts Appeals Court, Room 1200  
One Pemberton Square  
Boston, MA 02108-1705

Re: Criminal Cases and Internet Access to Docket Entries and Court Files

To the Trial Court Public Access to Court Records Committee:

My name is Cassandra Bensahih I am writing this letter as a person who has made some wrong choices in my life and, one who has taken some opportunities to correct my mistakes. I have worked hard to acquire a better life for my family, and I paid for the bad choices I made.

Not everyone is able to turn their life around but many try, there are so many obstacles in the way leading to failure, and poverty, recidivism and addiction in a word a dead-end. I feel that is what would happen if trial courts would allow public access to court records. People should leave legal work to the court system.

The system needs work but trial's judges, jury's, hearings and decisions, this is where the access is needed, it draws opinions of people and creates other barriers that could destroy a person's life if the information was in the wrong hands.

It would be so unfair for a stranger to be the judge of a person's life and or the mistakes they have made and paid for, just because it's accessible to the public. I think enough damage is done today through social media, cyber bullying, and having access to too much personal information. Please consider the damage it could cause before you make a decision like this.

EPOCA is working to create changes in our justice system being smart on crime instead of tough. It is through these changes like the bills we are working on passing the Justice Reinvestment Act, we want to create a pathway to opportunity no one is disposable people cannot continue to pay for a mistake over and over we must to invest in our people and our communities.

Thank you  
Sincerely

Cassandra Bensahih