

# MICHELE DEITCH

Distinguished Senior Lecturer  
Director, Prison and Jail Innovation Lab  
Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs  
The University of Texas at Austin  
2315 Red River, MC #E2700, Austin, TX 78712  
Tel. (512) 296-7212  
Michele.Deitch@austin.utexas.edu

---

## EDUCATION

**HARVARD LAW SCHOOL**, Cambridge, Massachusetts, J.D. *cum laude*, 1986

**OXFORD UNIVERSITY, BALLIOL COLLEGE**, Oxford, England, M.Sc. in Experimental Psychology, 1984

Research with faculty at Centre for Socio-Legal Studies and Centre for Criminological Research  
Master's thesis: "Inmates' Perceptions of the Freedom of a Therapeutic Penal Institution"

**AMHERST COLLEGE**, Amherst, Massachusetts, B.A. *magna cum laude*, English and Psychology, 1982

Member, Amherst College Board of Trustees, 1995-2001; Trustee Emeritus since 2001

## CLERKSHIP

**Judge R. Lanier Anderson, III, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit**, Macon, Georgia, 1986 – 87

## BAR MEMBERSHIPS

U.S. Supreme Court (2018); Texas (1990); District of Columbia (1988; inactive); Massachusetts (1986; retired 2010)

## SUMMARY OF EXPERTISE

My teaching and research are focused on criminal justice policy and juvenile justice policy, with particular interests in correctional oversight, prisoners' rights, prison and jail safety, deaths in custody, the management of youth in custody, and youth in the adult criminal justice system. I work closely with policy makers, justice system practitioners, corrections officials, advocates, and others who seek to improve the treatment of people in custody. I involve my students in high-impact research projects and train them to be effective policy professionals.

## ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

### Current Appointments

#### The University of Texas at Austin

Distinguished Senior Lecturer, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, September 2020 — present  
Distinguished Senior Lecturer, School of Law, September 2020 — present

**Co-Founder and Director, Prison and Jail Innovation Lab (PJIL), LBJ School**, September 2021 – present

PJIL is a policy resource center that works to ensure the safe and humane treatment of people in custody, strengthen correctional oversight, and cultivate the next generation of justice policy leaders. More information about PJIL can be found at [www.PJIL.org](http://www.PJIL.org).

**Oxford University, England**

**Visiting Academic**, Center for Criminology, April - June 2025

Research project: "How should correctional oversight bodies assess and demonstrate impact?"

**Prior Appointments**

**University of Texas at Austin**

Senior Lecturer, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, January 2010 – August 2020

Senior Lecturer, School of Law, January 2010 – August 2020

Adjunct Professor, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, January 2004 – December 2009

**National University of Singapore, Law Faculty**, Singapore

**Visiting Scholar**, August – December 2017

Research Project: "Correctional Oversight in Asia"

**University of London** (Queen Mary and Westfield College), England

**W.G. Hart Visiting Fellow**, September – December 1990

**PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT**

**Independent Consultant**, Austin, Texas, 1993 – 2010

Worked with government officials, agencies, and advocates to evaluate prison and jail conditions and management practices, develop independent correctional oversight mechanisms, address jail crowding problems, develop alternatives to incarceration, create innovative programs for adults and juveniles, and improve delivery of criminal justice services.

- Representative clients: National Institute of Corrections, U.S. Department of Justice, Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators, Georgetown University Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, National Center for Youth in Custody, Office of the Federal Public Defender, Urban Institute, Maine Department of Corrections, Massachusetts Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on the Suffolk County (Boston) Jail, Camden County (New Jersey), Bernalillo County (New Mexico), Alachua County (Florida), Just Detention International, Jefferson Parish (Louisiana) Council, Texas Governor's Office, Texas Legislature, Texas State Comptroller, Office of the Independent Ombudsman for the Texas Youth Commission, District of Columbia Corrections Information Council, Travis County (Austin, Texas) District Attorney, State of Oklahoma, Tulsa (Okla.) Criminal Justice Authority, Harris County (Houston, Texas) Commissioners Court, Human Rights Watch. Details of projects listed below under "Consulting Projects."

**Soros Senior Justice Fellow (awarded by Open Society Institute)**, 2005 – 06

Fellowship project was titled "Developing Effective Prison Oversight and Inspection Mechanisms in the U.S." Conducted research and writing about independent prison oversight mechanisms in the U.S. and abroad; promoted attention to this issue within the U.S.; and helped build consensus among diverse stakeholders about the need for accountability and transparency in prison operations in order to protect prisoners' human rights. Conducted extensive research while based at the International Centre for Prison Studies at Kings College, London during June 2005.

**Policy Director, Texas Punishment Standards Commission**, Austin, Texas, 1991 - 93

Coordinated intensive two-year legislative effort to revise state sentencing laws, rewrite Texas Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure, and address overcrowding in prisons and county jails; developed sentencing policy proposals for 27-member sentencing commission; worked with legislators, judges, district attorneys, defense attorneys, local officials, law enforcement, victims' groups, and others.

**Texas Senate Committee on Criminal Justice** (Senator Ted Lyon, Chair), Austin, Texas

**General Counsel**, September 1991-January 1993

**Assistant General Counsel**, January-September 1991

Responsible for developing, reviewing, and negotiating hundreds of bills proposing changes to criminal laws and procedures; helped design, draft, and negotiate major legislation involving county jail overcrowding and substance abuse treatment, resulting in settlement of county jail litigation and creation of Texas' drug treatment beds. 72nd Legislative Session.

**Office of the Special Master, *Ruiz v. Estelle***, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas, Houston, Texas

**Monitor**, December 1987-March 1990

Appointed by Federal Judge William Wayne Justice to conduct extensive investigations and regular inspections of Texas prisons with regard to issues such as prisoner access to courts, harassment and retaliation against inmates, prisoner access to recreation and programs, crowding, and facility maintenance; produced numerous reports about prison agency compliance with court orders and made recommendations that resulted in significant changes in procedures and policies.

## BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

**Member, Advisory Board, Designed 4 Dignity Initiative, Vera Institute of Justice**, New York, NY,

May 2024-September 2026

Appointed by the Vera Institute to serve on a national board of advisors to help guide a project working with selected states to change the culture of their prisons with the aim of promoting human dignity. Helping to develop a research agenda to evaluate the project.

**Member, Advisory Board, Prison Research and Innovation Initiative, Urban Institute**, Washington, DC, September 2019 - 2024

Appointed by the Urban Institute to serve on a national board that helped select states to participate in a multi-year, \$10 million initiative to infuse prisons with research, evidence, transparency, and innovation to promote the well-being of people who live and work there. The Advisory Board also helped develop a research agenda for this initiative.

**Chair, Sheriff's Advisory Board on the Women's Jail**, Travis County, Texas, March 2018 – June 2020

Appointed by Travis County Sheriff Sally Hernandez to lead an expert advisory board regarding the development of a model jail facility for women based on national and international best practices. Chaired numerous meetings comprised of community experts and the Sheriff's leadership team, and managed various research projects conducted by UT students on behalf of the Advisory Board. Authored major report to the Sheriff and to Commissioners Court setting forth an evidence-based vision for the proposed new jail that is gender-responsive and trauma-informed. Testified before Commissioners Court, which approved and gave preliminary approval for funding of the new facility.

**Note:** *My work on this Advisory Board was featured in Keri Blakinger's article, "Can We Build a Better Women's Prison?," Washington Post Magazine, October 28, 2019*

**Member, Board of Fellows, National Center for Juvenile Justice (research arm of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ))**, 2015 – 17

Appointed by the President of the NCJFCJ to provide oversight of the Council's work on juvenile justice; one of only two academics on this national board. Drafted a Resolution on oversight of juvenile correctional facilities that was adopted by the Council.

**Member, Barbara Jordan Freedom Foundation Board of Trustees**, Austin, Texas, 2009 – 16

Served on inaugural Executive Committee of new organization focused on social justice issues, and created from the estate of the late Barbara Jordan; Chair of the Program Committee (2011-15); developed the Foundation's strategic plan; organized two conferences to kickoff the Foundation's work; developed the Foundation's initial project on school discipline.

**Member, Amherst College Board of Trustees**, Amherst, Massachusetts (elected by the alumni), 1995 – 2001  
Served on Committees on Instruction, Human Resources, Student Life, Board Structure, Student Discipline, Place of Athletics, and Honorary Degrees; Trustee Emeritus since 2001; served on President's Campaign Advisory Board.

**Member, Blue Ribbon Task Force on the Texas Youth Commission** (2007)  
Served on a task force comprised of national experts convened for a summit on the future of juvenile justice in Texas; the task force co-authored a report providing detailed recommendations about TYC and juvenile justice policy in the state; represented Task Force before the Texas Legislature.

**Advisory Council to the Crime Victims Institute** (appointed by Texas Attorney General) (1996 – 2000)  
Served on inaugural Advisory Council to organization performing groundbreaking research on crime victims; served on Strategic Planning Committee; helped guide baseline study on delivery of victims' services.

**Steering Committee, Texas Criminal Justice Reform Coalition** (2001 – 04)  
Helped guide strategic planning process, resulting in the development of a mission statement and statement of core values; assisted in planning Coalition's public education activities and advocacy efforts.

**Member, Austin Child Care Council** (appointed by Austin Mayor Gus Garcia) (2002 – 04)  
Served on the city's commission on child care issues and early learning opportunities; drafted Council's responses to state's proposed revisions to day care licensing standards and new workforce commission policies.

