Sources: Covering Prisons and Jails

Organizations and Government Agencies


American Correctional Association, Virginia. Professional organization for the prison managers. Standards, accreditation, etc. 703-224-0000. www.aca.org/


U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics (endless wealth of statistics on inmates, parolees, prisons, etc. Data usually two years behind) http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs


The Urban Institute. Washington. Wide-ranging work includes activity on corrections, with emphasis on parole and reentry. 202-261-5709 http://www.urban.org/

Pew Public Safety Performance Project, Pew Charitable Trusts
Nonpartisan policy briefs, other reports on national and state-level trends related to corrections. Solid research on current topics. www.pew.publicsafety.org


Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice. San Francisco nonprofit, left-leaning but good research, aims to reduce use of incarceration. 415-722-1191. http://www.cjcj.org/


People


Joan Petersilia, UC Irving criminologist. Specialty: Parole, Reentry. Has advised California governor on corrections, worked in many other states. j.peters@uci.edu

Frank Zimring, UC Berkeley’s Boalt Law School professor. Expert on three strikes, California prisons, criminal sentencing. 510-642-0854 fzimring@law.berkeley.edu

Jonathan Simon, UC Berkeley’s Boalt Law School professor. Good quote. Useful books include, Governing Through Crime: How the War on Crime Transformed American Democracy and Created a Culture of Fear. 510-643-5169 jsimon@law.berkeley.edu

Robert Weisberg, Stanford University School of Law. Expertise: criminal law, with an interest in prisons and sentencing and background in death penalty work. weisberg@stanford.edu 650-723-0612

Michele Deitch, University of Texas adjunct professor. Attorney expert in prison conditions, oversight, management. 512-328-8330.

Don Specter, Prison Law Office. dspecter@prisonlaw.com 415-457-9144. Expert on prison litigation, most experienced in California.

Steve Fama, Prison Law Office. sfama@prisonlaw.com 415-457-9144. Expert on prison litigation, especially inmate health care.

Michael Bien, San Francisco lawyer, expert on prison mental health issues. 415-433-6830.

Jacques Verduin, Insight Prison Project. San Quentin State Prison-based nonprofit focusing on offender/victim reconciliation. jverduin@comcast.net
Peter Greenwood, former RAND research, author, expert on juvenile corrections.
pwgreenwood@earthlink.net

Barry Krisberg, National Council on Crime and Delinquency. President of Oakland-based nonprofit conducting research, outreach on youth and adult corrections issues. Extensive background knowledge on California, national correctional trends. 510-208-0500. bkrisberg@aol.com

Dan Macallair, director, Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice. San Francisco nonprofit, left-leaning but good research, extensive background on California corrections, other prison trends. 415-722-1191.

George Camp, Association of State Correctional Administrators. Great source for data. GCamp@asca.net

**Miscellany**


Corrections Department Operating Manuals (each state should have one, outlining management policies and regulations for its prison system)


Society of Professional Journalists – primer on media access to prisons, regulations governing journalists who visit (check states of interest for updates. http://www.spj.org/prisonaccess.asp