



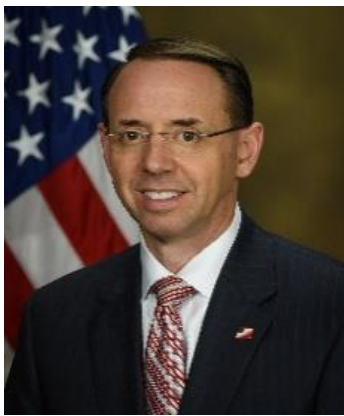
Right to Counsel (R2C) National Consortium Third Annual Meeting

November 2, 2017
Speaker Biographies

Keynote Presented By:

The Honorable Rod J. Rosenstein, Deputy Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice

@TheJusticeDept



Rod J. Rosenstein is the 37th Deputy Attorney General of The United States. As Deputy Attorney General, he advises and assists the Attorney General in formulating and implementing Department of Justice policies and programs and in providing overall supervision to all organizational units of the Department of Justice.

Mr. Rosenstein has spent over 27 years in government service. After graduating from the Wharton School of Business and Harvard Law School, Mr. Rosenstein started his legal career in 1989 as a law clerk to Judge Douglas H. Ginsburg of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Mr. Rosenstein began his career with the Department as an attorney with the Attorney General's Honors Program and previously served as U.S. Attorney for the District of Maryland from 2005 to 2017.

Opening Remarks By:

Alan Hanson, Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, Department of Justice

@OJPgov



Alan Hanson is the Acting Assistant Attorney General effective January 30, 2017. Mr. Hanson brings more than 17 years of Congressional policy, management, appropriations, and political experience having worked in a variety of capacities in the private sector and the legislative branch. His expertise includes a comprehensive appreciation for policy issues, strategic planning and execution, bipartisan stakeholder coalition building, executive agency interaction, constituent relations, and personnel team building, motivation, and management. Mr. Hanson has served as the General Counsel, Chief of Staff, and Legislative Director for U.S. Senator Richard Shelby where he managed legislative activities, state activities, and political/fundraising activities.



Prior to serving as the General Counsel and Chief of Staff, Mr. Hanson served as the Legislative Director for U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions and U.S. Congresswoman Anne Northup where he managed all legislative activities and personnel for the Senator and Congresswoman. Mr. Hanson also served as the Professional Staff for the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations. He also served as Deputy of Staff and Chief Counsel for U.S. Congressman Spencer Bachus.

Mr. Hanson earned his Juris Doctor degree, *cum laude*, from Georgetown University Law Center, and his Bachelor of Engineering degree, *magna cum laude*, from Vanderbilt University, where he was elected to membership in Tau Beta Pi, Chi Epsilon, and Omicron Delta Kappa. After law school, Mr. Hanson worked at Bradley, Arant, Rose, & White, LLP as an Associate Attorney.

Speakers listed in order of presentation

Welcoming Remarks and Introduction:

Maha Jweied, Acting Director, Office of Access to Justice, United State Department of Justice
@DOJATJ



Maha Jweied is the Director for the Office of Access to Justice of the United States Department of Justice. As director, she oversees international matters and tribunal justice. She is also the Executive Director of the White House Legal Aid Interagency Roundtable. Prior to holding these positions, Maha worked as a litigator at Arent Fox LL and as an attorney-advisor at US Commission on Civil Rights. Maha has worked internationally in Amman, Jordan at the legal aid office of Mizan Law Group for Human Rights and as a legal clerk for Judge Shahabuddeen of the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

Maha has earned a B.A. from George Washington University, a J.D. from Columbia University Law School, and a L.L.M from the London

School of Economics.



