

Janelle Bynum is soft-on-crime extremist who twice supported the release of thousands of violent criminals from Oregon prisons, with criminals going on to commit violent crimes like rape and murder after their release.

On June 3, 2020, Janelle Bynum, Along With Other Members Of The Oregon State Assembly, Co-Authored The “Decompression Strategy For Oregon Corrections During The Pandemic,” A Plan To Release Inmates From Oregon State Prisons, In Response To The Coronavirus Pandemic. (“Decompression Strategy For Oregon Corrections During The Pandemic,” [Google Drive](#), 6/3/20)

- **Bynum Advocated For Commuting The Sentences Of Nearly 2,000 State Prison Inmates.** “A group of state Democratic lawmakers on Monday pressed Gov. Kate Brown to immediately commute the sentences of nearly 2,000 state prison inmates, a significant increase over the number the governor has already said she will consider releasing early in response to the coronavirus pandemic. Their plan would mean the release of about 14 percent of Oregon’s inmate population. Brown gave it a cool reception. Her spokeswoman said in an email that the governor ‘has no additional plans for other actions at this time.’ ... Dembrow made the proposal along with Sen. James Manning Jr., D-Eugene, Sen. Floyd Prozanski, D-Eugene, Rep. Janelle Bynum, D-Happy Valley and Rep. Tawna Sanchez, D-Portland. The group said it made the suggestions to Brown earlier this month. Bynum called Brown’s announcement on Friday a ‘first step.’ ‘The overly congested conditions of our prisons can be a death sentence for’ people with severe medical problems, she said. ‘The appropriate humanitarian response would be to release them as soon as possible.’” (Noelle Crombie, “Group Of Oregon Lawmakers Press Governor To Release Nearly 2,000 Inmates Early Over Coronavirus Risk,” [The Oregonian](#), 6/15/20)

SALEM REPORTER HEADLINE: “Geer Park Murder Suspect Was Released Early From Prison Under Governor’s Plan,” (Ardeshir Tabrizian, “Geer Park Murder Suspect Was Released Early From Prison Under Governor’s Plan,” [Salem Reporter](#), 11/7/22)

Thomas Healy, Who In 2020 Was Released Early From Prison Under Governor Brown’s Plan, Was Charged With The Murder, Less Than Two Years After Being Released. “A Salem man charged with shooting and killing another man in a Geer Park encampment in August was in 2020 released early from prison under criteria set by Gov. Kate Brown. A Marion County grand jury indicted Thomas Patrick Healy, 56, on charges of second-degree murder and possessing a firearm as a felon on Sept. 15, according to court records. The charges allege Healy shot and killed 35-year-old Scott George Tanner on Aug. 27. Police arrested Healy last week in central Oregon. The shooting occurred 20 months after Healy was released from state prison.” (Ardeshir Tabrizian, “Geer Park Murder Suspect Was Released Early From Prison Under Governor’s Plan,” [Salem Reporter](#), 11/7/22)

THE CHRONICLE HEADLINE: “Oregon Prisoner Who Received Compassionate Release Returned To Life Of Crime Within Days” (Maxine Bernstein, “Oregon Prisoner Who Received Compassionate Release Returned To Life Of Crime Within Days,” [The Chronicle](#), 5/8/24)

Johnell Lee Cleveland, Less Than A Month After Being Released From Prison Early During Covid-19, Quickly Returned Committing Crimes, Including Insurance Fraud And Pushing “A Woman To Sell Sex And Turn Over The Proceeds To Him.” “Less than a month after he was granted compassionate release during COVID-19 and let out of federal prison early in a drug-and-money laundering case, Johnell Lee Cleveland schemed to make money through insurance fraud, a government benefits scam and pushed a woman to sell sex and turn over the proceeds to him, a prosecutor said. On Tuesday, a federal judge sentenced Cleveland, nicknamed ‘Bankroll Johnny,’ to nine years in prison, accepting the recommended sentence reached in a negotiated plea deal.” (Maxine Bernstein, “Oregon Prisoner Who Received Compassionate Release Returned To Life Of Crime Within Days,” [The Chronicle](#), 5/8/24)

- **A U.S. District Judge Called The Case “Very Troubling,” Because Of “The Breadth Of Crimes Cleveland Committed And How Quickly He Returned To Committing Them After His Release From Custody.”** “U.S. District Judge Michael W. Mosman called it a ‘very troubling’ case for both the breadth of crimes Cleveland committed and how quickly he returned

to committing them after his release from custody. Cleveland, 42, made no statement. Before deputy marshals led him out of the courtroom, he turned back toward the approximately 20 relatives in the public gallery who came to support him and said, 'Love you all, appreciate it!' In 2019, Cleveland had been sentenced to four years and nine months in prison for fentanyl distribution and money laundering. His release date was set for late March 2022. But he convinced U.S. District Judge Robert E. Jones to grant him compassionate release to a federal halfway house on Aug. 4, 2020, about 19 months before his scheduled release, due to health conditions, including diabetes, hypertension and asthma, that weren't being treated during his time in prison during the COVID-19 pandemic. Cleveland quickly returned to his old ways, according to the government." (Maxine Bernstein, "Oregon Prisoner Who Received Compassionate Release Returned To Life Of Crime Within Days," [The Chronicle](#), 5/8/24)