PANELISTS, SPEAKERS & MODERATORS

(arranged by Webinar)

JUSTICE AND THE PANDEMIC
WEBINAR 1  NOVEMBER 18

In alphabetical order

Brent Gibson

Brent Gibson, M.D., is chief health officer for the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) and managing director of NCCHC Resources Inc., which provides technical assistance to correctional health care programs nationwide. Previously, as a clinical director for the Federal Bureau of Prisons, he was on the executive team for the U.S. Medical Center for Federal Prisoners. Gibson also was vice president for medical affairs at Atlas Research; an occupational medicine instructor and writer for the U.S. Army’s Medical Department Center & School; and chief medical officer at the U.S. Army’s Pine Bluff (Arkansas) Arsenal. A board-certified physician, he spent 18 years as a licensed, practicing physician. Gibson has been an American College of Preventive Medicine fellow. He earned a master of public health degree from Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences and a doctor of medicine degree from Augusta University’s Medical College of Georgia.

John May

John May, M.D. is chief medical officer for Centurion Health, a health care provider in jails and prisons nationwide. Previously, he held the same post for Armor Correctional Health Services. He chairs the International Corrections Committee of the American Correctional Association. He is on the International Corrections and Prisons Association North America Chapter’s board of directors and is on the Journal of International Prisoner Health’s editorial advisory board. May is co-founder, president and medical director of Health through Walls, which helps developing countries establish correctional health services. A former consultant for the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division, investigating prison conditions, he also is an assistant professor at Nova Southeastern University College of Medicine and an affiliated professor at Emory
University Rollins School of Public Health. Among other awards, he won the Richard and Hilda Rosenthal Foundation Award of the American College of Physicians, Broad Street Pump Award for Public Service from Physicians for Social Responsibility, Armond Start Award of Excellence from the American Academy of Correctional Physicians and Dr. Thomas A Dooley Award of Service from the University of Notre Dame. He earned doctor of medicine from Stritch School of Medicine at Loyola University.

Dan Mistak

Dan Mistak, J.D., directs the Health and Justice Initiative at Community Oriented Correctional Health Services (COCHS), which he joined in February 2014. He recently returned after taking a two-year leave to steer the Legal Aid Society as it mapped Hawaii County’s behavioral health safety net and its interface with the criminal justice system. There, he was a trial attorney and worked with justice-involved individuals regarding the collateral consequences of their justice involvement. Prior to joining COCHS, Mistak was a senior editor of the California Law Review at the University of California Berkeley School of Law. His previous experience has focused on legal issues for underprivileged populations, including representation of clients in asylum hearings, legal research surrounding the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and campaign finance. He holds a master’s degrees in genetics/cell biology and philosophy from Washington State University and a doctor of jurisprudence from the Berkeley School of Law. He was admitted to practice law in California and Hawaii.

David Thomas

David Thomas, M.D., J.D., is a lawyer, educator and a correctional health physician, who helped launch a first-of-its-kind division of correctional medicine at Nova Southeastern College of Osteopathic Medicine. There, he is a correctional medicine fellowship professor, teaches medico-legal jurisprudence and correctional health care. Previously, he chaired its division of correctional medicine. For the American Correctional Association Commission on Accreditation for Corrections, Thomas has served as chairman and on its board of governors. correctional health care. During more than 15 years with the Florida Department of
Corrections, he served initially as institutional physician, then as director of health services and later, as deputy secretary for health. Thomas has numerous publications and has won numerous awards. He spent a decade as an elected member of the Florida House of Representative. Thomas graduated from the University of Miami School of Medicine and Stetson University College of Law, and earned a master of education degree from Nova Southeastern.

**Emily Wang**

Emily Wang, M.D., directs Yale’s SEICHE Center for Health and Justice, a joint project of Yale School of Medicine and Yale Law School. She leads the Health Justice Lab research program, which receives National Institutes of Health funding to investigate how incarceration influences chronic disease and uses a participatory approach to study interventions that mitigate the impacts of incarceration. She is co-founder of the Transitions Clinic Network, a consortium of 40 community health centers nationwide dedicated to caring for individuals recently released from correctional facilities by employing community health workers with histories of incarceration. An associate professor at Yale’s medical school, Wang has served on the National Academy of Sciences/Institute of Medicine’s Health and Incarceration Workshop. Her work been published in the *Lancet*, the *American Journal of Public Health and Health Affairs*; and showcased in national outlets such as the New York Times, NPR and CNN. Wang earned a master’s in applied science from the University of California at San Francisco and a doctor of medicine from Duke University.