Priya Sarathy-Jones, Policy Advisor, Bureau of Justice Assistance, United States Department of Justice
@DOJBJA



Priya Sarathy Jones is a Policy Advisor at the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance where she focuses on public defense, 6th Amendment issues, wrongful conviction review, and the capital case litigation initiative. As part of a professional detail, Priya served as Counsel for the House Oversight Committee and worked on Congressional and Legislative Affairs for OJP. Prior to working for OJP, Priya worked for COPS Offices, served as the Director of Investor Relations & Chief of Staff for a private equity firm, and was Director of Legal Compliance for the 2008 North Carolina State Gubernatorial campaign of Bev Perdue. She holds a J.D. and B.A. in Psychology and Criminal Justice from the University of South Carolina, and is member of the North Carolina State Bar Association.

R2C Highlights and State and Local Accomplishments:

Genevieve Citrin Ray, Senior Program Associate and Project Director, Justice Programs Office, American University
@GCitrin; @AU_JPO; @right2counsel



Genevieve Citrin Ray is a senior program associate at the Justice Programs Office (JPO) at American University and the Project Director for the Right to Counsel National Campaign. She joined JPO in May 2015 after graduating from the Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan with a master's in public policy. Prior to attending the Ford School, she worked as an investigator for the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia for four years. As an investigator, she realized she wanted to pursue a degree in public policy, focusing on criminal justice reform. At the Ford School, she conducted a qualitative research study that examined

how incarceration impacts not only the individual incarcerated but also their families. Genevieve also worked with the Washtenaw County Office of Community Corrections to help create a jail reentry program. Genevieve received her B.A. from Tufts University and grew up in the D.C. area.

Currently, Genevieve works with the Justice Programs Office of American University. She assists the Right to Counsel campaign by researching, overseeing Student Associates, and campaigning for criminal justice reform.



Captain Diane Aguinaga, Police Captain, Antioch Police Department

@AntiochPolice



Captain Diane Aguinaga has served the Antioch Police Department for over 25 years. She began her career in law enforcement in 1991 with the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office. Later, in 1993 she joined the Antioch Police Department. She has held positions as: Community Policing Officer, Special Victims Detective, Corporal, Sergeant, Investigations Persons Crimes Sergeant, Field Services Lieutenant, and Investigations Lieutenant. In 2015, she was promoted from Lieutenant to Police Captain. Upon assuming this role, she stated that she wanted to rebuild the department, focus on fighting crime, and better the relationship between police and the community they protect.

Captain Diane has a degree in Political Science, is a graduate of the Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute, and is a Distinguished Service Award winner.

Donté Blue, Deputy Director, Contra Costa County Office of Reentry and Justice

Donté Blue is a father of three, and a graduate of both UC Berkeley and UCLA School of Law where he studied subjects involving race, law, and policy. A Bay Area native, Donté has been involved in criminal justice and reentry related work across California for almost a decade. While in Los Angeles, he helped run the largest Reentry Legal Clinic in Southern California, and was also part of some of the initial grass root efforts of a statewide “ban the box” campaign to improve job access for people with a criminal conviction history. After returning to the Bay Area, Donté continued his work in reentry with focuses on legislative advocacy and helping people obtain criminal record remedies that would allow them to move past mistakes of the past. He did this work first at the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area, and then later as the first reentry specific Staff Attorney hired by Bay Area Legal Aid. It was while at Bay Area Legal Aid that he developed an interest in the development and implementation of integrated reentry programs. This interest ultimately led him to pursue a job with Contra Costa County where he first worked as the County's Reentry Coordinator, and is now in the role of Deputy Director of the Office of Reentry and Justice. Through these roles with the County he has provided support efforts to develop effective programs, policies, and practices to enhance the local reentry system, and provide new opportunities for the justice involved populations of Contra Costa and their families.



Ellen McDonnell, Deputy Public Defender, Contra Costa County Public Defender's Office

@ellemcdoe



Ellen McDonnell has been a Deputy Public Defender with the Contra Costa County Public Defender's Office for the last 16 years, since her graduation from UC Hastings College of Law in 2001. During her time at the Public Defender's Office, she has represented clients in cases ranging from misdemeanors to homicides and has worked in a broad range of assignments, including felonies, juvenile delinquency, mental health, and specialty courts. During her time in felonies, she focused on mental health issues and handled numerous serious felony cases involving mental health and NGI defenses.

