

Committee on Law and Justice

Committee

Robert J. Sampson

Chair

ROBERT J. SAMPSON is the Woodford L. and Ann A. Flowers University Professor at Harvard University, Affiliated Research Professor at the American Bar Foundation, and founding director of the Boston Area Research Initiative. Previously, he taught at the University of Chicago. Professor Sampson is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, the American Society of Criminology, the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, and, as Corresponding Fellow, the British Academy. Former President of the American Society of Criminology, he received the Stockholm Prize in Criminology. His research and teaching cover a variety of areas including crime and criminal justice, the life course and social change, neighborhood effects, collective civic engagement, inequality, and urban social structure. The author of three award-winning books and numerous articles, his last book, published by the University of Chicago Press, is *Great American City: Chicago and the Enduring Neighborhood Effect* (2nd edition, 2024). *Great American City* is based on the culmination of over a decade of research from the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods, which he served as Scientific Director and which continues after 30 years.

Monica Bell

Member

MONICA C. BELL is a Professor of Law & Associate Professor of Sociology at Yale University. Her research is primarily on how women and youth of color experience policing, segregation, and other forms of legal control. She is also studying alternatives to traditional approaches to security and violence reduction, and she conducts her research using qualitative and humanistic methods. Bell has received recognition for her scholarship and service from the American Sociological Association (ASA) and the American Association of Law Schools, and she has served in leadership roles in the ASA Sections on Sociology of Law and Crime, Law, and Deviance. She has also served on the editorial boards of the *American Sociological Review*, *Law & Society Review*, *City & Community*, and *Social Problems*. In addition to her research, she is a former legal aid attorney and federal law clerk. She holds a B.A. from Furman University; an M.Sc. from University College Dublin, where she was a Mitchell Scholar; a J.D. from Yale University, and a Ph.D. in Sociology and Social Policy from Harvard University.

Anthony Braga

Member

ANTHONY BRAGA is the Jerry Lee Professor of Criminology and Director of the Crime and Justice Policy Lab at the University of Pennsylvania. His research focuses on fairness and effectiveness in policing, disrupting illegal gun markets, and evaluating community violence interventions. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Criminology and recipient of its August Vollmer Award recognizing outstanding contributions to the field of criminal justice. He has also received the U.S. Attorney General's Award for Outstanding Contributions to Community Partnerships for Public Safety, the U.S. Department of Justice. Project Safe Neighborhoods Outstanding Service by a Research Partner Award, and the Distinguished Achievement Award in Evidence-Based Crime Policy from the Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy at George Mason University. He received his MPA from Harvard University and Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from Rutgers University. Dr. Braga served as a member of the Committee on Proactive Policing - Effects on Crime, Communities, and Civil Liberties in the United States.

Rod K. Brunson

Member

ROD K. BRUNSON is a professor in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Maryland, College Park. He is a widely sought-after speaker and has received numerous professional awards in recognition of his distinguished body of scholarly work, most recently, American Society of Criminology, Fellow. Furthermore, Dr. Brunson co-directs the Racial Democracy Crime and Justice Network, social scientists conducting research on crime, inequality, and the criminal justice system. Professor Brunson's expertise centers on police-minority community relations, youth violence, and evidence-based criminal justice policy. He has consistently called for effective crime reduction strategies that do not result in racially disparate treatment of minority citizens and disadvantaged neighborhoods. Dr. Brunson's scholarship appears in the Annual Review of Sociology, British Journal of Criminology, City & Community, Criminology, Criminology & Public Policy, Evaluation Review, Justice Quarterly, Urban Affairs Review, and the Journal of Urban Health. In 2003, he earned his Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He earned his M.A. and B.S., Criminology and Criminal Justice from University of Missouri at St. Louis.

Elsa Chen

Member

ELSA CHEN is a professor and Chair of Political Science at Santa Clara University. Her work focuses on criminal justice reform, reentry from incarceration, criminal record expungement, the implementation and effects of mandatory minimum sentences, and racial and ethnic disparities in sentencing outcomes. She co-edited *Beyond Recidivism: New Approaches to Research on Prisoner Reentry and Reintegration* (NYU Press 2020). Dr. Chen's work has appeared in journals including *Justice Quarterly*, *Punishment & Society*, *Law & Policy*, *Feminist Criminology*, *Social Science Quarterly*, the *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*, and the *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*. Dr. Chen has served on the American Society of Criminology (ASC) Executive Board, the Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Network steering committee, and the U.S. Dept. of Justice, Office of Justice Programs' Science Advisory Board, and chaired ASC's Division on People of Color and Crime. Dr. Chen has a PhD in Political Science from UCLA, an MPP from Harvard, and an AB in Public and International Affairs from Princeton. She was a member of the NASEM Committee on Evaluating Success Among People Released from Prison that authored *The Limits of Recidivism: Measuring Success After Prison* (2022). She received her Ph.D. from University of California, Los Angeles, 2000; M.P.P., Harvard University, 1993; and her A.B., Princeton University, 1991.

