

# COMMON SENSE

Addressed to the People of Springfield

with respect to the memory of Thomas Paine

Thanks to Sarno and most of the City Council who spend tons of time blowing smoke up our you-know-whats and practically no time managing, our tax rate is up another 11.6%. Even though our houses are worth 8% LESS this year, our taxes will be HIGHER.

This continues the same garbage (did someone say trash tax) Sarno and the gang has been giving us for years. Because of them, there is no value to living in Springfield. Comparing Springfield to the towns around us, here is what Sarno actually delivers:

## THE HIGHEST TAXES AROUND MORE CRIME THAN ANYONE THE WORST SCHOOLS ANYWHERE

Taxes on a \$150,000 Springfield house are **\$2,684**. The same house pays:

\$2,142 - \$542 LESS - in Ludlow  
\$1,811 - \$873 LESS - in Agawam  
\$1,980 - \$704 LESS - in Chicopee  
\$2,199 - \$485 LESS - in West Springfield  
\$2,439 - \$245 LESS - in East Longmeadow  
\$2,294 - \$390 LESS - in Wilbraham  
\$2,567 - \$117 LESS - in Longmeadow

Springfield commercial property taxes - for both real estate and personal property - are far worse. The highest in the whole state now, driving jobs out of Springfield. The hellhole called downtown has dropped from an employment base of 20,000 to less than half that. Companies leave each month, taking their jobs and tax money with them. For the first time in 157 years, Mass Mutual has no general agent office in Springfield. Another 200 jobs gone.

We have the largest police force in America for a city our size - before Sarno added more cops. Even with the big announcement that crime is

down, as Springfield residents, we have a **1 in 14** chance of being raped, murdered, assaulted or robbed each year. The same numbers are:

1 in 67 - 479% LESS - in Ludlow  
1 in 57 - 407% LESS - in Agawam  
1 in 29 - 207% LESS - in Chicopee  
1 in 22 - 157% LESS - in West Springfield  
1 in 44 - 314% LESS - in East Longmeadow  
1 in 57 - 407% LESS - in Wilbraham  
1 in 74 - 529% LESS - in Longmeadow  
1 in 41 - 293% LESS - in the WHOLE STATE

As Springfield residents, we have a **1 in 157** chance of getting our car stolen each year. The same numbers are:

1 in 593 - 377% LESS - in Ludlow  
1 in 376 - 239% LESS - in Agawam  
1 in 244 - 155% LESS - in Chicopee  
1 in 217 - 138% LESS - in West Springfield  
1 in 743 - 473% LESS - in East Longmeadow  
1 in 933 - 595% LESS - in Wilbraham  
1 in 502 - 320% LESS - in Longmeadow  
1 in 343 - 219% LESS in the WHOLE STATE

Each of our children has a **43%** chance of succeeding in school. That means graduating and passing the MCAS. The numbers are:

71% - 165% HIGHER - in Ludlow  
75% - 174% HIGHER - in Agawam  
58% - 135% HIGHER - in Chicopee  
74% - 172% HIGHER - in West Springfield  
95% - 221% HIGHER - in East Longmeadow  
89% - 207% HIGHER - in Wilbraham  
95% - 221% HIGHER - in Longmeadow

This is after we spend **\$2,303 more per child than Longmeadow**.

**WHY?**

**Management. Sarno and the gang talk about it but don't do it. Next election vote for anyone but these guys. It can't get any worse.**