As a Deputy Public Defender, she has worked to practice "holistic" criminal defense and served as the Department's representative to various collaborative courts including Adult and Juvenile Drug Court, Proposition 36 Court, Behavioral Health Court and Domestic Violence Court. In this capacity, she refined her ability to work collaboratively with multiple stakeholders from different departments, including the District Attorney, the Sheriff, Probation, and Mental Health, while always providing zealous advocacy for her clients.

Ellen is a frequent trainer and speaker and has presented to various groups about the barriers to reentry, Clean Slate, Fines & Fees, Prop 47/Prop 64 and Bail Reform. These groups include the Center for Court Innovation, the California Public Defender's Association, the Legal Aid Association of California, the National Legal Aid & Defender Association, the Pro Bono Training Institute, the Practising Law Institute, The California Revenue Officer's Association, the California Law Academy Support Council, the Reentry Solutions Group, and various other governmental, reentry, non-profit, faith-based, and community groups. She speaks fluent Spanish and has worked closely with the Latino community throughout her years as an attorney.

Tennessee Supreme Court Justice Jeffrey Bivins

@TNCourts



Justice Jeffrey Bivins took office as a member of the Tennessee Supreme Court on July 16, 2014 after being appointed by Governor Bill Haslam. His colleagues elected him to the position of Chief Justice, effective September 1, 2016. Prior to his role on the Tennessee Supreme Court, Justice Bivins served as a judge on the Tennessee Court of Criminal Appeals and the 21st Judicial District of Tennessee. Prior to his appointment to the trial bench, Justice Bivins practiced law with the firm of Boulton, Cummings, Connors & Berry PLC in Nashville, Tennessee. He also served as Assistant Commissioner and General Counsel for the Tennessee Department of Personnel. Justice Bivins also previously served on the Tennessee Judicial Evaluation Commission. He is a member of the John

Marshall American Inn of Court, having served as President from 2003-2008, and the Harry



Phillips American Inn of Court. He is a member of the American Bar Association, the Tennessee Bar Association, and the Williamson County Bar Association. He also is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, the Tennessee Bar Foundation, and the Nashville Bar Foundation.

He is a 1986 graduate of Vanderbilt University School of Law. He received a B.A. Degree, *magna cum laude*, in 1982 from East Tennessee State University, with a major in political science and a minor in criminal justice. Justice Bivins is the immediate past President of the Tennessee Judicial Conference.

David Carroll, Executive Director, Sixth Amendment Center

@6thAMD



David Carroll joined the Sixth Amendment Center in 2012 as the Executive Director. The Sixth Amendment is a national nonprofit dedicated to providing effective legal services to the indigent, marginalized, and disadvantaged, as guaranteed by the Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. He has provided technical assistance to federal, state, and local policymakers for over 15 years and has traveled to all 50 states for work. David has advocated for the right to counsel in front of multiple state and local legislatures in addition to the United States Congress.

David is a graduate of University of Massachusetts Boston where he received a B.A. in Philosophy and Boston College where he received a M.A. in Philosophy.

Fireside Chat with Law Enforcement:

Domingo Herraiz, Director of Programs, International Association of Chiefs of Police

@TheIACP



As the director of IACP Programs, Domingo Herraiz's responsibilities include oversight of the Association's work in the areas of highway safety, technology, mental health, children and youth, criminal justice system reform, countering violent extremism, crime and victimization, police administration, data and information sharing, crime prevention, and police research.

Mr. Herraiz has more than 30 years of government and public safety experience in dealing with local, state, and federal policies. Prior to joining IACP, he served as the Vice President for North America Government Affairs at Motorola, responsible for public policy, government relations, and funding in the United States and Canada.

Before joining Motorola, he served as the presidentially appointed, U.S. Senate-confirmed Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), leading the DOJ's largest funding and policy unit for state, local, and tribal criminal justice issues. Prior to his role as director of the BJA, Mr.