Jens Ludwig

Member

JENS LUDWIG is the Edwin A. and Betty L. Bergman Distinguished Service professor at the University of Chicago, Pritzker Director of the University of Chicago Crime Lab, and co-director of the Education Lab. He helped found the Crime Lab 10 years ago to work closely with local government to reduce gun violence and advance justice. His work tries to understand ways of preventing crime and gun violence using the tools of economics, behavioral science and computer science. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from Duke University, serves as co-director of the National Bureau of Economic Research working group on the economics of crime, is on the editorial board of the *American Economic Review* and is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine.

Samuel L. Myers, Jr

Member

SAMUEL L. MYERS, JR. is the Roy Wilkins Professor of Human Relations and Social Justice at the Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota. Myers holds concurrent appointments in the Applied Economics Ph.D. Program and the graduate minor in population studies in the Minnesota Population Center. He maintains an affiliation with the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (Beijing, China). Myers has published extensively on applied microeconomic and policy issues in leading economics and interdisciplinary journals and books and monographs. He is a pioneer in the use of applied econometric techniques to examine racial disparities in crime, to detect illegal discrimination in home mortgage lending and consumer credit markets, to assess the impacts of welfare on family stability, to evaluate the effectiveness of government transfers in reducing poverty, and to detect disparities and discrimination in government contracting. He is the co-editor of a special edition of the Journal of Economic Literature focusing race and economic modeling and the co-author of a recent paper on the marginalization of race in the economics of crime literature. Myers is an elected Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration; a past president of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM); the former chair of the National Science Foundation's Committee on Equal Opportunity in Science and Engineering (CEOSE); an appointed member of the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Science Advisory Board and a former president of the National Economic Association (NEA). Myers has previously served as a technical consultant to the U.S. General Accounting Office, National Drug Policy Committee (1992); U.S. General Accounting Office, Sentencing Guidelines Committee (1991-1992); U.S. Civil Rights Commission (1989); and the National Academy of Sciences (1987). He is the co-author of "Crime and the Black Community: Issues in the Understanding of Race and Crime in America," commissioned by the Committee on the Status of Black Americans, National Research Council, 1988. He received his Ph.D. in economics from MIT where his dissertation on the economics of crime was supervised by Nobel-laurate, Robert M. Solow, Michael Piore and Lester Thurow. His BA in economics was awarded by Morgan State University.

Emily Owens

Member

EMILY OWENS is a professor in the Department of Criminology, Law, and Society at the University of California, Irvine. She also holds a secondary appointment in the Department of Economics. Professor Owens studies a wide range of topics in the economics of crime, including policing, sentencing, and the impact of local public policies on criminal behavior. Her research uses both quasi-experimental variation and randomized controlled trials to examine how government policies affect the prevalence of criminal activity as well as how agents within the criminal justice system, particularly police, prosecutors, and judges, respond to policy changes. Professor Owens is a fellow of the Academy of Experimental Criminology, and a faculty affiliate of the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab and California Policy Lab. Dr. Owens received her Ph.D. in economics from the University of Maryland-College Park.

Alexis R. Piquero

Member

ALEXIS R. PIQUERO is a professor in the Department of Sociology & Criminology and Arts and Sciences Distinguished Scholar at the University of Miami. He previously served as the Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics (appointed by President Biden in June 2022). In directing BJS, he oversaw a budget of more than \$90 million including several dozens of data collections on various crime and justice topics including police-citizen contacts and worked hand-in-hand with a dedicated team of more than fifty personnel. Dr. Piquero is an internationally recognized criminologist with more than 26 years of experience. He has given congressional testimony on evidence-based crime prevention practices and provided counsel and support to local, state, national, and international criminal justice agencies and elected leaders. An author of more than 500 articles and several books, he examines criminal careers, criminal justice policy, crime prevention, and the intersection of race/ethnicity and crime with a focus on quantitative methodology. He is a Fellow of both the American Society of Criminology and the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. In 2019, he received the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Bruce Smith Sr. Award for outstanding contributions to criminal justice, and in 2020, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Division of Developmental and Life-Course Criminology of the American Society of Criminology. Professor Piquero has served on several NAS/NRC panels spanning crime and justice issues, including the Modernizing Crime Statistics Panel, Evaluating the Research Portfolio of the National Institute of Justice, and Implementing Juvenile Justice Reform. He received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. in Criminology & Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland College Park.

