

PANELISTS, SPEAKERS and
MODERATORS

GUN VIOLENCE & PUBLIC HEALTH

 Jacob & Valeria
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The
Joyce
Foundation

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KEYNOTE

The Hon. Brandon Scott



Brandon M. Scott was elected the 52nd Mayor of Baltimore in 2020, after running on a campaign platform to end gun violence, and restore the public's trust in government. First elected in 2011 to the Baltimore City Council at the age of 27, he is one of the youngest people ever elected to that body. Scott was unanimously elected President of the Baltimore City Council by his colleagues in May 2019. As

Council President, Scott developed the first-ever City Council President legislative agenda, focused on building safer, stronger communities, cleaning up city government, investing in Baltimore's young people, and centering equity. During his first term, Scott emerged as a leading voice in reducing violence in Baltimore, and reinstated Council Oversight of the Baltimore Police Department by holding quarterly hearings. A lifelong resident of Baltimore City, Scott was a member of the Young Elected Officials Network and served as the Chair of the National League of Cities' Large Cities Council.

PANELISTS, MODERATORS

Alphabetical order

Thomas Abt

Thomas Abt studies, teaches and writes about the use of evidence-informed approaches to reduce urban violence and is the author of *Bleeding Out: The Devastating Consequences of Urban Violence - and a Bold New Plan for Peace in the Streets*, published in June 2019. Currently a senior fellow at the Council on Criminal Justice, where he leads working groups on Violent Crime and the impact of COVID-19 on corrections, has held leadership positions in the New York Governor's Office and the Office of Justice Programs at the U.S. Department of Justice.

Abt's work has been featured in major media outlets, including *the Atlantic*, *the*



Economist, Foreign Affairs, the New Yorker, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, MSNBC, and National Public Radio.



Edward “Eddie” Bocanegra

Eddie Bocanegra joined Heartland Alliance in June 2017 as Senior Director of READI Chicago, where he oversees the management and implementation of the evidence-based and trauma-informed program to reduce gun violence and promote safety and opportunity. As a pioneer in the field, Bocanegra brings years of experience in community-based organizations and programs created to address trauma and build resiliency among those most impacted by violence. Most recently, he served as Executive Director for the YMCA of Chicago Youth Safety and Violence Prevention, and was responsible for programs that focused on trauma informed approaches such as Urban Warriors and Bridging the Divide. Prior to the YMCA, he was the congregational organizer for Community Renewal Society where he led FORCE (Fighting to Overcome Records and Create Equality). He also worked as a violence interrupter for Chicago’s Ceasefire and was featured in the award-winning documentary “The Interrupters.”



Shani Buggs

Shani Buggs, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor with the Violence Prevention Research Program at UC Davis Health in Sacramento, California. Her primary areas of research include community-level gun violence prevention programs and policies, firearm access and availability, comprehensive approaches to reducing violence through policies and programs at the local, state, and federal levels, and intersections between drugs, drug law enforcement, and gun violence. She completed her master’s degree in Public Health and her doctorate in Health and Public Policy at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



Anthony B. Cooper Sr.

Anthony B. Cooper, Sr. is Vice President of Strategic Partnerships and Reentry Services, Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development. He speaks from experience when he talks about the problems that ex-offenders have when released from prison or jail. His responsibilities include working with the Department of

Corrections and Madison (Wisconsin) Police Department and developing community relations. Anthony has recently been certified as a Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Instructor and Connecticut Community Addiction Recovery Coach. Anthony in December, 2019 secured a Governor's Pardon and is passionate about helping others obtain this life-changing chance for new opportunities.



Myesha Crowe

Myesha Crowe is executive director of Cleveland Peacemakers Alliance (CPA), which provides community-led prevention, intervention and restoration services.

Myesha has a bachelor's and master's degree in social work and is a licensed social worker in the state of Ohio. She recently completed the Harvard Business School course: Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management to assist in her development as an executive director. "We

know that most people are not violent, and we believe that those who are can change," she writes. Her experience at the Boys and Girls Club of Northeast Ohio, a therapist for homeless adults, a behavioral health social worker and hospice social worker has prepared and shaped her passion to continue to serve the community.