Herraiz served on the Ohio Governor's cabinet as the Director of Criminal Justice Services. He also served as the Director for the Ohio Crime Prevention Association.

Mr. Herrera received his undergraduate degree in Political Science from Ohio University.

Judge George Grasso, New York City Criminal Court



The Honorable George A. Grasso was appointed in 2010 by then Mayor Michael Bloomberg as a Judge of the Criminal Court of the City of New York, serving a five-year term. Judge Grasso was reappointed by Mayor Bill de Blasio to a ten-year term commencing in January, 2015. Prior to his appointment to the New York City Criminal Court bench, Judge Grasso dedicated more than 30 years of his life to public service with the New York City Police Department. Entering the Department as a Police Officer at the age of 22, Judge Grasso attended law school and performed steady midnight patrol duties. He became an attorney and rose to the

highest levels of the nation's largest law enforcement organization being appointed Deputy Commissioner of Legal Matters/Chief Legal Counsel in 1997 and becoming second in command with his promotion to First Deputy Police Commissioner in 2002. His retirement to accept a judicial appointment from Mayor Bloomberg was unique for a member of the NYPD.

Upon his appointment as a Judge of the Criminal Court of the City of New York in January of 2010, Judge Grasso was assigned to Kings County, one of the busiest Criminal Courts in the United States. In April of 2012, Judge Grasso was designated an Acting Supreme Court Justice and assigned to the position of Supervising Judge for Arraignments for the City of New York. Judge Grasso spearheaded several new initiatives to significantly reduce arraignment times throughout the Criminal Court. Judge Grasso's work in effecting a "culture change" in the Criminal Court was highlighted by the New York Times on March 19, 2014.

Judge Grasso was admitted to the NYS Bar, Appellate Division, Second Department in 1985, U.S. Supreme Court in 2000, and U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York in 1986. He received a J.D. at St. John's School of Law in 1984, a B.A. at York College in 1980, and graduated Columbia University, Police Management Institute in 1994. He also successfully completed the City of New York's acclaimed CORO program in 1995. In 2008, Judge Grasso was a recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor and in 2009 he was The Man of the Year at the Little Neck-Douglaston Memorial Day Parade.



Chief Jeff Swoboda, Chief of Police, Elgin Police Department
@ElginPD



Jeffrey Swoboda was appointed as Chief of Police at the Elgin Police Department in Illinois in 2010. Swoboda had worked in the Elgin Police Department through the Resident Officer Program of Elgin (ROPE) and worked his way up to Deputy Chief. He earned his B.A. in Criminal Justice from Aurora University and a M.A. in Administration of Law Enforcement from Western Illinois University.

Fireside Chat with Prosecutors:

Seema Gajwani, Special Counsel for Juvenile Justice Reform, D.C. Office of the Attorney General



Seema Gajwani is Special Counsel for Juvenile Justice Reform at the D.C. Office of the Attorney General, where she oversees juvenile justice reform initiatives focusing on diversion, restorative justice, trauma services for victims of crime, and improved data collection and analysis. Prior to this position, Seema ran the Criminal Justice Program at the Public Welfare Foundation in Washington, D.C., funding efforts to improve criminal and juvenile justice systems across the country, with a focus on pretrial detention reform and improved prosecution decision-making. Ms. Gajwani started her career as a trial attorney at the D.C. Public Defender Service, where she represented juvenile and adult defendants for 6 years. During her time at New York University School of Law Ms. Gajwani served as an editor of the Moot Court Board and interned at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, the King County Defender Association in Seattle, Washington, and at the Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana in New Orleans. She graduated from Northwestern University.



Mathias H. Heck, Jr., Montgomery County Prosecuting Attorney, Ohio

@MCPOPPOS



Mathias (Mat) H. Heck, Jr., born and raised in Dayton, Montgomery County, Ohio, attended Chaminade-Julienne Catholic High School, Marquette University, and Georgetown University Law Center. He is a career Prosecutor, having worked as an Assistant Prosecutor after law school, and later being elected Prosecuting Attorney in 1992.