**Thomas J. Weber**

Thomas J. Weber, J.D., is CEO of Harrisburg, Pa.-based PrimeCare Medical and its subsidiaries, PrimeCare Medical of New York and PrimeCare Medical of Virginia. Incorporated 34 years ago, PrimeCare provides correctional health services in 80 facilities across five states. Before joining PrimeCare, Weber maintained a private law practice mainly devoted to representing individual health care providers and entities. He has also been a frequent lecturer and had numerous articles published on health care-related legal issues. Weber earned a doctor of jurisprudence from the Dickinson School of Law.
Amy Borror

Amy Borror is the justice systems analyst at the National Juvenile Defender Center (NJDC), where she works to analyze and improve the wide range of systems that interact with NJDC’s mission and programs, from NJDC’s internal systems that manage the organization’s work to statewide juvenile defense delivery systems that impact youth, families and defenders. Before joining NJDC, Boror worked as a juvenile defense consultant; spent 13 years at the Office of the Ohio Public Defender, leading its policy and outreach division and managing its legislative and media efforts; and worked at the Ohio State Bar Association and the Ohio General Assembly.

The Hon. Kim Berkeley Clark

The Honorable Kim Berkeley Clark, J.D., is president judge of the 5th Judicial District of Pennsylvania and the first African-American to serve in that position for Allegheny County. She is a family court judge, primarily hearing cases involving juveniles. Clark is president-elect of the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network. She chairs the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges’ Commission and the Pennsylvania State Children’s Roundtable’s Dependent Children of Incarcerated Parents Workgroup and Dependency Benchbook Committee. She is a member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Juvenile Procedural Rules and Committee; the Pennsylvania Interbranch Commission on Racial, Gender, and Ethnic Fairness; the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency’s Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee; and the American Bar Association Juvenile Justice Standards Task Force. Previously, Clark was a member of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges’ board of trustees; board chairman of Fellows of the National Center for
Juvenile Justice; and president of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges. Among other distinctions and honors, she moderated a 2013 White House panel discussion on the needs of caregivers of children of incarcerated parents and won National Center for State Courts’ William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence. She earned a Duquesne University School of Law doctor of jurisprudence.

Carlos Franco-Paredes

Carlos Franco-Paredes, M.D., directs the Infectious Diseases Fellowship at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, where he also is an associate professor. He has been a medical expert in several Covid-19-related lawsuits, including ones brought by the Southern Poverty Law Center; and inspected correctional facilities across the United States in collaboration with civil rights and immigration attorneys and advocacy groups. As an activist working with Colorado re-entry organizations, he promotes health care and health-care equity for formerly incarcerated individuals. A former consultant to the World Health Organization, Franco-Paredes helped develop influenza pandemic preparedness guidelines from 2006 to 2010. The most recent of his 220 published, research articles on infectious diseases, pandemics and have been on the impact of Covid-19 on minorities, persons in correctional facilities and persons in immigration detention centers. Franco-Paredes has been providing direct care to patients with Covid-19 in the medical wards and intensive care units at the University of Colorado’s Anschutz Medical Center. He earned a master of public health degree in global health from Emory University and a doctor of medicine from LaSalle University in Mexico City.
Nazgol Ghandnoosh

Nazgol Ghandnoosh, Ph.D. is a senior research analyst at The Sentencing Project. She earned her doctorate in sociology from the University of California at Los Angeles, where her dissertation examined resistance to mass incarceration through an in-depth study of a South Los Angeles group advocating for the parole release of term-to-life prisoners. At The Sentencing Project, she has written about the declining prospects for parole on life sentences, racial perceptions of crime, and about best practices for eliminating racial inequality in the criminal justice system. Ghandnoosh’s work has been feature in outlets including The Washington Post, The New York Times and WNYC’s On the Media. Previously, Ghandnoosh was a researcher for the consulting firm Monitor Group, at Columbia University’s National Center for Children in Poverty, and worked for Local 1199 of the Service Employee International Union. Before moving to Los Angeles for graduate school, she contributed to “Ban the Box” reform efforts to enhance employment prospects for people with criminal records and campaigns to restore voting rights to people with felony convictions.

