SEVENTH ANNUAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM CONFERENCE

SENTENCING REFORMS: THE NEED FOR COMMUNITY EDUCATION

RE-ENTRY TO THE CLIENT

Family  Community  Employment

Housing  Healthcare

Department of Criminal Justice and Sociology
Program of the Seventh Annual Criminal Justice Reform Conference

Co-Sponsored by:

The ACLU of Mississippi, Jackson State University’s Department of Criminal Justice and Sociology and the Mississippi Public Defender Association

Held at

Jackson State University
College of Liberal Arts
Dollye M.E. Robinson Building

April 11-12, 2014

Sentencing Reform: The Need for Community Education

Program Moderator - Dr. Etta Faye Morgan, Chair
Department of Criminal Justice and Sociology

Friday, April 11, 2014

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.    Registration
1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.        Room 166/266

9:05 a.m. -9:30 a.m.       Opening Session
Greetings
Dr. Lawrence T. Potter, Dean
College of Liberal Arts
Dr. Phillip Cockrell, Associate VP for Student Life/
Dean of Students
Mrs. Jennifer Riley-Collins, Executive Director,
ACLU of Mississippi
Attorney Beau Rudder, Director of Training
Office of State Public Defender

9:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.       Room 166/266

A Review of Mississippi’s Task Force Report on Corrections and Criminal Justice
Facilitator
Mr. Chadwick Shook, Esq.
Assistant Professor, JSU
Dept. of CJ/SOC
MS Bar Board of Commissioners

Panelists
Adrian Appleby, Student Department of Criminal Justice and Sociology
Mia Thompson, Student Department of Criminal Justice and Sociology

10:05 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Room 166/266
Youth Build Mentoring Program
Ms. Isley Carter, West Jackson CDC

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Room 166/266
Tried and Sentenced: Yet Innocence
Introduction of Speaker
Dr. Verna R. Taylor, Assistant Professor
Speaker
Ms. Joyce Ann Brown, President and CEO of M.A.S.S., Inc.
Author, Joyce Ann Brown: Justice Denied

11:30 a.m. – 11:55 a.m. Room 166/266
Joyce Ann Brown: Justice Denied
Book Signing

Noon – 1:30 p.m. Room 143
Lunch Sponsored by the Mississippi Public Defenders Association
(Pick up Box Lunches with ticket)

1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. Room 166/266
Ethics Hour
Introduction of Speaker
Mrs. Jennifer Riley-Collins, Executive Director, ACLU
Speaker
Judge Carlton Reeves,
United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi

2:45 p.m. – 2:55 p.m. Break
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Room 166/266

Sentencing and Changes in the Codes

Beau Rudder (MPDA), Senator Derrick Simmons and Senator Willie Simmons

4:05 p.m. - 4:55 p.m. Room 166/266

Sentencing and Its Impact on Advocacy

Introduction of Speaker

Mrs. Jennifer Riley-Collins, Executive Director, ACLU

Speaker

Mr. Will Harrell
Regional Policy Counsel
ACLU, National Office

5:00 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Saturday, April 13, 2013

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 Registration

Alpha Phi Sigma
(Lobby area First Floor

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

First Floor Lobby

9:00 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.

Opening Remarks

Dr. Etta F. Morgan

9:10 a.m. - 9:55 a.m. Sentencing and Its Impact on Incarceration Room 166/266

Introduction of Speaker

Professor Jimmy Bell

Speaker

Mr. Jerry Williams, MDOC
Deputy Commissioner
Community Corrections Division

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Sentencing and Re-entry Special Populations-HIV/AIDS Offenders

“Understanding HIV/AIDS among the CJ Population”

Mrs. Earnestine McNeal-Brown, Director of the Interdisciplinary Center for Alcohol and Drug Studies

Mr. Jerald Gibson, Coordinator of Community Outreach
My Brothers Keepers
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch On Your Own

1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Room 166/266

_Sentencing Reforms: The Courthouse Views_

Attorney Robert S. Smith, Hinds County District Attorney
Judge Winston L. Kidd, Hinds County Circuit Court District 3
Judge Jeff Weill, Sr., Hinds County Circuit Court District 1

2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Break

2:50 p.m. – 4:25 p.m. Room 166/266

_Gideon’s Army: Defending Indigent Defendants (Film Presentation)_

4:25 p.m. – 4:55 p.m. Room 166/266

_Gideon’s Army_ Panel Discussion

Facilitator: Beau Rudder, Panelists: Judge June Hardwick and Alice Stamps

5:00 p.m. Closing Remarks Sponsors’ Representatives

**THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR CONFERENCE. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AGAIN NEXT YEAR!**
The ACLU of Mississippi is a guardian of liberty. We work in courts, the legislature and through community advocacy to defend individual rights that are guaranteed to every person in this state. Our job is to protect and preserve America’s original civic values - the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

We have four centers of focus: promote criminal justice reform, extend equality to all Mississipians, defend freedom of speech and expression, and promote youth justice.