Tim Daly

Tim Daly is Senior Program Officer in the Gun Violence Prevention & Justice Reform Program of the Joyce Foundation. Previously, Tim served as the Chief of Staff for Congresswoman Elizabeth Esty (D-CT), where he was responsible for directing and managing the Congresswoman's Washington, D.C. and District offices, while serving as a senior advisor to the Congresswoman. From 2014-2016, Tim served as the managing director for the Guns and Crime policy section at the Center for American Progress (CAP), and from 2010–2014, he served as the interim chief of staff and legislative director for Congressman Mike Thompson (D-CA), where among other things, he was responsible for establishing and directing the House Democratic Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, which Cong. Thompson continues to chair. Originally from Albany, N.Y., Tim graduated with honors and a degree in government and politics and economics from the University of Maryland, College Park in 2004. He also graduated from the Georgetown University Law Center in 2010, and is admitted to the bar in New York State and the District of Columbia.



Lorena González

As one of two at-large (citywide) representatives and the first Latinx elected to serve the Seattle City Council, M. Lorena González has over a decade of experience as a civil rights attorney and community advocate. She is a nationally recognized civil rights leader. In 2020, she was elected by her colleagues to serve her first term as Council President through 2021. Before joining the

Seattle City Council, Councilmember González was a partner at Schroeter Goldmark & Bender, the region's largest plaintiff's law firm. Her practice focused on representing people who were victimized by those in authority positions. She primarily represented workers in wage theft and anti-discrimination cases as well as representing victims of police misconduct and sexual abuse.



Thaddeus Johnson

Thaddeus L. Johnson, Ph.D., a former ranking law enforcement official in Memphis, TN, is an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice & Criminology at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University. He also serves as a Senior Research Fellow for the Council of Criminal Justice. His current research focuses on police policy and innovations, urban violence, crime control, and racially disparate justice outcomes.



Fatimah Loren Dreier

Fatimah Loren Dreier is the executive director of the Health Alliance for Violence Intervention (HAVI) and a Pozen-Commonwealth Fund Fellow in Health Equity Leadership at the Yale School of Management. Prior to joining the HAVI, she was Deputy Director of Equal Justice USA, a national criminal justice reform organization. Fatimah has received numerous honors and distinctions, including the 2018 Robert Wood Johnson Culture of

Health Leaders Fellowship, and is the author of a recent [Washington Post op-ed](#) that highlights the critical role of violence intervention specialists in addressing violence in communities nationwide. Fatimah is a psychotherapist by training and a proud Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Pennsylvania.



Mike McBride

Pastor Mike McBride is a national leader in the movement to implement public health and community centered gun violence prevention programs. The campaigns that he has co-led have contributed to 30-50 percent reductions of gun-related homicides in Oakland, CA, Stockton, CA, Camden, NJ, Baton Rouge, LA, and many other cities across the country. He is the Founder and Lead Pastor of

The Way Church in Berkeley, CA. and also serves as the Director of Faith in Action's LIVE FREE gun violence prevention campaign. He is a Co-Founder of the Black Church PAC and the National Black Brown Gun Violence Prevention Consortium, which works to center black and brown gun violence prevention practitioners and

scale up life-saving interventions related to urban and communal violence. Regarded as a national faith leader, active in the Ferguson uprisings and many subsequent uprisings, he helps bridge, train and support millennials and religious institutions working on racial justice and black liberation.



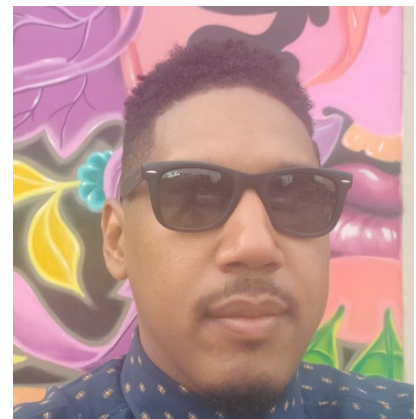
Jim MacMillan

Jim MacMillan is the founder and director of The Initiative for Better Gun Violence Reporting and is now developing the Center for Gun Violence Reporting at Community College of Philadelphia. During his prior photojournalism career, MacMillan spent 17 years at the *Philadelphia Daily News* and covered close to 2,000 shootings. He also worked for The Associated Press in Boston and in Baghdad during the war in Iraq, after

which his team was awarded The Pulitzer Prize. In 2020, he was a Residential Fellow at the Reynolds Journalism Institute at the University of Missouri. Previously, MacMillan has been Journalist in Residence at Swarthmore College, a Fellow with Philadelphia Social Innovations Lab at the University of Pennsylvania and a Practitioner in Residence at the Institute for Global Leadership at Tufts University. He was also an Ochberg Fellow with the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma at Columbia University and the Knight Fellow in Medicine/Health Sciences Journalism with the Knight-Wallace Fellows at the University of Michigan. He has created and taught courses in Peace Journalism, Solutions Journalism and Trauma Journalism.