Tommy Green

Tommy Green is the lead community health worker for the North Carolina Formerly Incarcerated Transition (FIT) program; co-owns the Success While In Transition (SWIT) re-entry program; and is co-director of a nonprofit matching formerly incarcerated peer support specialists with newly released former incarcerates. Sentenced, at age 22, for his part in an armed robbery, he served 11 years and eight months inside some of North Carolina's most dangerous prisons. Once released, North Carolina-born Green initially freelanced as a private security guard for local clubs and small celebrity venues in his home state. Within a year of his release, he was hired as a parking lot attendant for a large company with numerous contracts around Raleigh, North Carolina. Nine months later, he became an assistant operations manager at that company, which sold for $20 million in 2018, the same year that Green joined the Orange County Health Department as a community health worker. He and his work have been featured by The Washington Post, Health Affairs and several local radio stations.
Edward Scott

Edward Scott (Scottso) is one of the founders, as well providing much of the inspiration and driving force behind Wounded Healers, a North Carolina advocacy group for former incarcerees. Wounded Healers started as a dream shared by Scottso and his co-founders while he was serving a life sentence in prison. Scottso’s spiritual life while incarcerated was enriched by frequent visits to Chapel Hill Quaker Meeting, where he was respected and made deep connections. People who know Scottso describe him as an extraordinary man with a heart full of love and gratitude despite many years of challenge. Scottso began his transition to society in October 2019, after incarceration of over 30 years. He believes his experience allows him to truly see where help is needed. By establishing Wounded Healers, he is living his spiritually and community-motivated goal: creating an organization of formerly incarcerated men and women helping others who are released from prison to be able to reacclimate back into society.

Claire Shubik-Richards

Claire Shubik-Richards, J.D., most recently served as policy and research director for the National Campaign to Reform State Juvenile Justice Systems, a Washington D.C.-based advocacy campaign to improve juvenile justice laws around the country. Previously, Shubik-Richards worked at Pew Charitable Trusts, where she authored a series of studies on issues facing Philadelphia, including municipal budgeting, the Free Library and overuse of incarceration. Shubik-Richards has been an adjunct professor at Carnegie Mellon University’s Heinz College of Public Policy. As an investigator for the New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board, she investigated allegations of police misconduct. She earned a doctor of jurisprudence from Boston University School of Law, and was law clerk to U.S. District Judge Stefan R. Underhill.
LaShannon Spencer

LaShannon Spencer is CEO of Community Health Centers of Arkansas, the state’s network of federally qualified health centers, which offered free Covid-19 testing to the prison and jail inmates. Before assuming her current job, she was chief strategist for KLS Health Solutions, LLC, a Nevada healthcare consulting firm; a patient and family advocate at the National Partnership for Patients; and director of public policy and advocacy at St. Rose Dominican Hospitals in Henderson, Nevada. Spencer is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and a columnist for Healthcare Journal and a national speaker on the social determinants of health, cultural competency of health care providers and health care delivery for vulnerable populations. Spencer earned a bachelor’s in mass communications from Stephens College, a master’s in public administration from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and a master’s in health services administration University of St. Francis. She’s completed her doctoral course work at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas School of Community Health Sciences.

Hernandez Stroud

Hernandez Stroud, J.D., is counsel for the Justice Program of the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law. His areas of expertise include mass incarceration, constitutional law and criminal procedure. Previously, Stroud was acting policy director for New Haven, Connecticut’s mayor. A former clerk for the Honorable O. Rogeriee Thompson of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit and the Honorable Madeline Hughes Haikala of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, he is an affiliated fellow at Yale Law School. Stroud earned a master’s degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a doctor of jurisprudence from Washington and Lee University School of Law, where he also has taught. His honors included being named to the 2018 Forbes magazine "30 Under 30" list for law and policy.
Alysse Wurcel