Criminal Justice Reform

The rights guaranteed to the accused, defendants, offenders and prisoners are fundamental political rights that protect all Americans from governmental abuse of power. The ACLU of Mississippi is working to protect those rights by improving access to quality indigent defense, addressing systemic practices of police misconduct and reducing over-incarceration through sentencing reform.

Equality for All Mississipians

We are promoting equality for all Mississipians regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, or disability by challenging discriminatory immigration policies and practices, ensuring the rights of persons with disabilities, advocating for reproductive freedom, ensuring the protection and rights of individuals who are discriminated against because of their race or ethnicity, and protecting voter rights.

Freedom of Speech & Expression

Freedom of speech, the press, association, assembly and petition -- this set of guarantees, protected by the First Amendment, comprises what we refer to as freedom of expression. The ACLU of Mississippi works to protect those rights and challenges policies that restrict them.

Youth Justice Reform

The ACLU of Mississippi is defending the rights of Mississippi's students and youth by reducing exclusionary school discipline practices, reducing the number of students entering the School-to-Prison Pipeline, creating safe places for LGBT youth and challenging policies that criminalize youthful behavior.
Mission Statement
The mission of the Department of Criminal Justice and Sociology is to advance knowledge and skills through teaching and research that will lead to a well-balanced education. The department seeks to develop competent social scientists and teachers while preparing students for careers in various professions.

Department Programs
The Department of Criminal Justice and Sociology offers two undergraduate degrees (B.S. in Criminal Justice and B.A. in Sociology) and two master's degrees (M.A. in Criminology and Justice Services and M.A. in Sociology). All degrees offered by the department prepare students for careers with local, state, and national social service and governmental agencies. We have two honor societies associated with our majors (Alpha Phi Sigma-Criminal Justice and Alpha Kappa Delta-Sociology).

Faculty
Faculty interests are very diverse from studying juvenile delinquency, serial murderers, constitutional and criminal law, capital punishment, ethics and criminal investigation in criminal justice to studying cemeteries, aging, families, religion and public health in sociology.

Graduate Admission Requirements
Students must make application no later than March 1. Admission is in the fall only. Students must meet all Graduate School requirements. Departmental requirements include: (a) Students must have a 3.0 G.P.A.; (b) submit three letters of reference; and (c) complete a statement of purpose. There are a limited number of highly competitive tuition waivers available each year.

Internship Opportunities
We have established internship partnerships with (1) The Public Defender's Office in Washington, D.C.; (2) U.S. Marshal Service; (3) Henley-Young Detention Center; (4) Jackson Police Department; (5) Mississippi Department of Corrections-Community Corrections Division; (6) Pearl Youth Court; (7) Hinds County Drug Court; (8) Department of Wildlife and Fisheries; (9) West Jackson Development Corporation; (10) Local Law Firms; (11) American Civil Liberties Union and (12) the City of Jackson Fresh Start Re-entry Program.

Career Opportunities
Our students have pursued careers in Mental Health, Social Work; Education at both the Secondary and Post-secondary levels; Law; the U.S. Marshal Service; Military; Local, State, and Federal Law Enforcement; Counseling and Rehabilitation; Local, State, an Federal Department of Corrections; and establishing non-profit organizations to help at-risk youth.

Research
Our students participate in research activities that are faculty led as well as conducting their own research. From these activities, students and faculty present papers at conferences and prepare manuscripts for publication.

For more information, please contact the department.
The Mississippi Public Defenders Association is a non-profit organization which provides support to public defenders in the state. The MPDA provides services to members by offering legislative updates, networking and brainstorming opportunities for trial preparation, model jury instructions, appellate brief guides, and the support of a group of attorneys committed to seeking justice through the protection of the constitutional rights of all persons charged with a crime in the state courts of Mississippi.

The Mississippi Public Defenders Association comprises full-time, part-time and appointed attorneys who zealously protect the constitutional and statutory rights of all citizens through client centered criminal legal service programs by providing appointed counsel with training and support as well as recent ethical, legislative and court events.

Contact the Mississippi Public Defenders Association at:

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 3510
Jackson, MS 39207

Phone Numbers:
601-576-4290
601-576-4205 (fax)
On November 3, 1989, Ms. Joyce Ann Brown was released from prison after serving nine years, five months and 24 days for a crime she did not commit. She would later have her record exonerated by the state of Texas. A native of Texas, Joyce Ann Brown was born in Wills Point, Texas, and moved to Dallas at the tender age of ten. In order to remove the Plexiglas that stood between Ms. Brown and her only daughter, Koquice Spencer, Ms. Brown earned a college degree from Central Texas College (CTC) while serving time for a crime she did not commit.