Adrian McGill

Adrian McGill is director of Reentry Services at Power Corps in Philadelphia. Born and raised in West and Southwest Philadelphia, Adrian writes that he knew from a very young age that “things did not add up for people of color.” As a young person he witnessed the MOVE bombing, which sparked a desire to understand his position in this country as a Black man. While at Cheyney University (the oldest HBCU, established in 1837), Adrian was fed the knowledge that he had always been



searching for, and upon graduation, he began a career of service to his community, working in at-risk schools, drug and alcohol treatment programs, running a GED center for young offenders, and managing after-school programs, Adrian is a husband and father of three children (aged 13, 7, and 6), and married for 18 years to his college

sweetheart. Both Philly natives, the McGills are raising their children to understand the power of service to the community, and to always fight against injustice.



Felicia A. Moore

Felicia Moore is president of the Atlanta City Council and currently a candidate for mayor of Atlanta. She began her community service as President of her Riverside neighborhood association. She then served as Chair of the Neighborhood Planning Unit-D, becoming a strong advocate for economic community development, which led to her election as City Councilmember for District 9, where she served 20 years before becoming City Council president in January 2018. Among her accomplishments was legislation to establish the “Mattie’s Call” alert system, which became the Atlanta Police Department’s standard operating procedure used to help find missing mentally impaired adults. Two years later, the law was adopted statewide.

Khaalid Muttaqi

Khaalid Muttaqi is Chief Operating Officer of Advance Peace. He is the former Director for the City of Sacramento California’s Office of Violence Prevention, where he led a multi-sector collaborative and pioneered a partnership making Sacramento the first replication city for the Advance Peace strategy. He spearheaded the development and implementation of a comprehensive strategic plan which resulted in historic reductions in gang and youth violence. Khaalid is the recipient of the National Gang Crime Research Center’s Spirit Award. He is also an adamant believer in the transformational power of creativity.



Marlon Peterson

Marlon is a writervist. Since his decade of incarceration, he has been an author, podcaster, lecturer and advocated alongside the formerly incarcerated, victims of gun violence, womxn, immigrants, and young people. Ebony Magazine named him one of America's 100 most influential and inspiring leaders in the Black community. A graduate of New York University, he served as founding coordinator of Youth Organizing to Save Our Streets, and co-founder of How Our Lives Link Altogether (H.O.L.L.A!) in Brooklyn, N.Y., and as a board member of New Yorkers Against Gun Violence, Marlon is the author of Bird Uncaged: An Abolitionist's Freedom Song, host of the "DEcarcerated" podcast, and owner of his own social impact endeavor, The Precedential Group Social Enterprises. His TED talk, "*Am I not human? A call for criminal justice reform*", has amassed over 1.2 million views. Marlon's bylines have appeared in media outlets around the U.S., as well as several anthologies.



Johnny Rice II

Johnny Rice II, Dr.PH., MSCJ serves as Chair and Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at Coppin State University, a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) located in Baltimore City. At Coppin, he is also a Research Fellow in the Bishop L. Robinson Sr. Justice Institute where he is part of vital study exploring factors that influence gun possession by young Black males in urban environments. Before joining Coppin, he worked as a senior program associate at the Vera Institute of Justice in their Center of Victimization and Safety. He has spent the past 22 years providing leadership, technical assistance, and support to organizations that serve low-income fathers and families in the areas of child welfare, youth development, and criminal justice in efforts to create safe and stable communities. Before joining Vera, he worked as a public administrator in local government and served as the state administrator for the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Program, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) Domestic Violence Program, the Rape Crisis and Sexual Assault Program, and federal and state-funded Responsible Fatherhood programs. He currently serves as Board President for the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV). He earned his MS and BS Degrees in Criminal Justice from the University of Baltimore, and his Doctor of Public

Health degree from Morgan State University's School of Community Health and Policy. He resides in Maryland and is a proud husband and father.