Mr. Heck is a member of many professional associations and involved in numerous civic organizations. He is past Chair of the American Bar Association, Criminal Justice Section; delegate to the House of Delegates, American Bar Association; Chair of the Executive Committee, CARE House, Dayton's Children's Advocacy Center; and a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Heck is past President of the National Children's Alliance, past President and past Chairman of the Board of the National District Attorneys Association, and past President and member of the Executive Committee of the Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys Association. He is admitted to practice in all courts in Ohio, the United States District Court, Southern District of Ohio, United States Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit, United States Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit, and the United States Supreme Court.

Matthew F. Redle, County and Prosecuting Attorney, Sheridan, Wyoming



Matt Redle is a graduate of the Creighton University School of Law. He is the County and Prosecuting Attorney for Sheridan County, Wyoming, first elected to that position in 1986 having served as an assistant prosecutor in that office since 1980.

Matt is an Active Past Vice-President of the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) Board of Directors and was a co-author of that association's first two DNA profiling policies. He was a liaison from NDAA to the Standards Task Force on the Prosecution and Defense Function, a part of the ABA Criminal Justice Standards Project. He is a member of the Juvenile Prosecutor's Leadership Network, Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, Georgetown Public Policy Institute, Georgetown University.

He is the Immediate Past Chair of the American Bar Association Criminal Justice Section and a member of its Council. Matt is a former member of the ABA Criminal Justice Standards Committee and is a past Co-chair of the Section's Committee on Science, Technology and Forensics. Currently he serves on the Criminal Justice Section's Amicus Committee. He served as a member of the Criminal Justice Standards Committee during its consideration of the Prosecution and Defense Function Standards.



Matt serves on the Wyoming Supreme Court's Permanent Rules Advisory Committee, Criminal Division. He is a Past President of the Wyoming County and Prosecuting Attorney's Association. In 2014, the Wyoming State Bar Association honored him as its 2014 recipient of the Gerald R. Mason Professionalism Award.

On September 9, 2009, Matt testified before the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary in a hearing entitled "Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States." In January of 2014, he was appointed to serve as a member of the National Commission on Forensic Science. As a Commissioner, he served as Co-Chair of the Subcommittee on Reporting and Testimony, as a member of the Subcommittee on Procedures and Operations, and as a member of the Commission's Subcommittee on Medico-legal Death Investigation.

Eric H. Sussman, First Assistant State's Attorney, Cook County State's Attorney's Office



Prior to being the First Assistant, Mr. Sussman was the Deputy Chief of Financial Crimes for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois.

Mr. Sussman supervised the successful prosecution of a wide array of cases, including complex securities fraud, tax offenses, regulatory violations, money laundering, racketeering, and computer-related investigations.

Mr. Sussman was also the Food & Drug Administration Coordinator for the U.S. Attorney's Office, where he worked with officials at the FDA and USDA to investigate and prosecute numerous criminal enforcement actions. He served as the lead prosecutor for a broad range of complex corporate fraud and regulatory investigations involving securities violations, corporate tax offenses, bank fraud, violations of food safety laws, and workplace safety laws. Mr. Sussman has tried 29 federal cases, serving as first chair in 23 of them, and has briefed and argued multiple appeals before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

Jack Cutrone, Senior Policy Advisor, National Criminal Justice Association

@thencja



Jack Cutrone is the Senior Policy Advisor for the National Criminal Justice Association, an association dedicated to improving criminal justice, namely through the implementation of evidence-based practices throughout the criminal justice system. Cutrone also served as the President of the National Criminal Justice Association from 2012-2014. He previously held positions as executive director and general counsel for the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority after spending many years as a prosecutor and a criminal defense attorney in private practice. Mr. Cutrone earned his J.D. from Loyola University Chicago School of Law in 1972.