After being released from prison, Joyce Ann worked for Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price. The vision to build an organization on the cornerstone of Justice and Equality began in 1989 when Joyce Ann Brown was released from prison. Ms. Brown’s initial goal was simply to nurture change in an inequitable judicial system by supporting the wrongfully convicted. But her passion to support others who have lost their voice in the community soon led her to expand her vision. Thus, Mothers (Fathers) for the Advancement of Social Systems, Inc. (MASS, Inc.), was formally incorporated in 1993. Ms. Brown, MASS Founder and Chief Executive Officer has maintained an active involvement in the organization’s growth for over a decade.

MASS, Inc. is a nonprofit organization supporting innocent people falsely accused and incarcerated within the U.S. Criminal Justice System. MASS assists formerly incarcerated people being released from prison readjust to life without bars, while providing support for the children and families of adult offenders at high risk for substance abuse, medical or emotional disorders and poverty. MASS has two divisions, The Innocence in Prison Program and the Reintegration to Society Program. The Ryan White HIV Program and the Youth Program are initiatives within the divisions. MASS has a proven successful track record for overturning cases against the falsely accused and is currently funded by private donations, other nonprofit foundations, fee-for-service contracts, the City of Dallas, and recently opened an office in Washington, DC Shaw Community.
United States District Judge Carlton W. Reeves, a native of Yazoo City, Mississippi, assumed office on December 30, 2010. Prior to his nomination by President Barack Obama, Judge Reeves, a 1986 magna cum laude graduate of Jackson State University with a major in Political Science, was engaged in the private practice of law with Pigott Reeves Johnson, P.A., a law firm he co-founded in 2001. The focus of his practice was state and federal litigation.

He obtained his law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law in 1989. Upon his graduation, he clerked for Justice Reuben V. Anderson of the Mississippi Supreme Court and then was an associate with the Phelps Dunbar law firm. He then served as Assistant United States Attorney, Chief of the Civil Division for the Southern District of Mississippi where he both supervised the daily trial and appellate litigation efforts of the attorneys and tried numerous cases. He served nationally on the Department of Justice Civil Chiefs Working Group and was awarded a Certificate of Commendation for the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Judge Reeves is a former President of the Magnolia Bar Association and Magnolia Bar Foundation. He has served as adjunct faculty member at Jackson State and Mississippi College School of Law. He has served on numerous boards and commissions including the ACLU of Mississippi, Mississippi Workers Center for Human Rights, Mississippi Center for Justice, Mississippi Access to Justice Commission, Mississippi Center for Legal Services and the Mississippi Capital Defense Resource Center. He is the recipient of many honors and awards, including the Magnolia Bar’s highest honor, the R. Jess Brown Award, the Mississippi Bar’s Curtis E. Coker Access to Justice Award and the Hinds County Bar’s Pro Bono Award.

Judge Reeves is married and has one daughter.
District Attorney Robert Shuler Smith is a native of Jackson, Mississippi and graduated from Forrest Hill High School and Tougaloo College. District Attorney Smith attended Saint Louis University School of Law in St Louis, Missouri graduating in 1996 with a Juris Doctor degree and was admitted to the Mississippi State Bar in September 1996. District Attorney Smith is licensed to practice law in all Courts in the State of Mississippi, including the Supreme Court of Mississippi as well as the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals located in New Orleans, Louisiana.

District Attorney Smith is a member of numerous professional and community organizations including the Mississippi Bar Association, Magnolia Bar Association, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and Central Mississippi Health Services, INC. He consistently gives back to his community as a member of the West Jackson Community Development Corporation and as a volunteer mentor for Jackson Public Schools.

On January 7, 2008, Robert Shuler Smith was Sworn in as the District Attorney for Hinds County, Mississippi and re-elected in 2012.

DA Smith can be reached at 601-968-6568 or by email at rsmith@co.hinds.ms.us
On October 31, 2001, Judge Winston L. Kidd was appointed by Governor Ronnie Musgrove to serve as Hinds County Circuit Court Judge. Judge Kidd was subsequently elected to his Judicial seat on November 5, 2002. He currently presides over Civil and Criminal Court in Hinds County.

Judge Winston L. Kidd was born and raised in Newton County, Mississippi. He has been a resident of Hinds County for over 15 years. He received his B.S. degree, cum laude, in Respiratory Therapy from the University of Mississippi in 1987. After working as a Registered Respiratory Therapist for one year, he enrolled at Mississippi College School of Law where he received his law degree in 1991.

Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Kidd worked as an attorney with the Walker and Walker law firm in Jackson for approximately ten years. His practice was primarily limited to civil litigation.

