

The Bruce J. Winick
Fall 2012 Colloquium:
Standards in the
Problem Solving Courts

October 5, 2012

Newman Alumni Center
University of Miami
Coral Gables, FL



The Bruce J. Winick Fall 2012 Colloquium: Standards in the Problem Solving Courts is in honor of Bruce J. Winick.

Winick, beloved scholar, father, and human rights advocate, spent more than 35 years of his career at the University of Miami School of Law. Winick co-founded Therapeutic Jurisprudence, which studies the effects of law and the legal system on the behavior and mental health of people.

Born in Brooklyn and a graduate of New York University School of Law, Winick had a long career as a civil rights lawyer. Throughout his life, he wrote passionately and prolifically on a range of legal issues. As a professor at the University of Miami School of Law since 1974, he was named the first Laurie Silvers and Mitchell Rubenstein Distinguished Professor of Law as well as professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences.

"A giant in the legal community" is how UM President Donna E. Shalala described Winick.

"Bruce Winick's scholarly and advocacy work in therapeutic jurisprudence was central to the development of the field – a field that focuses on human dignity and worth," said UM School of Law Dean Patricia D. White. "This will remain a permanent part of his legacy. Beyond his work he will be remembered as having served as a model for dealing with life's difficulties with remarkable courage, grace, and optimism."

Winick's extensive work in the area of mental health law resulted in UM establishing the nation's first Therapeutic Jurisprudence Center, which he directed. Dedicated last year during a ceremony attended by Winick and Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara Pariente, the center was Winick's dream and continues to play a significant role in identifying the practical insights of law and psychology.

He authored and edited numerous books, including *Civil Commitment: A Therapeutic Jurisprudence Model* (Carolina Academic Press 2005), *Judging In A Therapeutic Key: Therapeutic Jurisprudence And The Courts* (Carolina Academic Press 2003), and *Protecting Society From Sexually Dangerous Offenders: Law, Justice And Therapy* (American Psychological Association Books 2003). He also authored over 100 articles in law reviews and interdisciplinary journals.

Winick was chair of the American Association of Law Schools' section on Balance in Legal Education and co-editor of the American Psychological Association Books series, *Law and Public Policy: Psychology and the Social Sciences*.

PROGRAM

8:30 AM: **Continental Breakfast**

9:00 AM – 9:30 AM: **Welcome, Remarks, & Information**

Robert Rosen, Professor of Law, University of Miami School of Law

Bernard Perlmutter, Associate Professor of Clinical Legal Education and Director of the Children & Youth Law Clinic, University of Miami School of Law

Sean Bettinger-Lopez, Law and Psychology Fellow & Visiting Researcher, University of Miami School of Law

Alissa Gold, Editor-in-Chief, Psychology, Public Policy, & Law Journal

9:30 AM – 10:45 AM: **Panel 1: Legal Standards in the Problem-Solving Courts**

Christopher Slobogin (Discussant), Milton Underwood Chair in Law, Professor of Psychiatry, and Director, Criminal Justice Program, Vanderbilt Law School

Mary Kay Hudson, Director of Court Services, Indiana Judicial Center

Allegra McLeod, Associate Professor of Law, Georgetown University Law Center

Eric Miller, Professor of Law, Saint Louis University School of Law; Visiting Professor, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles

Susan Stefan, Visiting Professor, University of Miami School of Law

This session will look at some of the legal standards at play in regular courts and consider those same standards in the context of problem solving courts. Are they the same standards? Do they need modification to fit the problem solving court context? Specific standards that might be addressed are: due process, confidentiality, impartiality/neutrality, professional ethics, and others. How do these standards operate (or fail to operate) in fact in the problem solving courts? How should they operate? How can appropriate legal standards be developed or maintained? Should these standards be uniform across jurisdictions and types of courts?