Jesenia Pizarro

Member

JESENIA PIZARRO is a professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice in Arizona State University. Her research focuses on violence, particularly lethal violence committed with firearms, the processing of violent crime in the criminal justice system, and transdisciplinary research approaches. She has worked with police departments and agencies throughout the country in joint efforts to curb violence and has managed funded grants that focus on urban violence and intimate partner homicide prevention, awarded by various federal agencies. Her work has appeared in the American Journal of Public Health, Behavioral Medicine, Justice Quarterly, Journal of Interpersonal Violence, and Homicide Studies. She is currently a member of the Homicide Research Working Group, an officer in the Research Society for the Prevention of Firearm Related Harms, and the editor-in-chief of Homicide Studies: An Interdisciplinary and International Journal. She received her Ph.D. in 2005 from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

Addie Rolnick

Member

ADDIE C. ROLNICK is the San Manuel Professor of Law at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, William S. Boyd School of Law. She is the Faculty Director of the Indian Nations Gaming & Governance Program and the Associate Director of the Program on Race, Gender & Policing. Ms. Rolnick's research investigates the relationships between sovereign power and Indigenous/minority rights as mediated through justice systems. Specific areas of research include Native peoples' encounters with tribal, federal, and state justice systems; equal protection-based attacks on indigenous rights; formal and informal policing; juvenile justice; Indigenous children's rights; and Indigenous justice systems. She teaches Federal Indian Law, Tribal Law, Criminal Law, Juvenile Justice, Civil Rights, Critical Race Theory, and Law & Inequality: Policing, Protest & Reform. From 2020-2022, she served on the NASEM Ad Hoc Committee in Reducing Racial Inequalities in the Criminal Justice System.

Vincent Schiraldi

Member

VINCENT SCHIRALDI is the Secretary of Maryland's Department Juvenile Services. Mr. Schiraldi is a national leader in criminal/juvenile justice and mass incarceration reform, a field he has worked in for more than four decades. Mr. Schiraldi previously served as Commissioner of New York City's Department of Correction, and before that Columbia University, where he served as Senior Research Scientist at the Columbia School of Social Work and co-Director of the Columbia Justice Lab, working to reduce the footprint and negative impact of community corrections, eliminate youth prisons, and create a developmentally appropriate response to offending by young adults. Mr. Schiraldi went to Columbia from the Harvard Kennedy School Program in Criminal Justice where he was a Senior Researcher. Mr. Schiraldi also has extensive government experience in criminal and juvenile justice. While Commissioner of New York City's Department of Correction, he attempted to close Riker's Island and end the practice of solitary confinement. Mr. Schiraldi also served as director of juvenile corrections in Washington DC, as Commissioner of the New York City Department of Probation, and as Senior Policy Adviser to the NYC Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice. Mr. Schiraldi also pioneered efforts at community-based alternatives to incarceration in NYC and Washington DC as founder and executive director of the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice and Justice Policy Institute, respectively. Mr. Schiraldi has lectured at the Columbia University School of Social Work, Harvard Law School, NYU School of Social Work, San Francisco University, and the Georgetown University Center for Juvenile Justice Reform. Mr. Schiraldi received a Master's in Social Work from New York University, and a Bachelor of Arts from Binghamton University.

Christopher Uggen

Member

CHRISTOPHER UGGEN is Regents professor and Martindale chair in Sociology, Law, and Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota. He researches crime, law, and inequality, firm in the belief that sound research can help build a more just and peaceful world. His books include *Incarceration and Health in the Age of Mass Incarceration* (2022, Oxford) and *Locked Out: Felon Disenfranchisement and American Democracy* (2006, Oxford). His current projects examine voting rights for people with criminal records, prison reentry, fairness in sentencing, Scandinavian justice, gun violence, and monetary sanctions. He recently received the 2023 American Sociological Association Public Understanding of Sociology award. He is a fellow of the American Society of Criminology and a 2025-2026 candidate for President of the American Sociological Association. He received his Ph.D. in 1995 from the University of Wisconsin.

Emily A. Wang

Member

EMILY A. WANG is a Professor in the Yale School of Medicine and Public Health and directs the new SEICHE Center for Health and Justice. The SEICHE Center is a collaboration between the Yale School of Medicine and Yale Law School working to stimulate community transformation by identifying the legal, policy, and practice levers that can improve the health of individuals and communities impacted by mass incarceration. Dr. Wang leads the Health Justice Lab research program, which receives National Institutes of Health funding to investigate how incarceration influences chronic health conditions, including cardiovascular disease, cancer, and opioid use disorder, and uses a participatory approach to study interventions which mitigate the impacts of incarceration. As an internist, she has cared for thousands of individuals with a history of incarceration and is co-founder of the Transitions Clinic Network, a consortium of 45 community health centers nationwide dedicated to caring for individuals recently released from correctional facilities by employing community health workers with histories of incarceration. Dr. Wang co-chaired the National Academy of Sciences consensus report on Decarcerating Correctional Facilities During COVID-19, the Steering Committee on Improving Collection of Indicators of Criminal Justice System Involvement in Population Health Data Programs, and workshops on Health and Incarceration and Means of Violence. Her work been published in the *Lancet*, *JAMA*, *American Journal of Public Health*, and *Health Affairs*, and showcased in national outlets such as the *New York Times*, NPR, and CNN. Dr. Wang has an A.B. from Harvard University, an M.D. from Duke University, and a MAS from the University of California, San Francisco.