## **EDITORIAL POSITIONS**

**Member, Editorial Board, Correctional Law Reporter**, 2008 – present

**Member, Editorial Board, Corrections Managers' Report**, 2023 – present

**Contributing Editor, Correctional Law Reporter**, 2002 – 08  
Wrote 36 bi-monthly Literature Review columns; tracked publications and developments relevant to the corrections field and wrote reviews for an audience of corrections professionals.

## **HONORS, AWARDS, AND RECOGNITION**

### **Non-University Honors**

NACOLE Flame Award, 2019 (the highest honor given to an individual by the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement, a professional association, for significant contributions to the field of independent oversight of prisons, jails, and police)

Admitted to the Bar of the U.S. Supreme Court, November 6, 2018

Member of Pro Bono College of the Texas State Bar, 2017 (recognized by State Bar for making outstanding contributions to the delivery of legal services to low-income Texans)

Honorary Vice-President, Amherst College Society of the Alumni, 2016-17

TEDx Editor's Pick for January 2015 for my TEDx Talk at Amherst College, 2014 ("Why are we trying kids as adults?") (one of only 11 talks worldwide to be selected)

First Tee of Austin, Core Values Award, 2013 (awarded to nine leading community figures who exemplify the nine core values of this national youth development organization; my award is for "Respect")

Outstanding Juvenile Justice Advocate of the Year, 2010 (award given by the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition, a statewide policy research and advocacy organization) (*"In honor of Texas' most ardent juvenile justice advocate for outstanding expertise, research, leadership, and passion in service to Texas youth"*)

My work was the focus of a lead editorial in the New York Times, which endorsed my research report and policy recommendations on the issue of trying pre-adolescent offenders as adults. ("12 and in Prison," July 28, 2009): [http://www.nytimes.com/2009/07/28/opinion/28tue1.html?\\_r=1&hpw](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/07/28/opinion/28tue1.html?_r=1&hpw)

Honored by the 79th Texas Legislature, 3rd Called Session (2006) (H.R. 223) for my work on prison oversight (text of Resolution available at: <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/tlodocs/793/billtext/html/HR00223F.htm>)

Soros Senior Justice Fellowship, 2005 – 06 (awarded by the Open Society Institute) (one of six people around the country that year to receive this award, which is considered one of the top prizes for people working on criminal justice reform-related issues; received a \$60,000 fellowship that supported a year of research and writing on a particular project.)

James McGrew Research Award for practitioners by the American Society for Public Administration (CenTex Chapter) for book chapter on correctional health care law, 2004.

### **University/School Awards**

"Texas Ten" (named one of the top 10 most inspiring professors at the University of Texas by the Texas Exes alumni association), 2019

PRI Award (Policy Research Institute) (research funding award), LBJ School of Public Affairs, 2019

Award for "Faculty Member Who Has Done the Most for Students," LBJ School of Public Affairs, 2017

"Excellence in Public Interest Law Award for Faculty" by Texas Law Fellowships student organization, UT School of Law, 2013

Designated a "UT Professor of Excellence" (featured at UT athletic events), 2012-13

Award for "Most Valuable Class," LBJ School of Public Affairs, 2013

Award for "Most Valuable Class," LBJ School of Public Affairs, 2012

UT's "Tower Award for Outstanding Service Learning Professor," University of Texas, 2011

### **Other Honors and Awards**

Awarded Overseas Research Student Fellowship by British Government for study at Oxford University, 1983 – 84

John Woodruff Simpson Fellowship in Law, Amherst College, 1982

Phi Beta Kappa, 1982

**GRANTS, GIFTS, AND CONTRACTS**

***Awarded***

Sponsor: Arnold Ventures

Project/Title: "Prison and Jail Innovation Lab: Next Steps on Correctional Oversight"

Principal Investigator: Michele Deitch

Project Funding Period: September 2024 – August 2026

Funding Amount: \$1.1 million

*Note: This gift provides renewal funding for the Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, a policy resource center based at the LBJ School of Public Affairs.*

Sponsor: Institute for Humane Studies

Project/Title: "Deaths in Custody Conference"

Principal Investigator: Michele Deitch

Project Funding Period: November 2024 - January 2025

Funding Amount: \$5,000

*Note: This grant provided funding towards the costs of a two-day conference on deaths in custody, held at the University of Texas at Austin in November 2024. The event brought together 150 of the country's leading experts on this issue.*

Sponsor: Arnold Ventures

Project/Title: "Developing a Framework for Assessing the Value of Correctional Oversight"

Principal Investigators: Michele Deitch and Jamein Cunningham

Project Funding Period: November 2023 – August 2024

Funding Amount: \$70,000

*Note: This grant funded work on a report using an econometrics framework to develop a research agenda for a causal analysis of the impact of correctional oversight.*

Sponsor: Arnold Ventures

Project/Title: "PJIL Symposium"

Principal Investigator: Michele Deitch

Project Funding Period: January – May 2023

Funding Amount: \$44,000

*Note: This funding supported a two-day conference titled "Can America's Prisons and Jails Change, and, If So, How?", held at the University of Texas at Austin in February 2023. The event brought together 100 of the country's leading experts on prison and jail conditions to discuss strategies for improving conditions of confinement.*

Sponsor: Arnold Ventures

Project/Title: "Prison and Jail Innovation Lab"

Principal Investigator: Michele Deitch

Project Funding Period: September 2021 – January 2024

Original Funding Amount: \$750,000

*Note: This funding supports the establishment and the initial two years of operations of the Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, a new policy resource center at the LBJ School that serves as a catalyst to ensure the safe and humane treatment of people in custody and that cultivates the next generation of justice policy leaders. PJIL launched in November 2021 and serves as an umbrella for a number of projects.*

Additional Gift: \$226,000

*Note: The same funder gave additional funding as a gift beginning in February 2024 to continue the work of the Prison and Jail Innovation Lab.*

## Michele Deitch

Sponsor: Arnold Ventures  
 Project/Title: "Louisiana Jail Standards Project"  
 Principal Investigator: Michele Deitch  
 Project Funding Period: January 2022 – September 2023  
 Funding Amount: \$100,000

*Note: This funding supports a project that allows the Prison and Jail Innovation Lab to work directly with the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections and the Louisiana Sheriffs Association to develop a more comprehensive and modern set of jail standards for the state as well as a mechanism for compliance, enforcement, and oversight. The project was initiated through a unique directive from the Louisiana Legislature.*

Sponsor: Arnold Ventures  
 Project/Title: "COVID, Corrections, and Oversight"  
 Principal Investigator: Michele Deitch  
 Project Funding Period: June 2020 – December 2021  
 Funding Amount: \$100,000

*Note: This grant funded a rapid response model to provide ongoing resource support to corrections officials, oversight practitioners, policy makers, advocates, and the media on issues related to the COVID crisis in prisons and jails. My research team has produced a number of briefing papers and reports on COVID deaths in custody in Texas correctional facilities and on the transparency of COVID data in corrections facilities around the country.*

Sponsor: Rapoport Foundation  
 Project/Title: "Implementing a Reimagined Women's Jail"  
 Principal Investigator: Michele Deitch  
 Project Funding Period: January 2020 – January 2021  
 Funding amount: \$50,000

*Note: This grant was originally intended to fund continuing work with the Travis County Sheriff's Office to implement the best practices model for the women's jail developed through my work as Chair of the Sheriff's Advisory Board and several site visits to model corrections facilities in the US and abroad. During the pandemic, the focus of the work pivoted to address the impact of COVID on incarcerated women.*

Sponsor: Harris County Sheriff's Office  
 Project Title: "Improving the Experiences of Women in the Harris County Jail"  
 Principal Investigator: Michele Deitch  
 Project Funding Period: August 2019 – July 2020  
 Funding amount: \$50,000

*Note: This contract funded work on a yearlong Policy Research Project course at the LBJ School.*

Sponsor: Arnold Ventures  
 Project Title: "Independent Oversight of the Texas Prison System"  
 Principal Investigator: Texas Inmate Families Association  
 Co-Investigator: Michele Deitch  
 Project Funding Period: April 2020 – December 2021  
 Funding amount: \$121,396

*Note: This grant funded my research and writing about the need for prison oversight, as well as development of a training curriculum to prepare legislators to visit prisons. Additionally, the grant funded activities by the Texas Inmate Families Association.*

Sponsor: PRI (LBJ School's Policy Research Institute)  
 Project Title: "Prison Oversight and Conditions of Confinement"  
 Principal Investigator: Michele Deitch  
 Project Funding Period: June 2019 – August 2020  
 Funding amount: \$7,500

*Note: This grant funded research and writing of a major report about prison oversight.*

## TEACHING

### Courses Taught (graduate level)

Youth Justice and the Policy Development Process (core Policy Development course)  
 Criminal Justice Policy: Corrections and Sentencing  
 Advanced Research in Criminal Justice Policy  
 Prisons and the Environment (new course)

Advanced Juvenile and Criminal Justice Policy: The Texas Legislative Process  
 Policy Research Project (year-long core course)  
 Communications (new core course)  
 Juvenile Justice Policy  
 The School-to-Prison Pipeline