10:55 AM – 12:10 PM: **Panel 2: Therapeutic Standards in the Problem-Solving Courts**

Henry Steadman (Discussant), President, Policy Research Associates, Inc.

Barbara Babb, Associate Professor of Law, and Director of Center for Families, Children and the Courts, University of Baltimore School of Law

Mark Fondacaro, Professor of Psychology, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Valerie Raine, Director of Drug Treatment Projects, Center for Court Innovation

Richard Schwermer, Assistant State Court Administrator, Utah Administrative Office of the Courts

Unique to problem-solving courts is the utilization of therapeutic techniques or strategies to address the root-causes of psycho-social dysfunction in individual court participants. Is there, then, a set of therapeutic standards that problem solving courts rely on in fact or should rely on to ensure the best possible therapeutic outcomes? What role is played by the social sciences, particularly psychology, psychiatry, criminology, or other disciplines, to shape these standards or inform the therapeutic approaches used in these courts? How do/should problem solving court judges determine what the best therapeutic approaches are? How do/should judges integrate the best approaches into their court programs? How do/should judges account for progress in social science research, as well as changes to or differences of opinion about what "best practices" currently are?

PROGRAM

12:10 PM – 1:10 PM: Lunch

1:10 PM – 2:25 PM: Panel 3: Empirical Studies of the Problem-Solving Courts

Jeffrey Fagan (Discussant), Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law and Professor of Epidemiology at Columbia University, and Director of the Center for Crime, Community and Law at Columbia Law School

Steven Belenko, Professor, Department of Criminal Justice, Temple University

Jane Donoghue, Professor, Center for Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Oxford

Douglas Marlowe, Chief of Science, Law & Policy, National Association of Drug Court Professionals; Senior Scientist, Treatment Research Institute at the University of Pennsylvania

Allison Redlich, Associate Professor, School of Criminal Justice, University at Albany, State University of New York.

This session will look at empirical research in problem solving courts of various jurisdictions. What kinds of questions are empirical researchers of these courts attempting to answer, and why? How can the results of these studies lead to the development of standards (legal or therapeutic) in the problem solving courts? This discussion may include a description of research approaches, including methodological or practical obstacles encountered, and lessons learned.

2:35 PM – 4:00 PM: Panel 4: Judicial Responses

Hon. Steven Leifman, Associate Administrative Judge, Miami-Dade County Court, 11th Judicial Circuit

Hon. Jeri Beth Cohen, Juvenile Division, Miami-Dade County Court, 11th Judicial Circuit

Hon. Melanie May, Chief Judge, Florida Fourth District Court of Appeal

Hon. Judith "Judy" Rubenstein, Domestic Violence Division, Miami-Dade County Court, 11th Judicial Circuit

Hon. Deborah White-Labora, Criminal Division, Miami-Dade County Court, 11th Judicial Circuit

Problem solving court judges will provide a view from the bench in response to the issues raised in the prior sessions. This discussion may include realistic assessments of the presence or absence of standards in respondents' courtrooms, including discussion of the need for and best way to develop particular standards. Are standards (legal and therapeutic) seen as present or absent? Applicable or inapplicable? Mandatory or discretionary? Hard or soft?

4:00 PM Closing Remarks & Cocktail Reception

Eric Miller, Professor of Law, Saint Louis University School of Law; Visiting Professor, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles.

Professor Eric Miller will tie together or synthesize what came out of the four sessions and sum up the day's Colloquium.

Roles of Participants

Discussants – Each panel session has a Discussant who leads the panel substantively and moderates the flow of dialogue for the entire 75 minute session. The Discussant first moderates and participates in the 50 minute panel dialogue, and then moderates a wider conversation that includes the audience-participants for the remainder of the session.

Respondents – Each panel session has four Respondents who participate in a dialogue with the Discussant for 50 minutes at the beginning of each panel session. Respondents confer with each other and the Discussant in advance of the Colloquium to work out specific topics to be addressed.

