## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2018

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## State and national experts to speak about changing the narrative on prison reform

LANSING — Safe & Just Michigan will bring together two recognized experts in changing the ways people think and feel about criminal justice reform and public safety at its Annual Membership Meeting, which will be held <a href="Thursday">Thursday</a>, Oct. 18, from 5:30-8 p.m. at the <a href="Radisson Hotel in Lansing">Radisson Hotel in Lansing</a>, 111 N. Grand Ave. There will be <a href="press availability from 5:15-5:45 p.m.">press availability from 5:15-5:45 p.m.</a> to interview Leon El-Alamin, the founder and executive director of The MADE Institute of Flint, which mentors at-risk youth and employs formerly incarcerated people in construction trades, and Ellen Buchman, the vice president of strategy and program impact at The Opportunity Agenda in New York, a communications lab that works to advance social justice causes. Media personnel are also invited to attend Safe & Just Michigan's Annual Membership Meeting, which will include a discussion between El-Alamin and Buchman titled "Moving hearts and minds toward reform," and a presentation of the William G. Milliken Award to state Rep. David Pagel (R-Berrien Springs). If you plan to stay for dinner, please RSVP.

**WHO:** Leon El-Alamin, founder and director of The MADE Institute in Flint;

Ellen Buchman, vice president of The Opportunity Agenda

**WHAT:** Press availability and a discussion on "Moving hearts and minds

toward reform."

WHERE: The Radisson Hotel

111 N. Grand Ave. Lansing, MI 48933

WHEN: <u>Thursday</u>, Oct. 18, 2018

- Press availability from 5:15 5:45 p.m.
- Presentation of Milliken Award to Rep. Pagel at 6:30 p.m.
- Discussion: "Moving hearts and minds toward reform" at 7 p.m.

## ###

Safe & Just Michigan (<a href="www.safeandjustmi.org">www.safeandjustmi.org</a>) works to advance policies that end Michigan's over-use of incarceration and promote community safety and healing. We partner with Michigan organizations and leaders from across the political spectrum, including business and community leaders, faith communities, crime survivor organizations, formerly incarcerated individuals, prisoners and their families, as well as Michigan taxpayers statewide.