Alysse Wurcel, M.D., is the infectious diseases liaison for the Massachusetts Sheriff’s Association and co-founder of the Covid Prison Project. She is an assistant professor of community medicine and public health at the Tufts University School of Medicine’s Department of Geographic Medicine and Infectious Diseases, where she also treats patients. Wurcel has been named to the Tufts Institute of Innovation Affiliates. She is the co-investigator of the Tufts REACTs (Responds to the Epidemic of hepatitis C Together) Study and primary investigator on a Bristol-Myers Squibb study in a clinical trial of HIV medication. She earned a doctor of medicine from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and a master’s degree in clinical research from Tuft’s Sacker School of Graduate Biomedical Sciences.

WEBINAR 3  DECEMBER 9

In alphabetical order

Art Acevedo

Art Acevedo has been Chief of Police for the Houston Police Department (HPD) since 2016. A 30-year veteran of law enforcement, he leads a department of 5,400 sworn law enforcement officers and 892 civilian support personnel in the fourth largest city in the United States. As a proponent of community policing, Chief Acevedo refers to the proven practice as "Relational Policing," which is an opportunity to forge a relationship with each and every person a department member comes in contact with. The first Hispanic to lead HPD, the Cuban-born Acevedo brings a unique understanding to the concerns of the diverse communities in Houston. In July 2018 was named by the Carnegie Corporation a “Great Immigrant * Great American.” Before his current appointment, he was Chief of Police in Austin., Tx. Chief Acevedo has held various leadership positions with the Major Cities Chiefs Association and the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and is currently the President of the Major Cities Chiefs Association. He is married and has three children.
Chris Burbank

Chris Burbank is the Center for Policing Equity’s vice president for law enforcement strategy. Before retiring from law enforcement in 2015, he spent 24 years as chief of the Salt Lake City Police Department. In 2013, he was one of six police chiefs in the nation tapped to meet with President Barack Obama to confer on that administration’s initiatives to curb gun violence. In May 2010, Burbank and nine other police chiefs met with then-U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder regarding Arizona immigration laws. Burbank has addressed the House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary regarding racial profiling and civil rights issues. A former first vice president of the Major Cities Chiefs Association, he has won numerous awards, including the Utah National Guard Minuteman Award and the Salt Lake Tribune’s Utahn of the Year citation. The University of Utah grad also graduated from the FBI’s National Executive Institute.

Mark Obbie

Mark Obbie is a freelance journalist whose work focuses on crime victims, violence prevention, policing, and criminal justice policy. His work has been published in The Atlantic, Longreads, The New York Times, Slate, The Trace, and many other publications. He is also the criminal justice specialist for Solutions Journalism Network, a contributor to The Crime Report, and a board member of Criminal Justice Journalists. He is the former executive editor of The American Lawyer magazine in New York, former editor of Texas Lawyer newspaper in Dallas, and a former daily newspaper reporter in Houston and Warren, Ohio, covering cops and courts. At Syracuse University's Newhouse School, he co-founded the Institute for the Study of the Judiciary, Politics, and the Media and founded the Carnegie Legal Reporting Program. He was a 2014-15 Soros Justice Media Fellow and holds a master's from the University of Missouri School of Journalism. He is based in New York's Finger Lakes region, near Rochester, and tweets about criminal justice journalism at @MarkObbie.
Andy Potter

Andy Potter is founder of One Voice United, a national nonprofit aiming to add corrections officers’ input to the national dialogue about criminal justice reform; and to help all stakeholders in that sphere identify common-ground issues that more fully inform policies and approaches to reform. A former Michigan Corrections Officer, Potter is also executive director of the Michigan Corrections Organization (MCO), where, since 2015, he has spearheaded several new initiatives to revolutionize member engagement and to restructure staff and operations. In June of 2019, Potter was appointed vice president of the executive board of the Service Employee International Union (SEIU). Additionally, he is president of the SEIU Michigan State Council; chair of SEIU’s Conservative Member Engagement Committee; and chair of SEIU’s National Corrections Council. Potter has held gubernatorial appointments to several task forces, including, from 2004 to 2013, the Michigan Corrections Officers Training Council. He has spent more than three decades working in and around corrections.