Judge Kidd is a Past President of the Magnolia Bar Association. Additionally, he previously served as Parliamentarian and Central District Director of the Magnolia Bar. He has further served as chairperson of the Mock Trial Committee for three years. In 1997, Judge Kidd received the Magnolia Bar Service Award and recently received the President's Award. Judge Kidd is also a past Treasurer and past Vice-President of the Jackson Branch of the NAACP.

Judge Kidd is committed to mentoring youth. He has delivered many speeches and lectures in dozens of schools and churches. He serves as a mentor to a student at Lester Elementary in the Big Brothers\Big Sisters Program. Further, Judge Kidd serves as a mentor to several Jackson High School students along with other Magnolia Bar attorneys.

Judge Kidd is married to Adriane Dorsey-Kidd and they are the parents of Winston Jamal and Jacob Jabari.
Judge Jeff Weill completed his law degree at the University of Mississippi Law and additional training in mediation at the Harvard Law School. He has served as an Assistant DA, former Jackson City Councilman and lawyer for 30 years. He is currently a Hinds County Circuit Court Judge. He has been married to his wife Tracy for 25 years and has three children: Alan-22, Joshua-19 and Elliot-16. He is an Elder and Sunday school teacher at Covenant Presbyterian Church.
Judge June Hardwick is a Bolton, MS native and graduate of Spelman College, Clark Atlanta University and Mississippi College School of Law. Ms. Hardwick is a member of the Mississippi Bar Association, the Magnolia Bar Association, Mississippi Public Defender Association, the Spelman College Alumnae Association and New Horizon Church International. For the last nearly seven (7) years, Ms. Hardwick has practiced primarily as a criminal defense attorney. After graduating law school in 2006, she worked at the MS Youth Justice Project. This was her introduction to indigent defense. From 2007 until 2011, June worked as a full-time Hinds County Public Defender. For the last two (2) years, Ms. Hardwick has been a solo practitioner and part-time public defender.

In July 2013, Gideon’s Army, a documentary in which 2 other public defender and she are featured, premiered on HBO. In October 2013, the Mayor of the City of Jackson, the honorable Chokwe Lumumba appointed her as a Municipal Court Judge. Although an activist attorney and mother, Ms. Hardwick finds time to write poetry and plan and facilitate cultural arts events in the City of Jackson.
CONSIDERING A COLLEGE DEGREE?

The College of Liberal Arts (CLA) at Jackson State University promotes and supports significant research, innovative scholarship, and creative expression in the arts, humanities, social and behavioral sciences. By offering a rich array of undergraduate and select graduate programs, the CLA provides a diverse and engaged student body with an outstanding education founded on nurturing relationships between students and distinguished faculty. Our academic disciplines, programs, interdisciplinary centers and institutes strive to cultivate skills in research and analysis, written and verbal communications, critical thinking, and visual literacy, as well as encourage a commitment to service to the city of Jackson and the global community.

Specifically, the College is committed to: (1) providing and sustaining a competent, diverse and resourceful faculty and staff committed to original research, artistic excellence, rigorous teaching, and robust mentorship; (2) emphasizing inspiring and experiential pedagogies that fully engage learners; (3) enhancing the quality of its academic programs; (4) cultivating among its learners the strongest appreciation for knowledge, critical inquiry, and effective oral and written communication skills; and (5) encouraging its learners in their quests for meaningful and productive citizenship. Further, the College promotes faculty, staff, and student development programs and provides excellent visual and performing arts programs which include exhibits, performances, lectures, and outreach to the community across the city, state, and entire southern region.

Courses offered are described under the department and special unit headings of Art, Criminal Justice and Sociology, English and Modern Foreign Languages, History and Philosophy, Mass Communications, Military Science, Music, Political Science, Psychology, and Speech Communications and Theatre. Other special units which enhance and advance curricular offerings in the College are Interdisciplinary Alcohol/Drug Studies Center, Margaret Walker Center, Applied Psychological Services Program, Community Health Program, and the Fannie Lou Hamer Institute at the Council of Federated Organizations Human and Civil Rights Interdisciplinary Education Center.

Degrees Awarded

The College of Liberal Arts offers the following degrees: (1) Bachelor of Arts, (2) Bachelor of Science, (3) Bachelor of Music, and (4) Bachelor of Music Education, (5) Master of Arts, (6) Master of Arts in Teaching, (7) Master of Science, (8) Master of Music Education, and (8) Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology.

Disciplinary Accreditations

Undergraduate academic programs in the College of Liberal Arts are accredited by: the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications, the National Association of Schools of Music, and the National Council of Teachers of English/National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. The doctoral program in clinical psychology, accredited by the American Psychological Association, is one of only two doctoral clinical psychology programs accredited at a historically black college/university.