### Sample Teaching Evaluations

Spring 2021 -- Instructor ratings: 4.8, 4.6; Course ratings: 5.0, 4.4  
 Fall 2020 – Instructor ratings: 4.9, 4.7; Course ratings: 4.9, 4.7

### Clients for service learning course projects and Policy Research Projects

Harris County Sheriff's Office; Texas House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee; Travis County Sheriff's Office; American Bar Association Subcommittee on Correctional Oversight; National Center for Youth in Custody/Office of Juvenile Justice of Delinquency Prevention (U.S. Dept. of Justice); Independent Ombudsman for the Texas Juvenile Justice Department; Texas Commission on Jail Standards; Travis County Juvenile Probation Department; Texas Appleseed; Disability Rights Texas; Travis County School Discipline Working Group; VOTE (Voices of the Experienced)-NOLA; ACLU's National Prison Project

### Media Coverage of My Teaching

"Meet the 2019 'Texas 10'," *The Alcalde* (University of Texas alumni magazine). Featured in article about the 10 most inspiring professors at UT (May/June 2019)

Featured in a 2019 Policy Impact video produced by the LBJ School about my work with my students on behalf of the Texas Legislature; video is being used both for student recruitment purposes and for communication with external constituencies about the work being done at the LBJ School:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3YVM72oNEo#action=share>

My class and the work of my students was featured in a 2017 video about the LBJ School student experience to be used for student recruitment: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mRTZzKcMnA4&t=88s>

My work was the subject of a feature story in the University of Texas alumni magazine, *The Alcalde*, and in a related video that premiered on the Longhorn Network cable television channel, 2012

Profiled in three feature stories on the University of Texas website homepage (2006, 2007, and 2009).

Stories available at:

- <http://www.utexas.edu/features/2006/prisons/index.html>
- [http://www.utexas.edu/news/2007/12/18/law\\_supreme/](http://www.utexas.edu/news/2007/12/18/law_supreme/)
- [http://www.utexas.edu/news/2009/07/28/children\\_criminal\\_justice/](http://www.utexas.edu/news/2009/07/28/children_criminal_justice/)



Profiled in at least 22 stories on the LBJ School website since 2005

Recent stories include:

- “New criminal justice policy lab to focus on correctional oversight and improved conditions in prisons and jails nationwide,” December 8, 2021
- “LBJ’s Michele Deitch chosen by alumni as one of the ‘Texas 10,’” May 1, 2019
- “LBJ’s Michele Deitch joins the U.S. Supreme Court Bar,” November 30, 2018
- “LBJ’s Michele Deitch presents research on the importance of prison oversight and transparency at international conference,” October 29, 2018
- “Research from the LBJ School Informs Raise the Age Bill,” April 27, 2018

## **SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY**

### **Committees and Advising**

2022 – present: Graduate Advisor/Mentor, LBJ School (for students interested in Social Justice, Civil Rights, and Criminal Justice, and for students in the dual degree program in Law and Public Affairs)

2021 – present: Member, Graduate Studies Committee, Executive Masters in Public Leadership, LBJ School

2024-25: Executive Committee, LBJ School of Public Affairs

2024-25: Promotion Committee, Professional Track Faculty member Trent Thurman

2024-25: Dual Degree Advisor, LBJ and Law (advise and help recruit prospective students)

2023-24: Member, Teaching Excellence Award Selection Committee, LBJ School

2022 – 2023: Member, Bridging Disciplines Subcommittee (developed a new interdisciplinary certificate program for undergraduates focused on criminal justice)

2022-23: Member, Teaching Excellence Award Selection Committee, LBJ School

2021 – present: Member, Initiative for Law, Societies, and Justice, University-wide committee (previously called the Research Interest Group on the Criminal Legal System)

2021 – present: Member, Advisory Council, The Impact Factory (joint initiative of Dell Med School and LBJ School led by Dr. Michael Hole)

2020-21: Member, Professional Track Faculty Merit Review Committee

Summer 2020: Member, University-wide Experiential Learning Task Force (developed an action plan and resource materials for faculty and administrators planning to manage experiential learning activities during the COVID crisis; reported to the University COVID Working Group on Planning for the Fall Semester)

2010 – present: Advisor/Coordinator, Dual Degree Program in Law and Public Affairs (serve as resource for prospective and current students; review admissions files and help with recruitment; handle administrative matters for the program)

2017: Member, Ad Hoc Committee on Non-Tenure Track Faculty (developed recommendations for Budget Council regarding promotion procedures and appointment titles)

2016: Co-Chair, LBJ School Working Group on Student Recruitment and Career Development (produced substantial report with recommendations to improve the admissions and recruitment process at the School; many recommendations are in the process of being implemented)

## Michele Deitch

2016- 17: Plan II Sophomore Advisor

2015 – present: Co-Faculty Advisor, Texas Journal of Civil Liberties & Civil Rights

2015 – 17: Board of Advisors, Texas Justice Initiative, Institute on Urban Policy Research and Analysis (IUPRA), University of Texas

2017 – present: Faculty Fellow, Institute for Urban Policy Research & Analysis (IUPRA)

2010 – 2020: Faculty Fellow, Center for Health and Social Policy (CHASP), University of Texas (organized several events sponsored by CHASP, including speakers, film screenings and discussions, and conferences; presented my work at various CHASP events)

## Supervision of Student Research

Dissertation committees:

*Rebecca Cohen, College of Education (2013)*

*Michelle Burman, School of Social Work (2012)*

Have taught several PRPs and PRP-like courses that have resulted in significant reports and other student team-driven work products

Have supervised 12 Professional Reports at the LBJ School, including one that won an award

Supervised two EMPL Capstone projects (2018, 2019)

Have supervised three undergraduate Plan II (Honors) theses, including one that was featured at the Plan II Thesis Symposium

Have taught numerous Directed Study students working on individual and group projects

Numerous students have had their class papers published in academic and practitioner journals; some students have co-authored publications with me; some student work has received national and local media attention

## Events organized for the University of Texas community

2024: Organized and chaired academic conference on “Deaths in Custody” (sponsored by the Prison and Jail Innovation Lab) (November 14-16, 2024) (featuring 48 speakers, with 150 attendees from around the country)

2024: Organized film screening and moderated panel discussion on “Solitary Confinement in Texas” (sponsored by the Prison and Jail Innovation Lab) (October 7, 2024)

2024: Organized Mock Cell event to demonstrate the effects of extreme heat in Texas prisons, University of Texas main campus (sponsored by the Prison and Jail Innovation Lab) (April 17, 2024)

2023: Organized and chaired academic conference: “Cruel and Not Unusual: Can America’s Prisons and Jails Change, and, If So, How?” (sponsored by the Prison and Jail Innovation Lab) (February 3-4, 2023) (featured 30 speakers, with 100 attendees from around the country)

2022: Moderated book talk and panel discussion: “We Are Not Slaves: State Violence, Coerced Labor, and Prisoners’ Rights in Postwar America” (sponsored by the William Wayne Justice Center and the Prison and Jail Innovation Lab) (November 3, 2022)

2022: Organized and moderated event: “An Evening with Keri Blakinger, author of ‘Corrections in Ink’” (sponsored by the Prison and Jail Innovation Lab) (September 20, 2022)

2019: Organized and moderated event: “The Meaning of Life: The Case for Abolishing Life Sentences,” presentation by Ashley Nellis (The Sentencing Project) (sponsored by the William Wayne Justice Center, the Center for the Study of Race and Democracy, and the Capital Punishment Clinic) (April 1, 2019)

2019: Arranged for and introduced Keynote Speaker for Barbara Jordan Forum: Dallas County District Attorney John Creuzot (February 25, 2019)

2018: Organized a conference in coordination with my students: “[IN]VISIBLE: Vulnerable People in the Criminal Justice System” (April 13, 2018) (more than 100 attendees, including legislators, legislative staff, Sheriff, and community members)

2017: Organized and moderated event: “The Rise of Long-Term Solitary Confinement in the United States,” presentation by Prof. Keramet Reiter (UC-Irvine), followed by panel discussion (February 2, 2017) (sponsored by CHASP and the Center for the Study of Race and Democracy)

2017: Advised the law student editors of the Texas Journal of Civil Liberties & Civil Rights on topic and speakers for their 2017 annual symposium, “Misdemeanor Defendants and the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session” (January 27, 2017)

2016: Arranged for and Introduced Keynote Speaker for Barbara Jordan Forum: Vanita Gupta, head of Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice (February 24, 2016)

2016: Organized and moderated an all-day public symposium sponsored jointly by the LBJ School and the University of Houston Law Center: “Police, Jails, and Vulnerable People,” held in Houston with over 300 people in attendance (January 22, 2016)

2015: Arranged screening of film “The Guy With the Knife” and panel discussion following (November 5, 2015)

2015: Organized and moderated New Voices in Civil Rights speaker event on “Wrongful Convictions and the Struggle for Civil Rights,” with lead speaker Nina Morrison, Senior Staff Attorney for the Innocence Project, and respondents Texas Sen. Rodney Ellis and Prof. Jennifer Laurin (UT Law School) (February 9, 2015)

2014: Arranged screening of film “Kids for Cash” and panel discussion following the film (November 13, 2014)

2014: Arranged screening of film “Herman’s House” and panel discussion following the film (February 12, 2014)

2012: Organized and moderated half-day symposium titled “School Discipline: A Pathway to the Juvenile Justice System or an Opportunity for Effective Intervention?,” in collaboration with the Barbara Jordan Freedom Foundation (featured Texas Supreme Court Chief Justice Wallace Jefferson and Texas Sen. John Whitmire) (February 20, 2012)