Jennifer Zeunik

Jennifer Zeunik is Director of Local Programs at the National Police Foundation, where she helps law enforcement agencies nationwide develop projects aimed at sustaining healthy police organizations; ensuring officer safety and wellness; and improving community engagement. She has helped departments conduct critical incident reviews, organizational assessments and studies, and do strategic planning. Zeunik has worked closely with public safety and criminal justice agencies, particularly in police programming and policy, to design and implement evidence-based and data-supported strategies for addressing contemporary policing and organizational issues. She oversaw several critical incident reviews, including the 2015 mass shooting at Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino, California; the police response to the 2016 Pulse Nightclub Shooting in Orlando, Florida; and the police response to protests and demonstrations in Portland, Or., and Charlotte, N.C. Previously, she worked at the Atlanta Police Foundation, the International Association of Chiefs of Police and Florida Department of Law Enforcement. Zeunik began her career as a crime lab technician; and earned a master’s of public administration from the University of Georgia School of Public and International Affairs.
OUR TEAM

Stephen Handelman

Stephen Handelman is director of the Center on Media, Crime and Justice and editor-in-chief of The Crime Report. He is a prize-winning former columnist, foreign correspondent and senior writer/columnist for TIME magazine and The Toronto Star. He is author of Comrade Criminal: Russia’s New Mafiya, the first account of the rise of organized crime in post-Soviet Russia.

In a follow-up book, Biohazard, he unraveled the Soviet bio-weapons program. Handelman is a frequent commentator and lecturer on criminal justice issues, transnational crime and organized crime; and has trained investigative journalists in Eastern Europe, Russia and Latin America. Steve earned his Masters in Public Administration from the John F. Kennedy School at Harvard University. He is a member of the board of communications alumni of the City College of New York, the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists and the Council on Foreign Relations.

Katti Gray

Katti Gray is the journalism coordinator for the Justice and the Pandemic Webinar series. A contributing editor for The Crime Report, the Center on Media, Crime and Justice’s national news & resources site, she specializes mainly in health and criminal justice news. Her work also has been published by The Washington Post, Reuters, Pulitzers, New York Newsday, Los Angeles Times, Health Affairs, dailyRX, CNN, Chicago Tribune, CBS, ABC News and AARP, among others. Among other prizes, she shares a Pulitzer with a Newsday team. She has been a fellow of, among others, the Association of Health Care Journalists (where she is the mental health topics leader), Fund for Investigative Journalism, National Institutes of Health Medicine.
in Media, National Press Foundation and Rosalynn Carter Mental Health Journalism programs. She runs New York University’s Urban Journalism Workshop.

Christopher Graham

Christopher Graham is the producer of the CMCJ’s fall-winter series of programs on criminal justice. He serves as technology coordinator and web designer for the International Thriller Writers (ThrillerWriters.org), Evil Eye Concepts (1001DarkNights.com), and several bestselling authors. He consults for a wide variety of companies and organizations that require technical, design, programming and various other IT services. He is the former founder of Backspace, LLC, and co-host of the Backspace Writers Conferences in New York City and the Bahamas, as well as online workshops and classes, and a subscription-based online discussion forum with over 2,000 members.

Emily Riley

Emily Riley is a junior at the University of Maryland, College Park pursuing a double-major in multi-platform journalism and criminology and criminal justice. On campus, she is the Vice President for UMD’s chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists and writes for the campus publication Stories Beneath the Shell. Last summer, Emily worked with UMD on Rostros Físicos, a video project that tells the stories and struggles of representation in the STEM field for Hispanic and Latin Americans. Emily hopes to pursue a career that combines her passion for journalism and criminal justice.
Michael Gelb

Michael Gelb is a rising senior at Cornell University, where he majors in Human Development and double minors in Law & Society and Inequality Studies. On campus, he is a member of a research lab that codes jury selections of death penalty cases to determine if and what effect the demographics of jurors have on the outcome of the case. He is co-president of a club that mentors incarcerated youth. In 2019, Michael interned for the Rockland County District Attorney’s Office. Most recently, he conducted a mixed-methods research study on self-censorship in Rwandan media. Michael is focused on the intersection of media and law.

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