

Kim A. Ball, Esq.

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Profession Summary

I am an accomplished criminal justice strategist with expertise in seeing all the moving parts and putting them together for successful social change. I am skilled in applying research to practice in local and state criminal justice systems across the country. I have a proven record of accomplishment in collaboration that leads to successful, long-lasting relationships among friends and unlikely allies. I am an impassioned leader who is skilled at program development and capacity building.

Professional Experience

Leadership

In my position as the Director of the Justice Programs Office (JPO), I lead a staff of 20, manage federal and foundation funds, specializing in research, policy development, technical assistance and training, and provide expert advice and services on civil and criminal legal matters, with an emphasis on collaborative justice. At the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), I developed cross-disciplinary strategic plans with other Senior Policy Advisors on how the disciplines—Law Enforcement, Corrections, Information Technology and the Courts—can work together to improve the administration of justice. Throughout the years, I have developed and implemented adjudication programs based on gaps and needs demonstrated in the field thereby growing the adjudication portfolio by 80% within the U.S. Department of Justice. My success, in great part, is due to the relationships I have developed with national organizations, foundations and associations that enables me to leverage resources and collaborate within and among criminal justice disciplines.

Management

My management experience includes supervising ten policy advisors (the Justice Systems team) at BJA and overseeing 140 grants and cooperative agreements, totaling over \$265 million dollars. I served as a liaison between BJA senior management and the Justice Systems team. On a daily basis I problem-solved with internal and external partners to provide customer service to state, local and tribal criminal justice professionals. Most importantly—I listened, communicated, supported and guided the ten team members, providing them the tools they needed to be successful. At the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, I directly supervised 18 employees and oversaw the management of 620 Drug-Free Communities Support Program (DFCSP) grants. I was responsible for policy and program development, administration, human resource management, and coordination of the DFCSP within the Office of Justice Programs.

Policy Development and Research Design

Currently at JPO, I work on projects that develop policies and practices for Ensuring the Right to Counsel, state and local policy makers, juvenile justice drug court technical assistance and training, the Adult Drug Court Resource Center and Prosecutors Against Gun Violence. At BJA, I was responsible for policy and program development for over 10 distinct criminal justice initiatives. I develop and host national policy forums and summits for state, local and tribal court professionals, and I have overseen program design and implementation for Congressional line items, including the Capital Case Litigation Improvement Initiative, the Wrongful Conviction project, Closed Circuit Televising of Child Victims, and the Tribal Courts Assistance Program. Currently I'm focusing on three initiatives—Smart Pretrial, Right to Counsel and Procedural Justice—demonstrating integration of research into local site implementation. I also oversee projects on holistic defense and prosecutor leadership, along with supporting implementation of community courts and training for judges in leadership positions.

Legal Experience

My legal experience includes conducting legal and scholarly research on civil rights issues, investigating compliance with civil rights statutes and regulations, and preparing summaries of current civil rights issues for Commissioners on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. I began my professional career in Arkansas as a Special Assistant District Attorney in district, municipal, and juvenile court on select cases, and represented the State in probate court on

mental health and substance abuse commitment cases. I analyzed and proposed criminal justice legislation and made recommendations to District Attorneys on which proposed legislation to support. I worked on juvenile law reform in the aftermath of the Jonesboro, Arkansas school shooting, taught criminal procedure to law enforcement officers, and contributed articles to *The Arkansas Prosecutor*, a statewide monthly newsletter.

Work History

American University, School of Public Affairs

Justice, Law and Criminology

Research Professor

Director, Justice Programs Office

September 2016 – present

September 2016-- present

United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Washington, DC

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Senior Policy Advisor for Adjudication

Acting Associate Deputy Director, Policy Division

Attorney-Advisor/Special Assistant

September 2004 – September 2016

November 2010- March 2011

October 1999 - April 2000

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Drug-Free Communities Support Program

Program Coordinator

Grant Program Specialist

August 2003 – August 2004

March 2002 – August 2003

United States Commission on Civil Rights, Office of the General Counsel, Washington, DC

Attorney-Advisor

April 2000 – March 2002

United States Department of Agriculture, Office of the General Counsel, Washington, DC

Attorney-Advisor

August 1999 - October 1999

Office of the Prosecutor Coordinator, Little Rock, AR

Staff Attorney /Special Assistant District Attorney

February 1996 - June 1999

Education

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR

School of Law

Juris Doctorate, May 1995

College of Arts and Science

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science and Communications, May 1991

Awards

United States Department of Justice Assistant Attorney General's Award, December 2014

Association of Prosecuting Attorneys' Iceberg Award, September 2010

Attorney General's Leadership Excellence and Achievement Program, July 2008- July 2009

National Summits and Policy Forums

I am a thought leader and subject-matter expert on Pretrial Justice (specifically the research behind risk assessment), Right to Counsel, Jail Reduction, Community-Oriented Prosecution and Procedural Justice and am invited often to present on these subjects at summits and policy forums. In addition, I have a unique understanding of state, local and tribal criminal justice funding. Over the last twelve years, I have developed, hosted, and presented at many events. Examples include:

Community-Oriented Prosecution Summits, 2004 - 2014

Developed and hosted annual summits for 10 years

Community Justice International Summits, 2010 – 2016

Developed and hosted four Community Justice Summits, specifically:

Community Justice 2010. Delivered keynote address and closing remarks

Community Justice 2012. Moderator “How Do We Pay for This?--Sustaining Community Courts”

Community Justice 2014 Moderator “Funding Your Innovation”

Community Justice 2016 Panel presenter “Funding Your Criminal Justice Program” and Moderator “Jail Reduction and Public Safety”

Pretrial Justice Working Group (PJWG), 2010 – 2016

Developed and moderated six policy forums. PJWG is a standing, multi-disciplinary working group of national leaders in criminal justice, and its mission is to collaboratively address the challenges in moving from a costly pretrial justice system to one that is safe, fair and effective.

Right to Counsel (R2C) National Campaign, November 2015

Developed and launched the R2C public awareness campaign. This campaign will be the catalyst for the criminal justice system to recognize the need for policy and practice change at the state and local level to ensure the fulfillment of the Sixth Amendment right to counsel for individuals.

Law Enforcement Forecasting Group, October 2015

Presented the group on Pretrial Justice, explaining the research behind pretrial risk assessment and how jurisdictions can move from a bond schedule system to one that uses risk to inform pretrial decision-making. This group consists of 20 criminal justice executives and researchers and was created to identify emerging issues and strategies to assist law enforcement agencies in providing quality police services. After the meeting, two jurisdictions—Flint, MI and St. Louis, MO—followed up with me on steps for implementation. I provided phone and web-based assistance to these jurisdictions to help with implementation.