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The Massachusetts Criminal Justice Reform Coalition



Northeastern University
School of Law



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ASSOCIATION
THE PREMINENT VOICE OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION

BRENNAN CENTER
FOR JUSTICE

at New York University School of Law



Getting Criminal Justice Reform Right: Ideas from Independent Experts in the Field

Gardner Auditorium, State House
June 6, 2015 10am-12pm

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

INTRODUCTION

Greg Torres, President of MassINC

RESEARCH PRESENTATION

What Caused the Crime Decline?

Lauren-Brooke Eisen, Senior Counsel
Brennan Center for Justice at NYU

EXPERT PANEL

Steven Tompkins, Suffolk County Sheriff

Michael Widmer, former President of the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation

Jack McDevitt, Director of the Institute on Race and Justice at NEU

MODERATOR: Bill Delahunt, Congressman

*For more information please contact Winthrop Roosevelt
at (617) 224-1625 or wroosevelt@massinc.org*



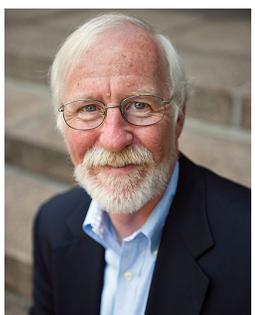
Lauren-Brooke Eisen is Senior Counsel in the Brennan Center's Justice Program where she focuses on improving the criminal justice process through legal reforms. Previously Ms. Eisen was a Senior Program Associate at the Vera Institute of Justice in the Center on Sentencing and Corrections where she worked on policies that aimed to improve public safety while reducing prison populations. She also served as an assistant district attorney in New York City where she served in the Appeals Bureau, the Criminal Court Bureau, and the Sex Crimes Special Victims Bureau where she prosecuted a wide range of misdemeanor and felony cases. She has expertise in state sentencing and correctional reform, legislative drafting, bipartisan commissions, state corrections and courts, and implementing evidence-based criminal justice practices with departments of corrections.

Bill Delahunt is Chairman of the Delahunt Group. He came to Congress in 1997 with a distinguished career in public service and law enforcement. For fourteen years, he represented the Tenth Congressional District of Massachusetts. In Congress he served as a member of the House Judiciary Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and recently served as the Chairman of its Subcommittee on Europe. Prior to his service in Congress, Delahunt served a term as a State Representative and then as District Attorney in the metropolitan Boston area for twenty two years. He is known for having developed the country's first prosecutorial unit on domestic violence and sexual assault cases. Delahunt pioneered programs to combat violence against women that have become national models.



Steven W. Tompkins, a member of the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department since 2002, was appointed to serve as the Sheriff of Suffolk County on January 22nd, 2013 by Governor of Massachusetts, Deval Patrick. Tompkins manages all operations at the Suffolk County House of Correction, the Nashua Street Jail and the Civil Process Division. In addition to providing care, custody and rehabilitative support for inmates and pre-trial detainees, he also oversees a management, security and administrative staff of over 1,000. As the former Chief of External Affairs for the Department, he established sustainable partnerships with municipal agencies, neighborhood organizations, civic associations, local businesses and crime watch groups to increase community engagement in deterring youth crime and improving reentry programs.

Michael Widmer has had a distinguished career in government, politics and public policy. After earning his Ph.D. in government from Harvard, he was a reporter for United Press International, served as communications director for former Governor Michael Dukakis, and was head of public affairs and human resources for Cabot Corporation. For the past 25 years until his retirement in February, Mike was president of the widely respected and influential Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation, the state's premier independent public policy organization. Under his leadership the Foundation won 16 national awards for its research and work on a range of policy issues. He has been active in Belmont town government since 1981 as a Town Meeting Member, chair of the Warrant Committee, and currently Town Moderator.



Jack McDevitt is the director of Northeastern's Institute on Race and Justice. McDevitt is the co-author of three books: *Hate Crimes: The Rising Tide of Bigotry and Bloodshed*, *Hate Crime Revisited: American War on Those Who Are Different* (both with Jack Levin) and *Victimology* (with Judy Sgarzy). He has spoken on hate crime, racial profiling human trafficking and security both nationally and internationally and has testified as an expert witness before the Judiciary Committees of both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives and as invited expert at the White House. In January 2013, McDevitt was appointed by Massachusetts House Speaker Robert DeLeo to lead a special commission on gun violence.