Audience-Participants – Audience-participants listen to the panel dialogue for the first 50 minutes of each session, and join the discussion for the remainder of each session. The role of audience-participant is highly engaged and participatory at this Colloquium. Many audience-participants have linkages or vested interests in the Colloquium topic and are experts with deep knowledge or experience in their fields relating to problem solving courts.

Biographies

PANEL 1: LEGAL STANDARDS IN THE PROBLEM SOLVING COURTS

Christopher Slobogin (Discussant)

Christopher Slobogin occupies the Milton Underwood chair at Vanderbilt University School of Law. He is principal author of the leading casebook on mental health law and a co-author of the leading treatise on the subject. He is currently chair of the American Bar Association's Task Force on Criminal Justice Mental Health Standards. Among his books are *Minding Justice: Laws that Deprive People with Mental Disability of Life and Liberty* (Harvard University Press, 2006) and, with Mark Fondacaro, *Juveniles at Risk: A Plea for Preventive Justice* (Oxford University Press, 2011).

Eric J. Miller

Eric J. Miller is a visiting professor at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, and a professor at Saint Louis University School of Law, where he teaches and writes in the areas of criminal law, criminal procedure, jurisprudence, and critical race theory. Professor Miller's scholarship focuses on the intersection of criminal justice with political theory, sociology and criminology; the study of problem-solving courts; and legal theory. He has recently received a research grant from the Presidents Research Fund at Saint Louis University to conduct an empirical study investigating the impact of structural and therapeutic factors on the placement of offenders in mental health courts. Professor Miller has written a variety of articles on problem-solving courts, as well as an annotated bibliography on problem-solving courts for Oxford Bibliographies Online. He has presented testimony on problem-solving justice to the United States Sentencing Commission, the Scottish Commission on Women Offenders, and the Scottish Government's Judicial Studies Committee. His publications include: *Holistic Justice: Therapeutic Agents and the Place of the Law in Therapeutic Jurisprudence and Problem-Solving Courts* (Jane Donoghue, ed., forthcoming 2013); *Putting the Practice into Theory*, 7 Ohio St. J. Crim. L. 31 (2009); *Drugs, Courts, and the New Penology*, 20 Stanford L. & Policy Rev. 417 (2009); *The Therapeutic Effects of Managerial Reentry Courts*, 20 F. Sentencing Rptr. 127 (2007); *Embracing Addiction: Drug Courts and the False Promise of Judicial Interventionism*, 65 Ohio State L.J. 1479 (2004). His current works in progress include: *Problem Solving Courts in the Era of Mass Adjudication* (arguing that problem-solving courts are to be understood as low-level criminal courts engaged in punishment as well as treatment).

Susan Stefan

Susan Stefan is a former staff attorney at the Center for Public Representation in Newton, where she worked until her retirement in 2010. During her career, she represented people with psychiatric disabilities in system reform litigation and wrote three books and numerous articles about legal and policy issues involving people with psychiatric disabilities. Her most recent book is *Emergency Department Treatment of People with Psychiatric Disabilities: Policy Issues and Legal Requirements* (Oxford University Press 2006). She also served as an expert consultant to the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health (2003) and to the Institute of Medicine for its publication "Improving the Quality of Health Care for Mental and Substance Use Conditions" (2005). Ms. Stefan has received numerous advocacy and teaching awards and has testified as an expert witness in several federal court cases. Since retiring from the Center for Public Representation, Ms. Stefan has taught disability rights law as a visiting professor at the University of Miami School of Law. She is at work on a book to be published by Oxford University Press on U.S. social and legal policies relating to suicide.

