



May 2017



Right to Counsel National Consortium

On October 25, 2016, the Right to Counsel (R2C) National Consortium held its second annual meeting in the Great Hall of the U.S. Department of Justice. The meeting brought together a group of criminal justice stakeholders, policymakers, and advocates to show their continued commitment to protecting citizens' Sixth Amendment right to effective counsel. Click [here](#) to read the final report of the meeting.

Save the **date** for R2C's Third Annual Meeting on November 2, 2017!



Interview with Zoë Root, Senior Policy Counsel at JPO

Across the nation, lack of funding, time, and resources prevent public defenders from adequately representing their clients. As shown in a 60 Minutes segment, the New Orleans Public Defenders responded by deciding to refuse felony cases with life sentences. Zoë Root, Senior Policy Counsel at JPO, met with Kelsey Murphy to continue the conversation about the various roadblocks public defenders face daily. Read the full interview [here](#).

National Drug Court Resource Center

JPO staff will be attending the Louisiana Association of Drug Court Professionals Conference from May 9-11 in New Orleans on behalf of the National Drug Court Resource Center (NDCRC). NDCRC will host a table of resources and materials from JPO, the Tribal Law and Policy Institute, the Center for Court Innovation, and the National Association of Drug Court Professional on drug treatment courts. For more information on NDCRC, please visit the [NDCRC website](#) and see the [project description](#).

The Justice Programs Office (JPO), under the School of Public Affairs at American University, is pleased to present its monthly newsletter. Our current initiatives include the National Drug Court Resource, Policy, and Evidence-Based Practice Center, the Right to Counsel (R2C) National Campaign, the Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Training and Technical Assistance Initiative, and Training and Technical Assistance for State Administering Agencies. Please forward this newsletter to your colleagues and partners in the field. If you have been forwarded this email but would like to receive it directly, email justice@american.edu.

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