



Sept. 1, 2015



**RE: Reentry Job Fair, Oct. 27, 2015**

Dear Regional Chamber Member,

We write to invite you to participate in a job fair for returning citizens on Oct. 27, 2015, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Northwest Activities Center, 18100 Meyers Road, Detroit, Michigan.

In May, a number of Metro Detroit employers gathered for a Reentry Roundtable Breakfast featuring “Orange Is the New Black” author Piper Kerman, along with representatives from both of our offices, the Detroit Police Department, the Michigan Department of Corrections, the U.S. Department of Labor, the Wayne County Prosecutor’s Office, the U.S. Probation Department and the U.S. Bureau of Prisons to discuss the public safety and business cases for hiring former offenders. At that event, we discussed the fact that each year, more than 13,000 citizens return from prison in Michigan, and the most important factor to their success is a job.

Employers who hire returning citizens have concluded that returning citizens make excellent employees because they are grateful for a second chance, are under the supervision of a probation officer who serves as a resource for the employer and assists with employee retention and success, and are drug tested regularly. Employment incentives and bonding programs provide additional motivating factors for employers to hire returning citizens.

Out of the May gathering grew a plan to challenge at least 30 companies to employ at least two returning citizens and retain those employees for at least two years. We call it the 30-2-2 Plan, named after a similar initiative on the western side of the state. This job fair is an initial step toward meeting that goal.

We have partnered with Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation, the Michigan Department of Corrections, U.S. Probation and the U.S. Bureau of Prisons to invite approximately 500 returning citizens who are under the supervision of a probation/parole officer, to participate in the job fair. Additionally, representatives will be available at the job fair to answer questions about work opportunity tax credits, the federal bonding program, vocational training opportunities, veterans programs and other useful topics. We are asking you to staff a table, provide job applications and consider these returning citizens for employment in appropriate jobs.

Please send your RSVP to Alicia Collier at: [alicia.collier@usdoj.gov](mailto:alicia.collier@usdoj.gov) or 313-226-9658 by,

Friday Oct. 2, 2015. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Mike Duggan in black ink.

Mike Duggan  
Mayor, City of Detroit

Handwritten signature of Barbara L. McQuade in black ink.

Barbara L. McQuade  
United States Attorney