Biographies

Allegra M. McLeod

Allegra M. McLeod's research and teaching interests include criminal law and procedure, immigration law, international and comparative law, and legal and political theory. Her most recent article published in the Georgetown Law Journal is entitled *Decarceration Courts: Possibilities and Perils of a Shifting Criminal Law*. Professor McLeod received a J.D. from Yale Law School, Ph.D. and M.A. from Stanford University and B.A. with highest honors and Phi Beta Kappa from Scripps College of the Claremont Consortium. She also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in political theory at Stanford University. Prior to coming to Georgetown, McLeod practiced immigration and criminal law at the California-Mexico border as an Arthur Liman Public Interest Fellow and staff attorney with the ABA Immigration Justice Project. She has taught political theory at Stanford University, served as a consulting attorney with the Stanford Immigrants' Rights and Criminal Defense Clinics, worked with the ACLU National Prison Project and clerked for Judge M. Margaret McKeown of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Her publications appear in the Georgetown Law Journal, Yale Law & Policy Review and American Criminal Law Review.

Mary Kay Hudson

Mary Kay Hudson is currently the Director of Court Services for the Indiana Judicial Center, an agency of the Indiana Supreme Court. Her responsibilities include implementing statewide judicial initiatives in problem-solving court legislation, rules, policy, education and certification. Ms. Hudson staffs the Judicial Conference of Indiana Problem-Solving Courts Committee, is a governor's appointee to the Commission for a Drug Free Indiana and serves as co-chair of the Consortium of State Drug Court Coordinators. She currently serves as a member on national work groups related to the development of standards and guidelines for adult drug courts, reentry courts and family dependency treatment courts. Ms. Hudson obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and Biology and a Master's Degree in Social Work from Indiana University.

PANEL 2: THERAPEUTIC STANDARDS IN THE PROBLEM SOLVING COURTS

Henry J. Steadman (Discussant)

Henry J. Steadman, Ph.D., has been President of Policy Research Associates, Inc. since he founded it in 1987. Previously, Dr. Steadman ran a nationally known research bureau for 17 years for the New York State Office of Mental Health. His work has resulted in eight books, over 150 journal articles in a wide range of professional journals, 20 chapters, and numerous reports. Among Dr. Steadman's major current projects are: (1) the SAMHSA's GAINS Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation; (2) the Service Members, Veterans and their Families Technical Assistance Center; (3) the NIJ Juvenile Mental Health Court Study; and (4) Maximizing the Impact of the Langeloth Foundation's Behavioral Health and Justice Portfolio. Dr. Steadman received his B.A. and M.A. in Sociology from Boston College and his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His major awards include: Distinguished Public Service Award, School of Criminal Justice, University at Albany (2012); Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology, American Sociological Association, 2011; William Foote Whyte Distinguished Career Award, American Sociological Association Section on Sociological Practice and Public Sociology, 2010; Distinguished Service Award from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (2007); Carl A. Taube Award for Outstanding Contributions in Mental Health Services Research from the American Public Health Association (2005); the Isaac Ray Award from the American Psychiatric Association for his outstanding contributions to the psychiatric aspects of jurisprudence (1999); and the Saleem A. Shah Award from the State Mental Health Forensic Directors (1994).

Biographies

Mark Fondacaro

Mark Fondacaro is a Professor of Psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. He is currently on sabbatical and a Visiting Professor at Duke University. Before joining the faculty at John Jay, he was an Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Florida and an Associate Director of the Levin College of Law's Center on Children and Families. He received a B.A. in psychology with an outside concentration in the biological sciences from Stony Brook University and a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Indiana University-Bloomington. He pursued post-doctoral training in social ecology at Stanford University before completing his legal training at Columbia Law School. His current theoretical work focuses on the development of an "Ecological Jurisprudence" and his empirical research focuses on adapting legal concepts of due process and procedural justice to extra-legal contexts such as the family and the health care system. His work in the policy realm is aimed at juvenile justice system reform and he is the co-author (with Chris Slobogin) of a recent book entitled *Juveniles at Risk: A Plea for Preventive Justice*, published by Oxford University Press.