2011: Organized and moderated half-day symposium titled “The Promise of Freedom and Justice in America,” in collaboration with Barbara Jordan Week at the LBJ School and the Barbara Jordan Freedom Foundation, (featured national experts) (February 21, 2011)

## **Presentations at the University of Texas**

Featured Speaker, Distinguished Speaker Series, Tower Fellows Program (December 2, 2024)

Featured Speaker, Distinguished Speaker Series, Tower Fellows Program (November 8, 2022)

Panelist, LBJ School Ph.D. Colloquium, “*Speaking to a Policy Audience*” (October 7, 2021)

Policy on Purpose Podcast: *"Eyes on the Lege: Inside the 87<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature," Episode 1: Criminal Justice Reform*, LBJ School of Public Affairs (April 19, 2021)

LBJ Resiliency Project, Podcast, Episode 3: *"Criminal Justice and Immigration: Resiliency After COVID"* (February 13, 2021)

Policy on Purpose Podcast: *"From a Great Society to a Resilient Society," Episode 3: Impact of COVID-19 on Vulnerable Populations* (February 10, 2021)

Featured Speaker, Texas Exes Luncheon Speaker (features winners of the "Top 10 Most Inspiring Professors" award), *"Is Orange Really the New Black?: Women and Incarceration"* (November 19, 2019)

Panelist, *"Race and Criminal Justice,"* UT Opportunity Forum, UT School of Law (February 8, 2019)

Respondent, *"Inside Private Prisons: An American Dilemma in the Age of Mass Incarceration,"* UT School of Law (January 30, 2018) (respondent to presenter Lauren-Brooke Eisen)

Faculty panel on Public Speaking, student event sponsored by LBJ School Writing Lab (March 2, 2017)

Featured speaker, Texas Exes, Alumni College, *"What's Going On In Our Prisons?"* (June 9, 2016)

Distinguished Speaker, UT Gateway Scholars Speaker Series, *"The Landscape of Criminal Justice Reform in America"* (February 2, 2016) (audience of 500; this is the largest student success program at UT)

Panelist, "National Dialogue on Race--Black Lives, American Justice: From Ferguson to Dallas," Center for the Study of Race and Democracy, University of Texas (September 21, 2016)

Panelist, "An Agenda for Black Lives: From the Black Power Movement to Black Lives Matter," Conference on Reimagining Black Politics and American Democracy, Center for the Study of Race and Democracy, University of Texas (2016)

Presenter, LBJ School Ph.D. Colloquium, *"Kids in the Adult Criminal Justice System"* (February 5, 2015)

Presenter, CHASP (Center for Health and Social Policy) Brown Bag, LBJ School of Public Affairs, *"A Conversation About the Changing Landscape of Criminal Justice Reform"* (November 18, 2015)

Moderator and Panelist, *"Juvenile Justice Reform in Texas,"* CHASP (Center for Health and Social Policy), LBJ School of Public Affairs (November 13, 2014)

Presenter, Law Faculty Colloquium, UT School of Law, *"Juvenile Justice Reform in Texas and Efforts to Raise the Age of Juvenile Jurisdiction from 17 to 18"* (October 2, 2014)

Moderator and Panelist, *"Mass Incarceration and the Death Penalty,"* UT School of Law (March 23, 2013)

Featured speaker, CHASP (Center for Health and Social Policy) Colloquium, LBJ School of Public Affairs (February 25, 2011)

Featured speaker, School of Human Ecology, Seminar Series, *“Treating Young Juveniles As Adults in the Criminal Justice System”* (September 24, 2010)

Panelist, Conference in honor of the late Federal Judge William Wayne Justice, UT School of Law, *“Judge Justice’s contributions to prison reform in Texas and nationally”* (April 15, 2010)

## **SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION (see also Boards and Commissions, above)**

### **Member, New York State Judicial Task Force, Subcommittee on Judicial Oversight of Prisons and Jails, 2022 – 24**

Invited to serve on this statewide Task Force to develop policies for New York State judges regarding their responsibilities to visit prisons and jails.

### **Member, Dual Status Task Force, Texas Supreme Court Children’s Commission, Austin, Texas, June 2019 – January 2021**

Appointed by judicial chairs of the Texas Children’s Commission to a statewide Task Force charged with studying and making recommendations to improve law, policy, and practices for handling youth in both the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. The Task Force’s work resulted in recommendations that informed the Texas Judicial Council’s policy agenda for the 87<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislative Session.

### **Co-chair, American Bar Association Corrections and Sentencing Committee—Subcommittee on Implementation of Effective Oversight, 2010 – present**

Subcommittee is charged with developing a national implementation, communication, and outreach plan for the ABA’s 2008 Resolution on prison oversight; drafted ABA’s response to the U.S. Department of Justice on oversight provisions in the proposed Prison Rape Elimination Act Standards; testify on ABA policy on correctional oversight issues; serve as a resource to jurisdictions seeking to implement the ABA policy.

### **International Experts Network, Prison Oversight and Human Rights, October 2018 - present**

Part of an inaugural effort to identify and create a network of prison oversight professionals around the world; network is Canada-based.

### **Organizer, Delegation of Prison Experts on Study Tour of Norwegian Prisons, March 2018**

Coordinated a visit of leading American scholars and prison experts to tour model Norwegian prison facilities, meet with prison oversight officials, and meet with academic experts at the University of Oslo.

### **Administrator, Correctional Oversight Listserv and Network, 2016 – present**

Developed and maintain a network of correctional oversight scholars, practitioners, and advocates in the United States; serve as a resource to participants on oversight-related issues.

### **Member, Texas Judicial Council Juvenile Justice Committee Advisory Group, 2017 – 20**

Advisory Committee is charged with considering best practices and necessary reforms to the juvenile justice system in Texas and making recommendations to the policy-making body for the state judiciary.

### **Member, Board of Fellows, National Center for Juvenile Justice (research arm of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ)), 2015 – 17**

Appointed by the President of the NCJFCJ to provide oversight of the Council’s work on juvenile justice; one of only two academics on this national board. Drafted a Resolution on oversight of juvenile correctional facilities that was adopted by the Council.

**Member, Commission on Immigration (American Bar Association), Advisory Task Force on Civil Detention Standards, 2011 – 12**

Appointed to Task Force to assist in the development of standards for the Department of Homeland Security to guide detention conditions for immigrant detainees.

**American Bar Association Corrections and Sentencing Committee, Task Force on Oversight, 2008**

Assisted the Task Force in conceiving, drafting, and negotiating a resolution and report on the need for independent oversight and monitoring of correctional facilities. The resolution was approved by the ABA and is now official ABA policy.

**Reporter, American Bar Association, Criminal Justice Standards Task Force on the Treatment of Prisoners, 2004 - 07**

Lead drafter of legal standards addressing prisoners' rights; coordinated multi-year project that resulted in a set of standards, formally adopted by the ABA in February 2010, that is intended for an audience of correctional administrators, judges, policy-makers, and advocates. Task Force Co-Chairs: Margaret Love and Alvin Bronstein.

**American Bar Association Corrections and Sentencing Committee, 2004**

Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on the Legal Status of Prisoners Standards; as a result of committee's work, ABA authorized the appointment of a Task Force to revise standards affecting prisoners' rights, for which I later served as Reporter.

**SERVICE TO GOVERNMENT (selected)****Invited Testimony Before Philadelphia City Council, 2024**

Invited by City Council Member to provide resource information about the need for independent oversight of the Philadelphia Jail and about what jail oversight bodies should do; helped design a proposed city ordinance creating a jail oversight entity and citizen advisory board.

**Advised Uruguayan government officials, 2022 and 2024**

Invited by the U.S. Embassy in Uruguay to brief high-level government ministers, members of Parliament, corrections officials, and service providers about prison reform, alternatives to incarceration, and mental health and substance use treatment programs. Conducted multiple virtual briefings, and participated in a week of on-site meetings in Uruguay in December 2022. Testified before a Parliamentary Committee, met with government ministers and their staff, and presented at several events. Invited back in 2024 to work with government task force developing a strategic plan for implementing these ideas.

**Advised staff of the U.S. House Oversight Committee on correctional oversight, 2024****Invited legislative testimony in Maryland and Virginia, 2024**

Invited by key legislators in both states to provide testimony regarding prison oversight and helped develop legislation that passed both Legislatures with unanimous, bipartisan support and was signed into law.

**Advising Massachusetts State Senator on correctional oversight, 2022****Advising Harris County criminal justice officials on development of a women's jail facility, 2022-23**

**Advised U.S. Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on jail conditions** in preparation for hearing, 2022

**Invited legislative testimony in Virginia and Arizona**, Spring 2021

Invited by key legislators to provide testimony before legislative committees regarding prison oversight and the establishment of correctional oversight bodies.

Member, **Jail Overcrowding Task Force, Texas Commission on Jail Standards**, Spring 2021

**Supervision of student criminal justice interns, Texas Legislature (various offices), 86th Texas Legislature**, Spring Semester, 2021

Arranged for my students to be placed in key offices to work on criminal justice and juvenile justice legislation in conjunction with my course; provide supervision and guidance of student work

**Harris County Sheriff's Office**, 2019-20

Along with students in the Policy Research Project class, advising the Harris County Sheriff's Office on evidence-based approaches to serving women in the jail. Examining issues such as mental health, programs and services, family visitation, classification, and staffing. Coordinated Peer-to-Peer Visioning Session with Harris County Sheriff's Office Leadership Team and the Travis County Sheriff's Office Leadership Team.