Fireside Chat with Cross-Discipline System Actors:

Karhlton Moore, Executive Director, Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

@ohio_ocjs



Karhlton Moore has been the Executive Director of the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) since 2005. He had previously served as the chief legal counsel and legislative liaison for OCJS. Prior to coming to OCJS, Moore worked as assistant deputy legal counsel for the Governor's Office and as an Assistant Attorney General in the Ohio Attorney General's office. Moore is responsible for the administration and evaluation of state and federal grants for law enforcement, victim assistance, juvenile justice, crime prevention courts, anti-trafficking efforts, reentry, corrections programs, and traffic safety. He also provides criminal justice strategies to the Governor and the Director of the Department of Public Safety. He also serves on the National Criminal Justice Association advisory council, board of directors, and executive committee and the Governor's Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services. Moore received his B.A. from Wright State University and his J.D. from American University's Washington College of Law.

John Rago, Associate Professor of Law, Duquesne University

Professor John Rago's work in the area of criminal justice focuses on wrongful convictions within the broad context of collaborative policy-making and the establishment of science-based best practices for law enforcement and prosecutors. The guiding principal of his efforts is to establish policies and practices that are good for law enforcement, good for victims, and good for the accused.

Rago is working with Allegheny County District Attorney, Stephen Zappala, and criminal justice stakeholders in Allegheny County to establish a conviction integrity unit in the Office of the District Attorney, one of only several such units in the nation. The chief purpose of this unit will be to enhance the integrity of our criminal investigations and prosecutions. The conviction integrity efforts underway in Allegheny County are also designed to provide a model for the commonwealth to pursue uniform science-based practices state-wide in such areas including, but not limited to, eyewitness identifications, electronic recording of custodial interrogations, and the preservation of evidence.

This ongoing effort flows from Rago's work as chairperson of a 51-member statewide committee formed by the Pennsylvania State Senate to study wrongful convictions under the auspices of the Joint State Government Commission (2007 - 2011). Rago's report to the State Senate includes a series of legislative reforms and suggested practices which currently are under examination by the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association. Several Pennsylvania counties have begun to pilot some of these recommendations. These counties currently include Philadelphia County, Montgomery County, and Allegheny County.



Rago has served on the Innocence Project's Northeast Policy Board and the Governor's Advisory Board on Probation. He is frequently consulted on matters of conviction integrity and post-conviction claims of actual innocence.

Dagny Stapleton, Deputy Director, Nevada Association of Counties



Dagny Stapleton has been the Deputy Director of the Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) since June of 2013. She manages NACO's government relations and serves on a variety of boards and commissions representing Nevada's counties. Specifically, she works to improve relations between counties and federal and state representatives, in addition to advocating for policy positions on behalf of Nevada's counties. She provides research, project management, and general support on state and federal policy goals. Stapleton also has a background in government affairs and public service, previously holding positions as the government affairs manager for the Nevada Rural Electric Association as well as for Praxis Consulting Group, an affordable housing development

consultant. Ms. Stapleton earned her B.A. in religion from Columbia University and an M.S. in Land Use Planning from the University of Nevada, Reno.

John E. Wetzel, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Corrections

@CorrectionsPA; @johnwetzel



Secretary Wetzel is widely recognized as one of the thought leaders in corrections today. With over 26 years of experience, his career began in Lebanon County (PA) as a corrections officer in 1989. His time there was followed by 9 years at Berks County (PA) where he served as a Correctional Officer, Counselor, Treatment Supervisor, and finally Director of the Training Academy. Then, in January of 2002, he began his 9-year tenure as Warden of the Franklin County (PA) Jail. It was there that he was credited with leading an effort that resulted in the transformation of their correctional system. Under his leadership, Franklin County saw a 20% reduction in their population while the crime rate declined. Franklin County was at the forefront of maximizing their correctional continuum to reduce reliance on

incarceration while focusing on improving outcomes for offenders. Specifically, they developed a Day Reporting Center, established a Jail Industries Program, and initiated several programs targeting improved services for mentally ill offenders, not the least of which being a Certified Peer Specialist program in 2006.