Barbara A. Babb

Barbara A. Babb is an Associate Professor and Founder and Director of the Center for Families, Children and the Courts at the University of Baltimore School of Law, where she has taught various family law courses since 1989. During the Spring 1999 Semester, Professor Babb was a Visiting Professor of Law at the George Washington University School of Law. Professor Babb's scholarship focuses on an interdisciplinary approach to family law jurisprudence through the application of therapeutic jurisprudence and an ecological/holistic perspective and to court reform in family law through the creation of unified family courts. She has written and spoken extensively at the state, national, and international levels about unified family courts and family law decision-making. Further, she has participated in court and law reform projects in Maryland, nationally, and internationally. In recognition of her work, Professor Babb has received the University System of Maryland Regents' Award for Outstanding Public Service, the Maryland Legal Aid Bureau's Human Rights and Justice Champion Award, the first Benjamin L. Cardin Distinguished Service Award, the Rosalyn B. Bell Award for Outstanding Contributions in Family Law, and two Outstanding Teaching Awards from the School of Law. Professor Babb is a past Chair and current Executive Committee Member of the Association of American Law Schools Family and Juvenile Law Section. She is a former member of the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Substance Abuse, where she actively participated in the Committee's unified family court project, Communities, Families, and the Justice System. She is also a member of the ABA's Unified Family Courts Coordinating Council. She is the former ABA Family Law Section Liaison to the Standing Committee on Substance Abuse and the former Co-Chair of the ABA Family Law Section's Family Courts Committee. Professor Babb is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Family Court Review*. She received her J.D. from Cornell Law School in 1981, an M.S. from Cornell University in 1978, and a B.S. from the Pennsylvania State University in 1973. She is a member of the New York and Maryland Bars.

Valerie Raine

As the director of drug treatment court projects at the Center for Court Innovation, Valerie Raine assists New York's Unified Court System in developing and training drug treatment courts across New York State. She also oversees numerous national drug court training and technical assistance projects which are supported by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. From 1996 to 2000, she was project director of the Brooklyn Treatment Court, where she helped develop and manage New York City's first drug treatment court. She is the immediate past president of the New York Association of Drug Treatment Court Professionals and is a former member of the Board of Directors for the National Association of Drug Court Professionals. Ms. Raine developed and taught a course on problem-solving justice at Fordham Law School, has served as faculty for the National Drug Court Institute and presented on drug treatment courts at numerous conferences over the past 15 years. Previously, she worked for 14 years at the Legal Aid Society, Criminal Defense Division in Kings County, where she was appointed attorney-in-charge in 1994. Ms. Raine is a graduate of Hunter College (1977) and the University of Virginia School of Law (1982).

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Richard Schwermer

Richard Schwermer has been a court administrator since 1990. Originally the administrator for Utah's 140 justice courts, he became Assistant State Court Administrator in 1995. As part of his responsibilities he is the legislative liaison for the state courts, and through that role has become involved in a number of statewide policy issues, including alternative dispute resolution and problem solving courts. He was involved in starting the Salt Lake Felony Drug Court, currently a mentor court, in 1996, and he now has statewide coordination responsibilities for Utah's 41 drug courts and other problem solving courts. He is also co-chair of the national association of State Drug Court Coordinators. A 1983 graduate of Colby College, he also earned a Juris Doctorate from the University of Utah College of Law in 1986.

PANEL 3: EMPIRICAL RESEARCH

Jeffrey Fagan (Discussant)

Jeffrey Fagan is Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law and Professor of Epidemiology at Columbia University, and Director of the Center for Crime, Community and Law at Columbia Law School. His research and scholarship examines policing, the legitimacy of the criminal law, capital punishment, legal socialization of adolescents, neighborhoods and crime, and juvenile crime and punishment. He served on the *Committee on Law and Justice* of the National Academy of Science from 2000-2006. From 1996-2006, he was a member of the MacArthur Foundation's *Research Network on Adolescent Development and Juvenile Justice*. He is past Editor of the *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*, and serves on the editorial boards of several journals on criminology and law. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Criminology.