**Supervision of student criminal justice interns, Texas Legislature (various offices), 86th Texas Legislature**, Spring Semester, 2019

Arranged for my students to be placed in key offices to work on criminal justice and juvenile justice legislation in conjunction with my course; provide supervision and guidance of student work

**Invited Presentation, Harris County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council** (comprised of elected and appointed county officials), Harris County, Texas, February 21, 2019

Discussed issues faced by women in custody and recommended approaches for serving this population.

**Legislative Testimony, House Juvenile Justice and Family Issues Committee, 86th Texas Legislature**, February 6, 2019

Provided invited testimony at the Committee's organizational meeting about the landscape of juvenile justice in Texas and about issues that would be coming before the Committee during session. I was one of only three presenters, and the other two were heads of the two key juvenile justice agencies in the state.

**Chair, Sheriff's Advisory Board on the Women's Jail**, Travis County, Texas, March 2018 – present

Chair committee comprised of community experts and the Sheriff's leadership team with a charge to develop a proposed vision for a model women's jail facility. Authored a 100-page report for Sheriff Sally Hernandez and Commissioners' Court. Testified before Commissioners Court. Continuing to work with the Sheriff's Office on implementation issues.

**Advisor, Prison Oversight Committee of the Felmers Chaney Advocacy Board, Wisconsin**, 2018

Advised a statewide appointed citizens board on prison oversight issues.

**Legislative Testimony, House County Affairs Committee, 85th Texas Legislature, Interim**, August 22, 2017

Provided invited testimony about implementation of Sandra Bland Act and recommendations regarding the collection of data about jail safety and serious incidents involving prisoners.

**Testimony, Board of Supervisors, Santa Clara County, California, March 29, 2017**

Provided invited testimony about jail oversight structures in order to assist county officials in developing an oversight body to prevent prisoner abuse and to improve conditions of confinement.

**Legislative Testimony, House Juvenile Justice and Family Issues Committee, 85<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, February 22, 2017**

Invited to brief legislative committee at organizational meeting on issues related to proposal to “raise the age” of criminal responsibility from 17 to 18.

**Legislative Testimony, Texas Legislature (various committees), 85<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, 2017**

Provided invited testimony on issues including prison and jail oversight, juvenile justice reform, jail safety, pretrial justice, and law enforcement practices; assisted House County Affairs Committee with development and passage of Sandra Bland Act.

**Supervision of student criminal justice interns, Texas Legislature (various offices), 85<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, Spring Semester, 2017**

Arranged for students to be placed in key offices to work on criminal justice and juvenile justice legislation in conjunction with my course; provided supervision and guidance of student work; received recognition from House Committee Chairs at public hearings on several occasions for this assistance.

**Legislative Testimony, House County Affairs Committee, 84<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, Interim, 2015**

Provided invited testimony at two hearings regarding jail conditions, jail standards, and inmate safety issues following the Sandra Bland death in custody case. My recommendations were incorporated into the Sandra Bland Act.

**Legislative Testimony, House Corrections Committee/House Juvenile Justice and Family Issues Committee, 84<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, 2015**

Provided invited testimony on various corrections and juvenile justice reform proposals, including bills to raise the age of criminal responsibility, create independent correctional oversight bodies, and reduce population of state jails.

**Supervision of student criminal justice interns, Texas Legislature (various offices), 84<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, Spring Semester, 2015**

Arranged for students to be placed in key offices to work on criminal justice and juvenile justice legislation in conjunction with my course; provided supervision and guidance of student work.

**Provided consultation and written testimony, New York State Assembly on Correction, 2015**

Assisted Committee Chair and staff with guidance on the development of a correctional oversight proposal.

**Texas House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, 2013 – 14**

Along with students in my Policy Research Project class, assisted Committee with its interim charges, hearings, and report pertaining to juvenile justice. Projects include study of issues including: raising the age of criminal responsibility from 17 to 18; revising capital murder sentencing statute for juvenile offenders to comport with Supreme Court ruling in *Miller v. Alabama*; transfer of juveniles to adult criminal court; mental health and juvenile justice; and criminalization of truancy. Our work contributed to the passage of two bills, and to the House passage of the “raise the age” bill.



**Office of the Independent Ombudsman for the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, 2012 – 13**

Along with students, conducted an in-depth analysis of violence in Texas's state-run juvenile justice facilities, assessed the juvenile agency's use of security and disciplinary practices, and identified best practices for managing youth behavior. On behalf of the agency's oversight body, produced a report that was provided to the agency leadership, Governor's Office, and state legislators.

**Legislative Testimony, House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee/ House Corrections Committee, 83rd Texas Legislature, 2013 – 14**

Provided invited testimony on various juvenile justice reform proposals, including possibility of raising the age of criminal responsibility and transfer of youth to the adult system.

**Working Group on Juveniles Tried as Adults, Texas Juvenile Justice Roundtable, 2009 – 10**

Worked with group of judges, prosecutors, and other juvenile justice system stakeholders to develop legislative proposals to address concerns about juveniles in the adult criminal justice system in Texas.

**Member, Blue Ribbon Task Force on the Texas Youth Commission (TYC), 2007**

Served on a task force comprised of national experts convened for a summit on the future of juvenile justice in Texas; the task force co-authored a report providing detailed recommendations about TYC and juvenile justice policy in the state. Represented Task Force before the Texas Legislature.

**Legislative Testimony—Joint Legislative Committee on the Operations and Management of the Texas Youth Commission, 80th Texas Legislature, 2007**

Invited to testify on a panel about the future of juvenile justice in Texas, in the wake of high-profile scandals surrounding the juvenile corrections agency

**Legislative Testimony—Texas Senate Criminal Justice Committee, 2007**

Invited to testify and submit written paper on problems with privatization of prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities, following crisis involving a privatized juvenile prison in Texas.

**Testimony, National Prison Rape Elimination Commission, hearing in New Orleans, Louisiana, 2007**

Provided lead testimony on correctional oversight at hearing before this Congressionally-appointed Commission. Provided informal guidance to the Commission staff in the development of proposed national standards to address sexual assault in custody.

**Testimony, National Commission on Safety and Abuse in America's Prisons, Los Angeles, 2006**

Provided lead testimony on independent oversight of prisons and jails at a hearing before this Blue Ribbon Commission co-chaired by former U.S. Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach. My oral and written testimony was cited extensively and prominently in the Commission's final report, which adopted many of my recommendations.

**Legislative Testimony and Drafting, Texas House, 78th Legislature (2003)**

Provided input into legislative debate about proposals to expand prison privatization and reduce state oversight of private facilities; participated in a legislative working group; issued a White Paper; testified at Committee hearings; developed proposed amendments to bill; conducted legal and empirical research; and assisted Committee members.

**Legislative Testimony and Drafting, Texas Senate, 77th Legislature (2001)**

Helped develop and negotiate proposed legislation to require citation in lieu of arrest for minor traffic offenders.

**Advisor, Texas Department of Criminal Justice--State Jail Division (1993 – 95)**

Assisted in development of standards to govern state jail operations.

## PRO BONO SERVICE TO THE COURTS

Amicus Brief on behalf of scholars on the Prison Litigation Reform Act and prison grievance systems,

*Ramirez v. Collier*, U.S. Supreme Court, 2021

(collaborated with UT Law School's Supreme Court Clinic in case of condemned man who requested clergy support in the death chamber; helped plan amicus strategy, coordinate amicus support, and conceptualize briefs in case; case turned on exhaustion of administrative remedies; case resulted in an 8-1 win at the SCOTUS)

Amicus Brief on behalf of Michele Deitch, *Moon v. State*, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, 2014 (on certification of juvenile as adult)

Amicus Brief on behalf of Juvenile Justice Law Professors, *In re: Fort Worth Star-Telegram, et. al.*, Court of Appeals for the Second District of Texas, 2014 (on confidentiality of juvenile proceedings)

Amicus Brief on behalf of Michele Deitch, *Guerrero v. State*, Court of Appeals for the Fourteenth District of Texas, 2014 (on certification of juvenile as an adult)

*Pittman v. South Carolina*, United States Supreme Court, 2007 – 08

Collaborated with UT Law School's Supreme Court Clinic as part of the legal team that drafted and filed cert petition for certiorari in groundbreaking juvenile justice case. Coordinated amicus supporters. Developed report on national practices involving the transfer of young juveniles to the adult criminal justice system. Case was widely featured in national media, including CNN, The New York Times, Associated Press, and National Law Journal.