A national consultant and speaker whose areas of expertise include staffing, vulnerability assessment, mentally ill offenders, developing employment opportunities for formerly incarcerated offenders, population management, mitigating impacts on the families/children of incarcerated individuals, and effecting system change.



He was appointed to the PA Board of Pardons, by then Governor Edward Rendell (D), as the Board's Corrections Expert where he subsequently led a change in the pardons process, resulting in an increased production of the Board while alleviating an elevated waiting time for applicants.

In December of 2010, he was selected as the 11th Secretary of Corrections for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by Governor-elect Corbett. His tenure there saw an elimination of a 24-year average growth of 1500 inmates per year, presiding over the first population reduction in PA in over 4 decades. Additionally, he oversaw the restructuring of the Community Corrections system, the mental health system, and a re-engineering of internal processes to yield a more efficient system of program delivery.

In January of 2015, Governor Tom Wolf asked Wetzel to continue as the Secretary of Corrections making him the 12th person to hold that position for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

He is a member of Harvard's Executive Session on Community Corrections which is a joint project of Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government and the National Institute of Justice (NIJ). Consisting of 30 of the leading policymakers, practitioners, and researchers from across the country, the intent is to shape the meaning and future of community corrections policy in the United States. The Executive Session will develop best practices and thinking for professionals across the public safety and criminal justice spectrum. He has been selected as the Vice Chair of the Council of State Government Justice Center Executive Board and is a member of the Colson Task Force on federal prison overcrowding. He is also vice president of ASCA (Association of State Correctional Administrators). In May 2016, the Indiana University of Pennsylvania presented to him an honorary doctor of laws.

Finally, the Secretary is the former offensive line coach for Shippensburg University and a founding member of the St. Seraphim homeless shelter. He also initiated a program to positively impact disadvantaged youth by inviting private sector/higher education entities to develop programs specifically focused on them, similar to the president's My Brother's Keeper initiative.

Fireside Chat with Impacted Community Member:

Zoë Root, Senior Policy Counsel, Justice Programs Office, American University

@zoeroot; @AU_JPO



Zoë Root is the senior policy counsel at the Justice Programs Office (JPO) at American University. She is currently the project director of the Juvenile Drug Treatment Courts Training Initiative, providing training and technical assistance to juvenile drug treatment court teams. Ms. Root joined JPO after five years as a supervising attorney and staff attorney at The Bronx Defenders.

During her time as a public defender, she represented clients on all criminal charges, trained and supervised first-year attorneys, and acted as the director of the Prostitution Conviction Vacatur Project



in the Bronx county human trafficking intervention court. Prior to law school she worked as a court representative at the Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services (CASES), an alternative-to-incarceration program for adolescents in New York City. Ms. Root earned her JD at Northeastern University School of Law and holds a BA in Psychology from Vassar College.

Tracy Sewell, Community Member



Tracey Sewell was born in Washington, D.C. and moved to New York when she was six. At the age of thirteen, Ms. Sewell became a victim of sex trafficking at the hands of her stepfather. Over the course of 20 years, Ms. Sewell was arrested and convicted numerous times for prostitution-related offenses. Ms. Sewell ultimately removed herself from the world of sex work and was able to achieve permanent sobriety in 2002 through Bronx Treatment Court. Since then, Ms. Sewell has reconnected with her biological child, became a foster parent, and over the years has acted as a mother and mentor to dozens of children. Despite her accomplishments, Ms. Sewell continued to experience personal and professional setbacks as a result of her criminal convictions. In 2015, Ms. Sewell connected with a public defender who wrote a motion requesting that all of Ms. Sewell's criminal convictions be vacated. The motion was granted in May 2016. Since that date, Ms. Sewell has gained full-time employment as a home health aid and as a school bus matron.