A. Steven Belenko

Dr. Steven Belenko is a nationally recognized scholar on the impact of substance abuse on the adult and juvenile justice systems, HIV risk behaviors and related service needs for offenders, and the integration of treatment and other services in criminal justice settings (including drug courts, diversion programs, and prisons). His current research has involved improving implementation of evidence-based drug treatment in criminal justice settings; developing and testing organizational change and process improvement strategies to improve the implementation of treatment and other health services for inmates; prevalence, risk factors, and service needs for sexually transmitted infections among juvenile delinquents; and improving use of evidence-based practices in juvenile drug courts.

Jane Donoghue

Dr. Jane Donoghue is a criminologist at the Centre for Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Oxford. She previously worked as lecturer in law and Deputy Director of Research at the School of Law at the University of Reading, England. Jane specializes in research on anti-social behaviour/'quality of life' crimes, disorder and community justice and is the author of *Anti-Social Behaviour Orders: A Culture of Control?* (Palgrave, 2010). Her other publications include 'Anti-Social Behaviour, Community Engagement and the Judicial Role in England and Wales' (*British Journal of Criminology* 52(3): 591-610, 2012) and 'Truancy and the Prosecution of Parents: An Unfair Burden on Mothers?' (*Modern Law Review* 74, 216, 2011). Jane's next book, *Transforming Criminal Justice? Problem-Solving and Court Specialization*, is being published by Routledge in Summer 2013. She is also editing a book, *Therapeutic Jurisprudence and Problem-Solving Courts*, to be published by Routledge next year. The book contains contributions from Professor David Wexler (University of Puerto Rico), Professor Eric Miller (University of St Louis) and Greg Berman (Center for Court Innovation, NY). As Principal Investigator, Jane recently completed an 18 month Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) funded study of the judicial role in specialist anti-social behaviour response courts in England. She is currently researching and writing about court specialization and therapeutic jurisprudence and is also undertaking empirical work on co-production.

Biographies

Allison D. Redlich

Allison D. Redlich is an associate professor in the School of Criminal Justice at the State University of New York, University at Albany. Prior to that, she was a Senior Research Associate at Policy Research Associates and a Research Scientist at the Stanford University School of Medicine. She received her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from the University of California, Davis. Professor Redlich is an internationally recognized expert on mental health courts, and on police interrogations and false confessions. She has published extensively and is often asked to provide expert testimony. Her research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Professor Redlich is a member of the Advisory Board of the Center on Wrongful Convictions of Youth, and is active in the American Psychological Association, including serving on the Executive Committees of the American Psychology-Law Society and the Society for Child and Family Practice and Policy.

Douglas B. Marlowe

Douglas B. Marlowe, J.D., Ph.D. is the Chief of Science, Law & Policy for the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, a Senior Scientist at the Treatment Research Institute, and an Adjunct Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. A lawyer and clinical psychologist, Dr. Marlowe has received numerous state and federal research grants to study coercion in drug abuse treatment, the effects of drug courts and other diversion programs for drug abusers involved in the criminal justice system, and behavioral treatments for drug abusers and criminal offenders. He is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association (APA) and has received proficiency certification in the treatment of psychoactive substance use disorders from the APA College of Professional Psychology. Dr. Marlowe has published over 150 professional articles and chapters on the topics of crime and substance abuse. He is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Drug Court Review* and is on the editorial board of *Criminal Justice & Behavior*.