Amicus Brief on behalf of corrections experts, Supreme Court of the United States, *Atwater v. City of Lago Vista*, September 2000 (with Richard Frase) (Supreme Court opinion cited the brief; case involved arrests for non-jailable misdemeanors)

## SERVICE AS AD HOC REFEREE AND PEER REVIEWER

Peer Reviewer, Oxford University Press (journal article), 2024

Judge panelist, Justice Innovation Prize (\$1 million), Dream.org, 2023

Reviewer, Johns Hopkins University Press (book manuscript), 2023

Peer Reviewer, *Law and Social Inquiry* (journal article), 2023

Peer Reviewer, *Law and Social Inquiry* (journal article), 2022

Peer Reviewer, *Health and Human Rights Journal* (journal article), 2022

Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Crime and Delinquency* (journal article), 2021

Peer Reviewer, Rowman and Littlefield Publishers (book manuscript), 2019

Peer Reviewer, Rowman and Littlefield Publishers (book manuscript), 2018

Peer Reviewer, Journal on Migration and Human Security (journal article), 2017

Peer Reviewer, Routledge Press (book manuscript), 2016

Peer Reviewer, Journal of Criminal Justice and Law (journal article), 2016

Independent Referee, European Research Foundation-Flanders (evaluation of candidate for a post-doctoral fellowship), 2016

Peer Reviewer, Columbia University Press (book manuscript), 2014

External Reviewer, Harvard Law School (evaluation of a possible lateral tenured appointment), 2013

Evaluator, Soros Justice Fellowships (evaluated proposals of Fellowship candidates), 2010 and 2013

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Journal Articles**

Michele Deitch, ***“But Who Oversees the Overseers?: The Status of Prison and Jail Oversight in the United States,”*** 47(2) American Journal of Criminal Law 207 (2020)

Michele Deitch, ***“Raising Arizona’s Commitment to Health and Safety: The Need for Independent Oversight of Arizona’s Prison System,”*** 52(3) Arizona State Law Journal 811 (2020) (*commissioned by the Academy for Justice*)

Michele Deitch, Rebecca Breeden, and Ross Weingarten, ***“Seventeen, Going on Eighteen: An Operational and Fiscal Analysis of a Proposal to Raise the Age of Juvenile Jurisdiction in Texas,”*** 40 American Journal of Criminal Law 1 – 67 (Fall 2012) (co-authored with then-students)

Michele Deitch, ***“The Need for Independent Prison Oversight in a Post-PLRA World,”*** 24 Federal Sentencing Reporter 236 – 244 (April 2012)

Michele Deitch, ***“Special Populations and the Importance of Prison Oversight,”*** 37(3) American Journal of Criminal Law 291 – 315 (2010)

***Opening Up a Closed World: A Sourcebook on Prison Oversight,*** 30 (5) Pace Law Review 2010 (this Law Review volume is dedicated entirely to articles and research on correctional oversight issues; I worked very closely with the editors throughout the process of planning and editing the volume, and my own chapters, which are detailed below, constitute a substantial portion of the book)

Michele Deitch, ***“Independent Prison Oversight Mechanisms Across the United States: A 50-State Inventory,”*** 30 Pace Law Review 1755 – 1930 (2010)

Michele Deitch, ***“Annotated Bibliography on Independent Prison Oversight,”*** 30 Pace Law Review 1687 - 1753 (2010)

Michele Deitch, ***“Distinguishing the Various Functions of Effective Prison Oversight,”*** 30 Pace Law Review 1438 – 1445 (2010)

Michael Mushlin and Michele Deitch, ***“Foreword: Opening Up a Closed World: What Constitutes Effective Prison Oversight?,”*** 30 Pace Law Review 1383 – 1410 (2010)

Michele Deitch, **"Thinking Outside the Cell: Prison Reform Litigation and the Vision of Prison Reform,"** 24 Pace Law Review 847 – 855 (July 2004) (special symposium issue)

Michele Deitch, **"State and Civil Society: New Strategies of Cooperation,"** Comunicação & política, Vol. 1, No. 2, December 1994-March 1995 (Proceedings of 1994 Seminar on Media, Drugs, and Criminality, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; translated into Portuguese) (review of community justice initiatives in Travis County, Texas)

Michele Deitch, **"Giving Guidelines the Boot: The Texas Experience with Sentencing Reform,"** 6 Federal Sentencing Reporter 138-143 (November/December 1993)

Michele Deitch, **"Review of S.J. Martin and S. Ekland-Olson, Texas Prisons: The Walls Came Tumbling Down, and L. Yackle, Reform and Regret: The Story of Federal Judicial Involvement in the Alabama Prison System,"** 1991 Public Law 242

Michele Deitch, **"Rights, Remedies, and Restrained Reform,"** 70 Texas Law Review 521 – 535 (1991) (reviewing John Dilulio's *Courts, Corrections, and the Constitution*)

## Book Chapters

Michele Deitch, **"Independent Oversight is Essential for a Safe and Health Prison System,"** in *Excessive Punishment*, Lauren-Brooke Eisen, ed., Columbia University Press, 2024 (pp. 190-197)

Michele Deitch, **"Behavior Management,"** Chapter 14 in *Desktop Guide to Quality Practice in Working with Youth in Confinement*, National Center for Youth in Custody/National Institute of Corrections/OJJDP, 2015 (60 pp.)

Michele Deitch and Class, **"Historical Perspective,"** Chapter 1 in *Desktop Guide to Quality Practice in Working with Youth in Confinement*, National Center for Youth in Custody/National Institute of Corrections/OJJDP, 2015 (37 pp.) (co-authored with then-current students Rebekah Lamm, Rebecca Lange, Dianna Muldrow, Gabrielle Smith, and Meghan Young)

Michele Deitch and Neelum Arya, **"Waiver and Transfer of Juveniles to Adult Court,"** in *Juvenile Justice Sourcebook*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., David Springer & Wesley Church, eds., Oxford University Press, 2014 (pp. 241 - 263)

David W. Springer, Albert R. Roberts, Patricia Brownell, Melissa Torrente, Angie Del Prado Lippman, and Michele Deitch, **"A Brief Historical Overview of Juvenile Justice and Juvenile Delinquency,"** in Roberts, A. R., & Springer, D. W. (Eds.), *Juvenile delinquency and juvenile justice: Policies, programs, and practice*. Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett Publishers, Inc., 2011 (pp. 3- 22)

Michele Deitch, **"Correctional Health Care and Special Populations: Legal Considerations and Context,"** Chapter 21 in *Managing Special Populations in Prisons and Jails*, Stan Stojkovic, ed., Civic Research Institute (2005) (this book chapter won the 2004 James McGrew Research Award for practitioners by the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA-CenTex Chapter))

## Reports

Jamein Cunningham, Michele Deitch, and Alycia Welch, **A Framework for Measuring the Value of Correctional Oversight**, Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, LBJ School of Public Affairs, August 2024

Alexis Jones, Michele Deitch, and Alycia Welch, ***Canary in the Coal Mine: A Profile of Staff COVID Deaths in the Texas Prison System***, Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, LBJ School of Public Affairs, February 2022 (24 pp.) (one of co-authors was a student)

Michele Deitch, *Destiny Moreno*, and Alycia Welch, ***Dead Man Waiting: A brief profile of deaths in Texas prisons among people approved for parole release***, LBJ School of Public Affairs, June 2021 (9 pp.) (one of co-authors was a student)

**Note:** This report was featured in an exclusive story on NBC News Now, followed by coverage in local outlets, including the Texas Standard and the Texas Tribune.

Alycia Welch and Michele Deitch, ***The Pandemic Gender Gap Behind Bars: Meeting the Needs of Women in Custody During COVID-19 and Planning for the Future***, LBJ School of Public Affairs, June 2021 (74 pp.)

**Note:** The National Institute of Corrections in the U.S. Department of Justice has requested to share a version of this report with correctional agencies around the country.

Michele Deitch and William Bucknall, ***Hidden Figures: Rating the COVID Data Transparency of Prisons, Jails, and Juvenile Agencies***, LBJ School of Public Affairs, March 2021 (67 pp.)

Michele Deitch, Alycia Welch, *William Bucknall*, and *Destiny Moreno*, ***COVID and Corrections: A Profile of COVID Deaths in Custody in Texas***, LBJ School of Public Affairs, November 2020 (25 pp.) (two of co-authors were then-current students)

**Note:** This report received extensive national and local news coverage, with stories about the report appearing in more than 700 media outlets, including NPR Weekend Edition, CNN, Associated Press, The New York Times, the Washington Post, and the Texas Tribune. Analytics show more than 400 million media impressions, and the report itself has been viewed over 75,000 times.

Michele Deitch and *William Bucknall*, ***Locked Out, Looking In: How Correctional Oversight Agencies are Adapting During the COVID Crisis***, LBJ School of Public Affairs, November 2020 (18 pp.) (co-author was a then-current student)

Michele Deitch, ***Designing and Planning a New Women's Jail Facility for Travis County: A Roadmap for Reform***, Report of the Advisory Committee to the Travis County (TX) Sheriff's Office, December 2018 (114 pp. plus Appendices) (As Chair of the Advisory Committee, I authored the report on behalf of the Committee, except for Chapter 6, which was authored by Alycia Welch, and the Appendices, which included research briefs by my students; I also edited the entire report.)

**Note:** I presented this report to the Travis County Commissioners Court, which endorsed the report and used it to inform plans for the design, operations, and programs of a proposed women's jail. The report was also featured in a story in the Washington Post Magazine titled "Can We Build a Better Women's Prison?" and in a Christian Science Monitor podcast on the future of incarceration.

Michele Deitch, *Amy Madore*, *Kate Vickery*, and *Alycia Welch*, ***Understanding and Addressing Youth Violence in the Texas Juvenile Justice Department***, Special Project Report (University of Texas: LBJ School of Public Affairs), May 2013 (152 pp.) (co-authors were then-current students)

**Note:** Research was conducted on behalf of the Independent Ombudsman for the Texas Juvenile Justice Department; report was presented to Governor's office, key legislators, and agency officials.