Noé Romo

Noé Romo received his B.S from the University of California Riverside and received his MD from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in 2008, and an M.S in Epidemiology from The Mailman School of Public Health. Dr. Romo completed his Pediatrics residency at Jacobi Medical Center in The Bronx, N.Y. He is now an attending Pediatric hospitalist at the Jacobi Medical Center Lewis M. Fraad Department of Pediatrics and also serves as Co-Director of the Pediatrics Inpatient Service. In addition he also serves as the medical director of the Pediatric Violent Trauma Follow up Clinic and of the Bronx Stand Up to Violence (S.U.V) program which is the Jacobi Medical Center Community Violence Prevention Initiative. The S.U.V team responds to every patient that is shot, stabbed, or assaulted with a coordinated response. His research interests include the epidemiology of violence and the incorporation and evaluation of community violence prevention initiatives in at-risk youth, along with examining the effects of PTSD and chronic stress in trauma victims.



Anthony D. Smith

Anthony D. Smith is the Executive Director of Cities United—a national mayor-led initiative focused on eliminating the violence in American cities related to Black men and boys. Before joining Cities United, Anthony led the Office for Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods for Mayor Greg Fischer and the City of Louisville. Anthony earned his bachelor's degree from Northern Kentucky University. Throughout his professional career he has made a priority of creating positive outcomes for youth and cultivating up and coming leaders. Anthony was born, raised and still lives in Louisville, Kentucky with his wife and family.



Paul David Smith

Paul David Smith is the Director of Reconciliation at the National Network for Safe Communities at John Jay College of Criminal Justice where he previously directed the Chicago Violence Reduction Strategy. The Chicago Violence Reduction Strategy seeks to dramatically reduce group and gang violence in the City of Chicago. The Violence Reduction Strategy is a joint effort of the National Network for Safe Communities at John Jay College of Criminal Justice,

the Chicago Police Department, the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, the Illinois Department of Corrections and a variety of community and faith-based partners. Prior to joining the National Network, Paul worked as the Public Safety Coordinator for the City of Chattanooga. He was responsible for managing Chattanooga's Group Violence Reduction Strategy and coordinated with city officials, law enforcement, social service providers and community members to develop and implement the strategy.



Rachel Swaner

Rachel Swaner is the research director at the Center for Court Innovation. She has led local and national research and evaluation projects related to violence prevention, the sex trade, youth development, and people's experiences with the criminal justice system. Prior to joining the Center, she was a researcher at the Harlem Children's Zone. Rachel received her Bachelor of

Science and Master of Public Administration degrees from New York University, and her Ph.D. in Sociology from the CUNY Graduate Center. She is a professor at NYU's Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and is a board member for the Participatory Budgeting Project.

OUR TEAM



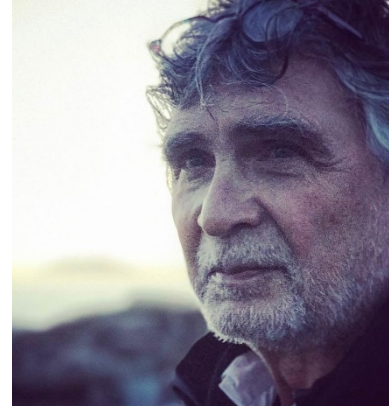
Stephen Handelman

Stephen Handelman is director of the Center on Media, Crime and Justice (CMCJ) and editor-in-chief of *The Crime Report*. A former prize-winning former columnist, foreign correspondent and senior writer/columnist for *TIME* magazine and *The Toronto Star*, he is the 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. A frequent commentator and lecturer on criminal justice issues, transnational crime and organized crime, he has trained investigative journalists in Eastern Europe, Russia and Latin America. Steve earned his Master's 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.

Maurice Possley

Maurice Possley is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author of four nonfiction books. Possley is the senior researcher for The National Registry of Exonerations, a database of more than 2,800 wrongful convictions maintained by the University of California Irvine Newkirk Center for Science & Society, University of Michigan Law School and Michigan State University College of Law.



Christopher Graham

Christopher Graham is the producer of the CMCJ's 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*. Over the 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 issues.