PANEL 4: JUDICIAL RESPONSES

Judge Steven Leifman (Discussant)

From 2007 to 2010, Miami-Dade County Judge Steven Leifman served as Special Advisor on Criminal Justice and Mental Health for the Supreme Court of Florida. In this capacity, Judge Leifman was responsible for chairing the Court's Mental Health Subcommittee which authored a ground-breaking report entitled, *Transforming Florida's Mental Health System*. This report, which has received considerable state and national recognition, outlines recommendations with the goal of decreasing inappropriate and costly involvement of people with mental illnesses in the justice system. In October, 2010, the Chief Justice of the of the Supreme Court of Florida appointed Judge Leifman to Chair the Florida Supreme Court's Task Force on Substance Abuse and Mental Health Issues in the Court. Due to his expertise in the areas of criminal justice and mental health, Judge Leifman has been appointed to serve in a variety of capacities on local, state, and national bodies, including Co-Chair of the Council of State Governments/TAPA Center for Jail Diversion, Judges' Criminal Justice/Mental Health Leadership Initiative, Co-Chair of the Miami-Dade County Mayor's Mental Health Task Force, Board of Directors of the American Psychiatric Foundation, member of the National Leadership Forum for Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice Services, member of the American Bar Association Commission on Homelessness and Poverty, and a Voluntary Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Miami School of Medicine. In addition, Judge Leifman serves as Chair of the South Florida Behavioral Health Network and Finance Chair of the Miami-Dade Homeless Trust. He also serves as the Board Chair of Florida

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Partners in Crisis. In recognition of his tireless efforts, Judge Leifman has received numerous awards and acknowledgements including; the 2012 Society of Biological Psychiatry Humanitarian Award, the 2012 American Psychiatric Association Advocacy Award, 2011 Miami-Dade State Attorney Katherine Fernandez-Rundle Award, the 2010 Florida International University (FIU) Cal Kovens Distinguished Community Service Medallion, the 2010 Leadership Florida Distinguished Member Award, the 2009 International Community Corrections Association (ICCA) Judicial Award, the 2009 Dade County Bar Association Sookie Williams Award, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) 2008 Distinguished Service Award (NAMI National's Highest Honor), the 2008 Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Miami Chapter Honorable Gerald Kogan Judicial Distinction Award and the 2007 Greater Miami Jewish Federation Judicial Community Service Award. Judge Leifman has also been featured in many national and local television and radio programs regarding mental health and the criminal justice system including, CNN: Special Investigations Unit, The Criminally Insane; PBS, Minds on the Edge: Facing Mental Illness; CBS4, The Forgotten Floor and National Public Radio (NPR) All Things Considered.

Judge Jeri Beth Cohen

Judge Jeri Beth Cohen is currently a circuit judge in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Juvenile Dependency Division. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree at Boston University, her Master of Arts degree at Harvard University, and her Juris Doctorate at Georgetown Law. Judge Cohen was a trial attorney, assistant state attorney, and county judge before becoming a circuit judge nineteen years ago. With 15 years of combined experience in the juvenile dependency division, Judge Cohen has taught at statewide and national conferences and judicial colleges, and published numerous articles on family drug courts and child welfare. Judge Cohen has presided over a Dependency Drug Court for the last 14 years and was instrumental in training other drug courts across the country. Her drug court was an original mentor court for The Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. She received a four year National Institute of Drug and Alcohol grant along with The University of Miami School of Epidemiology to study motivational casework in family drug court. She is the chair of the Community-Based Care Alliance in Miami-Dade County and currently serves as the chair of the Statewide Dependency Court Improvement Panel which is focusing on improving court practices related to outcomes from the Child and Family Services Reviews. She also serves on the Executive Board of the South Florida Behavioral Health Network, an entity tasked with redesigning our mental health and substance abuse system in Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Judge Melanie G. May

