Belmont Criminal Law Journal

BEYOND INCARCERATION AND CONFINEMENT: THE SUCCESS OF ALTERNATIVES TO IMPRISONMENT IN AN ERA OF MASS INCARCERATION.

March 5, 2021

SCHEDULE:

9:00 – 9:15 a.m. opening remarks

9:15 – 10:30 a.m. Panel I – Law Enforcement Perspective on Alternative Punishment (Panelists listed below)

10:30-11:00 a.m. Presentation I - Michael Sousa - Therapeutic Discipline: Drug Courts, Governmentality, and the Power of the Normalizing Gaze

11:00 – 12:00 p.m. Presentation II – Pam Metzger & Troy Rhodes – Alternatives to Incarceration: Perspectives from the Front Line

12:15 – 1:30 p.m. Panel II- Judicial Perspective in Alternative Punishment (Panelists listed below)
Speaker Biographies:

PRESENER I - MICHAEL SOUSA- UNIVERSITY OF DENVER STURM COLLEGE OF LAW
Michael Sousa specializes in bankruptcy and commercial law. Before joining the Strum College of Law’s faculty, Professor Sousa was an associate in the Business Reorganization and Financial Restructuring Practice Group at Duane Morris LLP. Professor Sousa is a contributing editor on the Journal of Bankruptcy Law and Practice, the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal, the Norton Annual Survey of Bankruptcy Law, and Norton Bankruptcy Law and Practice. He is also a co-author of Consumer Bankruptcy Manual. Professor Sousa is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board for the Journal of Bankruptcy Law and Practice. His articles have been cited by several judicial opinions.

PRESENER II- PAMELA METZGER- SMU
Pamela Metzger is the Director of the Deason Criminal Justice Reform Center at SMU. She is a nationally recognized Sixth Amendment and Ethics scholar. After Hurricane Katrina, Professor Metzger helped 8,000 incarcerated indigent defendants with legal representation. She has been featured on 60 Minutes in a segment titled “Overburdened NOLA public defenders say innocents went to prison because they lacked resources and time to defend them properly.” She has also been published in the Yale Law Journal, Vanderbilt Law Review, Southern California Law Review and Northwestern University Law Review, cited by leading authorities, and by the U.S. Supreme Court. Professor Metzger not only oversees the Deason Center’s independent research, but also teaches criminal law.

PRESENTER II- TROY RHODES:
Troy Rhodes is a Formally Incarcerated Person (FIP) who served almost sixteen years in prison. While incarcerated, he obtained a BA degree in Christian Ministry and served as a social mentor in the re-entry program. Today, Mr. Rhodes is employed as a Re-Entry Case Manager at Total Community Action, Inc. He helps formally incarcerated people find employment, housing, and other valuable services and resources to help combat the cycle of recidivism. He has been recognized by his agency as employee of the month because of his commitment to TCA’s motto of “Helping people, changing lives and improving the community.”
Panel I (Law Enforcement) Speakers:

TRAVIS CLAYBROOKS:
Travis Claybrooks, a graduate of the University of Nebraska at Kearney and Liberty University, is the founder and CEO of the Raphah Institute in Nashville, TN. As a former police officer and pastor, Claybrooks saw many of the limitations of the criminal justice system at addressing problems faced by many inner-city Nashville communities, including poverty, lack of education, and insufficient healthcare resources. In 2017, Claybrooks founded the Raphah Institute non-profit in order to provide a resource for communities to heal from social harm and to confront and solve its root causes. Claybrooks leads the Raphah Institute as it aims to create change in Nashville through a variety of programs, including Restorative Justice Diversion, which works with cases referred from juvenile court to address the needs of people harmed by crime and to lower rates of youth violence, arrests, and repeat offenses.

SGT. DEREK KEELER
Derek Keeler is a Nashville native, a sergeant with the Metro Nashville Police Department, and a 3rd generation Metro Police Officer with over 16 years of experience and service. He is one of 15 members of the MNPD’s Office of Community Engagement and Partnerships, a newly created unit which is “responsible for enhancing existing relationships and forming new ones with community groups and organizations across racial, cultural, and social spectrums.” The unit works to build and maintain bridges between the department and Nashville’s diverse populations, and members of the team, including Sgt. Keeler, serve as both problem solvers and advocates for safety among these populations. Knowing that challenges are something we all face, Sgt. Keeler enjoys seeing people overcome adversity and succeed in their own lives.

SHERIFF Daron Hall
Daron Hall, a Nashville native, has served as the sheriff of Davidson County and the Nashville area since September 2002. Following his graduation from Western Kentucky University, Hall returned to his hometown in 1988 and began working in the Davidson County Sheriff’s Office as a counselor, before becoming the office’s director of counseling, assistant administrator for its Criminal Justice Center, chief deputy, and finally, sheriff. He has also served as the president of the National Sheriffs’ Association and is the only sheriff to ever serve as the president of the American Correctional Association. During his more than 30-years in criminal justice work, Hall has made “arresting the problem, and not the person” his main focus, and throughout his career, he has championed efforts to increase public safety, decriminalize mental illness, combat substance abuse, and reduce recidivism rates through innovative inmate and community programming. Hall has received awards and recognition for his work in criminal justice from the Nashville Prevention Partnership, the American Correctional Association, and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill and most recently, he oversaw the opening of Nashville’s Behavioral Care Center, a first-of-its-kind facility that serves as an alternative to jail for mentally ill arrestees as part of his work as the city’s sheriff.
Panel II (Judicial) Speakers:

JUDGES WAVERLY CRENSHAW
Judge Crenshaw is a native Nashvillian who was nominated by President Barack Obama as a Judge of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee. On April 15, 2017, he became Chief Judge of the Middle District of Tennessee. Judge Crenshaw received his B.A. and J.D. degrees from Vanderbilt University.

SUNNY EATON
Sunny Eaton currently leads the Conviction Review Unity at the Davidson County District Attorney’s Office, working to right wrongful convictions and free innocent people from prison. Prior to this, Eaton was an award-winning criminal defense attorney. She received her J.D. from the University of the District of Columbia, David A. Clarke School of Law.

JUDGE SHELIA CALLOWAY
Judge Calloway is a native of Louisville, Kentucky and moved to Nashville in 1987. She received her B.A. and J.D. from Vanderbilt University. After graduating, she worked at the Metro Public Defender’s Office in both the adult system as well as the juvenile system. In January 2004, she was appointed to the position of Juvenile Court Magistrate. She was then elected Juvenile Court Judge in August 2014. Judge Calloway serves as an Adjunct Professor at Vanderbilt University Law School, Belmont Law School, and American Baptist College.