Michele Deitch, *Anna Lipton Galbraith, and Jordan Pollock*, ***Conditions for Certified Juveniles in Texas County Jails***, Special Project Report (University of Texas: LBJ School of Public Affairs), 2012 (54 pp.) (co-authors were then-current students)

**Note:** Research was conducted in collaboration with the Texas Commission on Jail Standards. This report received statewide press coverage, and was partly responsible for the removal of most youth under age 17 from county jails in Texas.

Michele Deitch, ***Juveniles in the Adult Criminal Justice System in Texas***, Special Project Report (University of Texas: LBJ School of Public Affairs), 2011 (58 pp.)

**Note:** This report received extensive press coverage and resulted in requested legislative testimony and briefings, leading to the passage of two new laws during the 82<sup>nd</sup> Texas legislative session.

Michele Deitch, *Amanda Barstow, Leslie Lukens, and Ryan Reyna*, ***From Time Out to Hard Time: Young Children in the Adult Criminal Justice System*** (Austin, TX: The University of Texas at Austin, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs), July 2009 (134 pp.) (co-authors were then-current students)

**Note:** This report generated extensive nationwide publicity, including a [lead editorial in \*The New York Times\*](#) and circulation by the U.S. Department of Justice-Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

Michele Deitch, ***“Keeping Our Kids at Home: Expanding Community-Based Facilities for Adjudicated Youth in Texas,”*** Austin, TX: Texas Public Policy Foundation, May 2009 (20 pp.)

David W. Springer and Colleagues, ***Transforming Juvenile Justice in Texas: A Framework for Action, Report of the Blue-Ribbon Task Force on the Texas Youth Commission.*** (Austin, TX: The University of Texas at Austin, School of Social Work), 2007 (72 pp.) (I was a contributing author to this report, having served on the Task Force that generated the recommendations it contained and having done substantial drafting and editing of certain sections of the report.)

## Conference Proceedings

Michele Deitch, Editor, ***Police, Jails, and Vulnerable People: New Strategies for Confronting Today’s Challenges***, Symposium Proceedings, University of Texas: LBJ School of Public Affairs, March 2016 (61 pp.) (symposium was jointly sponsored by LBJ School and the University of Houston, and hosted in Houston on January 22, 2016) (the Proceedings were drafted by my then-current students under my supervision; I substantially edited all of the students’ work and prepared the document for publication.

Michele Deitch, Editor, ***Opening Up a Closed World: What Constitutes Effective Prison Oversight?***, Conference Proceedings, University of Texas: LBJ School of Public Affairs, 2010 (142 pp.) (the Proceedings were drafted by my then-current students under my supervision; I substantially edited all of the students’ work and prepared the document for publication)

## Shorter Works

Michele Deitch, **Comment: “The UK looks to Texas for prison solutions—but is it looking through rose-coloured glasses?”** Center for Crime and Justice Studies (October 10, 2024)

Michele Deitch, ***“Independent Oversight is Essential for a Safe and Healthy Prison System,”*** essay in Brennan Center for Justice’s series on punitive excess in the criminal legal system (an expanded version of this essay was included in an edited volume published by Columbia University Press in 2024) (November 2021)

Michele Deitch, ***“Correcting Corrections: Lessons for Prisons and Jails in a Post-COVID World,”*** in Resiliency in the Age of COVID-19: A Policy Toolkit, LBJ School of Public Affairs (December 2020)

Michele Deitch, ***“Recommended Strategies for Sheriffs and Jails to Respond to the COVID-19 Crisis,”*** LBJ School of Public Affairs (March 20, 2020)

*This guidance document was distributed nationally and posted on the website of the American Jail Association and the National Institute of Corrections as a key resource document for correctional agencies.*

Michele Deitch, ***“Policy Change First, Litigate Later,”*** in Fred Cohen, “Correctional Law Commentary: Litigating Correctional Reform: What Matters to the Experts,” 50 Criminal Law Bulletin 1539 (2014)

Michele Deitch and Michael Mushlin, ***“Let the Sun Shine In: The ABA and Prison Oversight,”*** The State of Criminal Justice, American Bar Association, Criminal Justice Section (2011)

Michele Deitch, ***“From the Literature,”*** XIII – XX Correctional Law Reporter, 2002-08 (36 bi-monthly literature review columns)

Michele Deitch, ***“Report on the Texas Youth Commission Soap Opera,”*** XIX Correctional Law Reporter 53 (Dec./Jan. 2008)

Michele Deitch, ***“The Importance of Independent Prison Oversight,”*** Work Perspective, in “Criminal Justice Organizations: Administration and Management,” Stan Stojkovic, ed., 4th Ed., Thomson Press (2007)

Michele Deitch, ***“Conference Report--Opening Up A Closed World: What Constitutes Effective Prison Oversight?”*** XVIII Correctional Law Reporter 22 (August/September 2006)

Michele Deitch, ***“Why You Should Love Watchdogs: The Case for Effective Prison Oversight and the British Experience,”*** in The State of Corrections, Proceedings of the 2005 American Correctional Association Annual Conference (2006)

Margaret Love and Michele Deitch, ***“The Work of the American Bar Association’s Legal Status of Prisoners Standards Task Force,”*** The State of Criminal Justice, American Bar Association, Criminal Justice Section (2006)

Michele Deitch, ***“The American Bar Association’s Justice Kennedy Report: Reflections on the Start of a National Conversation about Corrections,”*** Correctional Law Reporter (Oct./Nov. 2004)

Michele Deitch, ***“Arresting and Jailing Minor Offenders: U.S. Supreme Court Takes on the Issue,”*** *American Jails* (March/April 2001)

Michele Deitch, ***“In the U.S. Supreme Court: Parole by any other name may smell as sweet, but does it create a liberty interest subject to due process protection?”*** West's Legal News (December 12, 1996), <http://twm.westpub.com/headlines> (in-depth analysis of Supreme Court case of *Young v. Harper*)

## Op-Eds and Letters to the Editor

Michele Deitch and Michael Mushlin, **Op-Ed: “What’s Going On In Our Prisons?”** The New York Times (January 4, 2016)

Michele Deitch, **Op-Ed: “*Bring Texas jails out of the shadows,*”** Texas Tribune (July 28, 2015) (also published in the San Antonio Express News)

Michele Deitch, **Letter to the Editor: “*What mass detention breeds,*”** International New York Times (October 12, 2014)

Michele Deitch and Gary Johnson, **Op-Ed: “*Common-sense solutions for Texas juvenile justice,*”** Austin American-Statesman (June 16, 2012) (co-author is former Executive Director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice)

Michele Deitch, **Letter to the Editor: “*The Young are Different, Justices Rule,*”** The New York Times (May 19, 2010)

Michele Deitch, **Op-Ed: “*TYC Facilities Need Independent Oversight,*”** Austin American-Statesman, March 22, 2007

Michele Deitch and Sunita Patel, **Op-Ed: “*U.S. Shrouds Immigrant Detention Center in Secrecy,*”** New American Media, June 14, 2007

Michele Deitch, **Op-Ed: “*On Prison Rape, Texas Tries to Report It Right,*”** Austin American-Statesman (November 9, 2005) (this Op-Ed piece was distributed by the U.S. Department of Justice’s National Institute of Corrections at its training seminars for corrections professionals on sexual assault)

## **Written Testimony**

Michele Deitch, Written testimony on jail oversight, Philadelphia City Council Committee on Law and Government (2024)

Michele Deitch, Written testimony on prison oversight, Virginia House Committee and Senate Committee (2024)

Michele Deitch, Written testimony on prison oversight, Maryland House Committee and Senate Committee (2024)

Michele Deitch, Written testimony about funding for Hawaii Correctional Oversight Commission, Hawaii Legislative Committee (2024)

Michele Deitch, Written testimony on implementation of Sandra Bland Act and collection of data on jail safety, Texas House County Affairs Committee (2017)

Michele Deitch, Written testimony on jail oversight and safety issues, Texas House County Affairs Committee (2016)

Michele Deitch, Written testimony on correctional oversight, New York State Assembly Committee on Correction (2015)

Michele Deitch, Written testimony on jail safety issues, Texas Senate Criminal Justice Committee (2015)

Michele Deitch, Written testimony on jail suicide prevention, jail standards, and independent oversight, Texas House County Affairs Committee (2015)



Michele Deitch, Written testimony on youth under age 18 in the adult criminal justice system, Texas Senate Criminal Justice Committee (2014)

Michele Deitch, Written testimony on raising the age of juvenile jurisdiction and certification of youth as adults, Texas House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee (2014)

Michele Deitch, "*Effective Jail Oversight*," written testimony prepared for the Los Angeles County Citizens' Commission on Jail Violence (2012)

Michele Deitch, "*Prison Oversight and Systems of Accountability*," written testimony prepared for the National Prison Rape Elimination Commission (2007)

Michele Deitch, Written testimony on the future of the juvenile justice system, Joint Legislative Committee on the Operations and Management of the Texas Youth Commission (2007)

Michele Deitch, Written testimony on correctional privatization, Texas Senate Criminal Justice Committee (2007)

Michele Deitch, "*Effective Prison Oversight*," written testimony prepared for the National Commission on Safety and Abuse in America's Prisons, published on the Commission's website (2006)