Judge May graduated from Broward Community College in 1971, and Florida Atlantic University in 1973. She received her Juris Doctor Degree in 1981 from Nova Law Center and an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Nova Southeastern University in 2009. She clerked for the Honorable Peter T. Fay, Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals from 1981-82. She served as a Circuit Court Judge on the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit from April 15, 1991, until her appointment to the Fourth District Court of Appeal by Governor Jeb Bush on October 31, 2001. Judge May currently serves as the Chief Judge of the Fourth District Court of Appeal, and is a member of the District Court of Appeal Budget Commission. She has chaired and currently serves on the Education Committee of the Conference of District Court of Appeal Judges. She chaired the Department of Children and Family Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Advisory Board, and serves on the Florida Supreme Court's newly created Task Force on Substance Abuse and Mental Health. She was a member of the Department of Corrections Reentry Advisory Council. She also serves as vice-chair of the Shepard Broad Law Center's Board of Governors, and is an ex-officio member of the Board of Trustees of Nova Southeastern University.

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Judge Judith “Judy” Rubenstein

Judge Judy Rubenstein was elected by the people of Miami-Dade County to the County Court of the 11th Judicial Circuit in August, 2004, and re-elected without opposition in 2010. A graduate of the University of Miami School of Law, Judge Rubenstein also holds a Bachelors and Masters degree in Education from UM. She currently is assigned full time to the Domestic Violence Division of the County Court, where she hears both criminal and civil domestic violence cases. Judge Rubenstein is the presiding judge in the Domestic Violence Division Mental Health Court, where defendants are given an opportunity to receive treatment and rehabilitation for their mental illnesses instead of incarceration. She also serves on the Judges' Advisory Board for the Therapeutic Jurisprudence Center at the University of Miami.

Judge Deborah White-Labora

Judge Deborah White-Labora was selected to lead the nation's first, and best, Drug Court in August of 2008. She is only the third judge and is the first woman to hold this position. The Miami-Dade Drug Court was started in 1989 by some of the South Florida legal community's "best and brightest" including former Chief Judge Gerald Wetherington, Judge Herb Klein, former United States Attorney General Janet Reno, former Public Defender Bennett Brummer and our current State Attorney, Kathryn Fernandez Rundle. Because of the unqualified success of an idea that started here, there are now over 2,500 Drug Courts across the nation and around the world. Each of these courts is dedicated to helping people achieve recovery from addiction and become contributing members of our community. During her time in Drug Court, Judge White-Labora has helped to bring millions of dollars in federal grants to the court. She and her team have established a specialized treatment program for women in Drug Court, an initiative that resulted in an 88% graduation rate for participants. She also partnered with the Veteran's Administration to establish a specialized track for veterans in Drug Court. This effort has helped hundreds of veterans get the benefits they are entitled to have as a result of their service to all of us. In addition to her full time assignment as the Drug Court judge, Judge White-Labora also agreed to head the Felony Mental Health Court. She is recognized throughout the country as an expert in addiction and mental health and is a frequent speaker at national and statewide conferences. Judge White-Labora previously served in the Domestic Violence Division and as a General Magistrate in Family Court. She is a graduate of Emory Law School. She and her husband, Alex Jimenez Labora, are the proud parents of three children.

Thank You to our Sponsors

The Therapeutic Jurisprudence Center at the University of Miami School of Law

The University of Miami School of Law's Therapeutic Jurisprudence Center was founded in 2009 by the late Professor Bruce J. Winick to promote therapeutic jurisprudence research, scholarship, education, and practical applications.

The Psychology, Public Policy, and Law Journal at the University of Miami School of Law

The Psychology, Public Policy, and Law Journal is a multidisciplinary journal that provides a forum to examine the intersection between psychology, policy, and legal issues. The Journal is published by the APA and is distributed nationwide. The Psychology, Public Policy, and Law Journal at Miami Law is a student group that collaborates with the American Psychological Association (APA) on the Journal's publication.

The Arsht Ethics Initiatives at the University of Miami Ethics Programs

Trustee, philanthropist and community leader Adrienne Arsht committed \$3 million to the University of Miami Ethics Programs, constituting the largest gift for ethics in Florida history. Arsht funds support a variety of projects, including research projects and a distinguished speaker series.