

JPO Monthly

Welcome to JPO Monthly!

American University, School of Public Affairs, Justice Programs Office (JPO) is pleased to present its second monthly newsletter. Each month, we will send you valuable information on our current initiatives such as the Drug Court and Veterans Treatment Court Technical Assistance projects, the Right to Counsel (R2C) National Campaign, and Training and Technical Assistance for State Administering Agencies. Please forward this newsletter to your colleagues and partners in the field, and if you have been forwarded this email but would like to receive it directly, email justice@american.edu.



Kim A. Ball, Esq.

New Director for JPO

The American University School of Public Affairs is pleased to announce Kim A. Ball as the new Director of the Justice Programs Office. Kim came to JPO from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) in the U.S. Department of Justice, where she served as the Senior Policy Advisor for Adjudication. Kim is an accomplished criminal justice strategist skilled at applying research to practice in local and state criminal justice systems across the country. She recently launched the Pretrial Justice Working Group and the Right to Counsel (R2C) National Campaign. As a thought leader in her field, Kim has overseen the development of reform efforts for state and local courts and criminal justice systems, promoting them nationally for replication. She has focused on ensuring procedural fairness in local criminal courts, promoting pretrial justice and developing problem-solving courts. Kim is originally from Arkansas, and served as a Special Assistant District Attorney in Little Rock before moving to Washington, DC. She holds a JD from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville School of Law. She is an avid Arkansas Razorback fan, loves Memphis-style barbecue, and enjoys traveling to new countries and hiking mountains. “We are pleased to have Kim join the School of Public Affairs to lead the talented staff at the Justice Programs Office,” said AU School of Public Affairs Dean Barbara Romzek. “With her breadth of experience and enthusiasm for the field, I know Kim will move the office forward in the years to come.”

JPO Awarded Two U.S. Department of Justice Grants

The end of September brought the announcement that JPO was competitively awarded two grants from the Department of Justice. The first, from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, is to develop a National Drug Court Resource, Policy and Evidence-Based Practice Center. This center will become a hub of information for and about treatment courts. In addition to developing the online portal, JPO will also be developing and sharing print and multimedia resources for treatment courts, conducting and publishing a national survey of the field, and publishing an annual journal of peer-reviewed research. Through the second grant, from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, AU will provide training and technical assistance for juvenile drug treatment courts. “We are excited to be continuing to provide expertise to drug treatment courts,” stated JPO Director Kim Ball. “One of the largest challenges for our country is how to address the issue of people with substance use disorders who come in contact with the justice system.”

50 Years of Crime, Policing and Justice: Panel to be held October 20th at AU

It's been nearly a half century since President Lyndon Johnson's commission released a landmark report on the state of crime, justice and policing in the U.S. The Justice Program Office, along with the Washington Institute for Public Affairs Research at AU's School of Public Affairs, is co-sponsoring a panel discussion on the progress made and the challenges ahead for policymakers. JPO Director Kim Ball will moderate the panel, which includes Lynn Addington, AU School of Public Affairs; Darryl DeSouza, Baltimore City Policy Department; Phil Cook, Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University; and Peter Reuter, School of Public Policy at the University of Maryland. The event will be held on the AU campus (SIS Founder's room) from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 20th at the and is free and open to the public; to register go to www.american.edu/crime.



Fall Treatment Court Webinars Have Begun!

JPO's first fall webinar, "Creating Trauma-Informed Treatment Courts," was held October 5, 2016. Karen Johnson, LCSW, presented information on the causes and manifestations of trauma, and discussed how courts could adjust their processes to become more trauma-informed. The recorded webinar can be viewed [here](#). Below is the schedule of upcoming webinars, with links for registration. These webinars are a part of the BJA Drug and Veterans Treatment Court Technical Assistance Project, and are free of charge. Please share this information with your colleagues and let them know they can sign up for notifications of upcoming webinars by emailing us at justice@american.edu.

Upcoming Webinars

1. *A Challenging Design: Addressing Synthetic and Designer Drugs in Adult Drug Treatment Courts*. October 25th, 1:00 p.m. EST. Register [here](#).
2. *Sustaining Your Treatment Court: Using a 501(c)(3) to Raise Money*. November 3rd, noon EST. Register [here](#).
3. *The Role of the Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) specialist in Veterans Treatment Courts*. November 9th, 2:00 p.m. EST. Register [here](#).
4. *The Role of Prosecutors in Treatment Courts*. November 15th, 1:00 EST. Register [here](#).
5. *Data Driven Drug Courts: Effectively Using Risk/Needs Assessments and Screens*. Details TBA.

Upcoming October Site Visits

- Clay County, Minnesota
- Le Seur County, Minnesota
- Overton County, Tennessee
- Roane County, Tennessee

Right to Counsel

Second Annual Meeting—Morning Portion to be Livestreamed.

On October 25th, the Right to Counsel National Consortium will hold its Second Annual Meeting. The meeting aims to provide the participants an opportunity to hear about successful legislative efforts to improve the right to counsel in the states, to learn about new opinion research on how Americans understand the right to counsel and to share strategies for using social media to educate about this issue. It is also an opportunity for the R2C national consortium members to highlight their efforts over the past year in advancing the right to counsel. Using these updates, the R2C national consortium members will develop federal, state and local policy recommendations that safeguard the Constitutional Right to Counsel. While the meeting is by invitation only, we are pleased to announce that the event will be livestreamed from 9:00 a.m. through the luncheon plenary session at Justice.gov/live-stream. For more details, contact Preeti Menon or Genevieve Citrin at 202-885-2875.

Judge's Role in Ensuring Constitutional Right to Counsel

JPO's Senior Policy Associate Preeti P. Menon, moderated a session on judge's role in ensuring constitutional right to counsel at the American Judge's Association Annual Conference in Toronto, Canada on September 28th. The panel discussion provided judges with an overview on the state of right to counsel in Canada and United States and progress made in states with respect to right to counsel over the recent years, including a discussion about the newly launched U.S. Department of Justice's National Campaign on the Right to Counsel (R2C).

Panelists included Justice James Stribopoulos (Ontario, Canada), Norman Reimer, President of NACDL, and Judge Betty T. Moore (TN). For more information, please visit R2C national campaign online at www.r2cnationalcampaign.org. You may also obtain session material on the American Judges Association's website at <http://www.amjudges.org/conferences/2016Annual/Judges-Role-in-Ensuring-Right-to-Counsel.pdf>



Preeti P. Menon at the AJA Conference

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