Michele Deitch, White Paper on Proposed Prison Privatization Bills, Texas House Corrections Committee Working Group, 78th Legislature (2003)

## **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

Jolie McCullough, Megha Bahl, Michele Deitch, and Alycia Welch, Report: "An Analysis of Natural Deaths in Texas Prisons, 2017-2022: What Can Natural Deaths Tell Us About Carceral Health Care?," Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, The University of Texas at Austin (in collaboration with the Center for Trauma and Violence Prevention, Howard University) (in progress, anticipated release Spring 2025)

ACLU National Prison Project and the Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, Report: "*Aging Behind Bars*" (in progress, anticipated release Spring 2025)

Michele Deitch, Alycia Welch, *Vanessa Chebli*, *Erin Luby*, *Destiny Moreno*, and *Josh McClain*, Report: "The Nightmare of Sleep in Prison: The Causes and Costs of Correctional Settings' Denial of Decent Sleep," Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, The University of Texas at Austin (in progress, anticipated release 2025)

Megha Bahl, Michele Deitch, and Alycia Welch, *Assessing Value of Carceral Oversight: A Global Perspective*, Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, The University of Texas at Austin (in progress, anticipated release 2025)

Michele Deitch, Alycia Welch, and *Tyler Sekunda*, Journal article: "Prison Safety Data Collection: A 50-State Study" (in progress, anticipated release 2025)

Michele Deitch, Alycia Welch, *Geoff Carlisle*, *Maddie Clendening*, *Meg Garcia*, and *Caleb Horn*, Report: "One Preventable Death is Too Many: A Nationwide Survey of Policies on Investigating Deaths in Custody," Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, The University of Texas at Austin (in progress, anticipated release 2025)

Michele Deitch, Alycia Welch, *Sarah Campbell, Emmie Dicicco, Priscilla Lugo, and Tessa Nemec*, Report: "Hygiene in Prison," Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, The University of Texas at Austin (in progress, anticipated release 2025)

Michele Deitch, Alycia Welch, *Erica Howard Cormier, Caroline Jones, Marissa Núñez, and Elena Purcell*, Report: "Clothed (in) Dignity: A Report on Clothing in Carceral Settings," Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, The University of Texas at Austin (in progress, anticipated release 2025)

Michele Deitch, Alycia Welch, *Allison Fink, Guadalupe Cantu, and Melody Shaff*, Michele Deitch, Report: "Death Doesn't Just Happen to You, It Also Happens to Your Family: Exploring Family Notification Policies After a Death in Custody," Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, The University of Texas at Austin (in progress, anticipated release 2025)

Michele Deitch, *Bailey Gray, Sonia Pace, and Erika Parks*, Journal article: "The Prison Safety Assessment Project: Proposed Key Indicators and Recommendations for Improved State Reporting of Data" (in progress)

## **OTHER CREATIVE WORK**

**National Resource Center for Correctional Oversight**, [www.prisonoversight.org](http://www.prisonoversight.org) (launched October 2023)

Comprehensive clearinghouse of all information relevant to correctional oversight, including interactive maps and detailed profiles of every correctional oversight body in the US, copies of all publications relevant to this topic, and constantly updated developments in the field. Entire website (with the equivalent of hundreds of pages of new material) was developed and written by the Prison and Jail Innovation Lab. It is the go-to resource for policymakers, advocates, and the media on prison and jail oversight issues.

**TEDx Talk: "Why are we trying kids as adults?,"** Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts (December 2014)  
*Featured as TEDx Editors' Pick for January 2015 (one of 11 talks worldwide to be selected); over 113,000 views as of June 2023*

## **SPEECHES AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **Professional Associations**

Speaker, "How a Gender-Responsive Approach to Corrections Promotes the Well-Being and Rehabilitation of Women in Custody," International Corrections and Prisons Association (ICPA)/ Thailand Institute of Justice, Women in Corrections Conference, Bangkok, Thailand (February 19, 2025)

Speaker, "Monitoring the Health Care Provided to People in Custody," NACOLE (National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement), 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Tucson, Arizona (October 15, 2024)

Plenary Speaker and Moderator, "The Three Faces of Prison Oversight in Arizona," NACOLE (National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement), 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Tucson, Arizona (October 14, 2024)

Speaker, "Monitoring Health Care in Prison," International Corrections and Prisons Association (ICPA), 26<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and Conference, Singapore (September 3, 2024)

Speaker, "Can Independent Oversight Impact Successful Reentry?," International Corrections and Prisons Association (ICPA), 26<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and Conference, Singapore (September 2, 2024)

Featured Speaker, "Policy Briefing on Independent Prison Oversight," FMM Network, online (September 19, 2024)

Featured Speaker, "Juvenile Justice for Journalists," CUNY Newmark Journalism School, Training Session for Professional Journalists, online (June 25, 2024)

Featured Speaker, "The Landscape of Prison Oversight in the United States," National Disability Rights Network, online (May 7, 2024)

Speaker, "The National Resource Center for Correctional Oversight," NACOLE (National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement), 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois (November 13, 2023)

Moderator, "Comparing Corrections Oversight Models," NACOLE (National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement), 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois (November 13, 2023)

Speaker, "The Nightmare of Sleep in Prison," International Corrections and Prisons Association (ICPA), 25<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and Conference, Antwerp, Belgium (October 2023)

Speaker, "The Pandemic Gender Gap Behind Bars and Lessons for the Future," International Corrections and Prisons Association (ICPA), 24<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and Conference, Orlando, Florida (October 26, 2022)

Moderator and Speaker, "Starting Up a New Oversight Body: A Conversation with New Jersey's New Corrections Ombudsman," NACOLE (National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement), 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Fort Worth, Texas (September 13, 2022)

Presenter, "The Prosecutor's Role in Oversight of Correctional Institutions," Fair and Just Prosecution (association of elected progressive prosecutors), online (September 30, 2021)

Moderator and Speaker, "COVID Data Transparency in U.S. Prisons," NACOLE (National Association of Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement), 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, online (September 21, 2021)

Moderator and Speaker, "The Effort to Establish Prison Oversight in Arizona: A Case Study," NACOLE (National Association of Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement), 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, online (September 14, 2021)

Speaker, "The Future of Correctional Oversight," NACOLE (National Association of Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement), 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, online (August 2020)

Webinar Presenter, "Strategies for Prisons, Jails, and Oversight Bodies During the COVID Crisis," NACOLE (National Association of Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement), (March 24, 2020)

*Helped plan this event, which was one of the nation's first webinars focused on COVID in the correctional context.*

Plenary Speaker and Session Chair/Moderator, "Oversight and Correctional Leadership," NACOLE (National Association of Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement), 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Detroit, Michigan (2019)  
*Organized a panel with three of the nation's most prominent correctional administrators*

Participant, Research Roundtable, Urban Institute, Prison Research and Innovation Initiative, Washington, DC (2019)

Featured Speaker, National Summit on Prison Oversight, FAMM (Families Against Mandatory Minimums), Washington, DC (2019)

Speaker/Moderator, "Covering Prisons," IRE (Investigative Reporters and Editors), Annual Conference, Houston, Texas (2019)

Panelist, "Rethinking the Mission/Improving the Conditions of Inmates in Texas Jails and Prisons," Conference: "Transforming Texas's Criminal Justice System: A Symposium for Journalists," John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Center of Media, Crime, and Justice in collaboration with the University of Texas, Austin, Texas (2019)

Plenary Speaker, Prison Oversight and Human Rights," International Corrections and Prisons Association (ICPA), 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, "Montreal, Canada (2018)

*Co-panelist with the chief national prison inspectors for the UK and for Canada, and the Inspector General of the US Department of Justice*

(see LBJ School media coverage of this presentation at: <https://lbj.utexas.edu/lbj%E2%80%99s-michele-deitch-presents-research-importance-prison-oversight-and-transparency-international>)

Session Chair, Moderator, and Panelist, "Assessing Institutional Culture," NACOLE (National Association of Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement) Annual Conference, St. Petersburg, Florida (2018)

Panelist, 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Statewide Conference on Reentry, "Juvenile justice reforms and effective programming for youth in Texas," Texas Capitol (2017)

Presenter, Moderator, and Workshop Leader, NACOLE (National Association of Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement) Annual Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico (2016)

*Organized and presented a day-long track on correctional oversight*

Panelist, Vera Institute of Justice, Reimagining Prison Initiative, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (2016)

*Spoke on correctional oversight, transparency, and accountability; medical and mental health care; and staff training and culture.*

Major Session Speaker, "The Era of Magical Thinking: Reconsidering the Adulthood of Youth," National Conference on Juvenile Justice, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ), Las Vegas, Nevada (2016)

Panelist, "The critical importance of prison and jail oversight," National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE), Annual Conference, Riverside, California (2015)

Featured speaker, "Raising the age of juvenile jurisdiction in Texas," Texas Chief Probation Officers, Annual Conference, Galveston, Texas (2014)

Featured speaker, "Raising the age of juvenile jurisdiction in Texas," Texas Juvenile Detention Association, Annual Conference, San Antonio, Texas (2014)

Featured speaker, "Raising the age of juvenile jurisdiction in Texas," Legislative Budget Board, Criminal Justice Forum, Austin, Texas (2014)

Keynote Speaker, "Kids in Cages," National Partnership for Juvenile Services, Annual Conference, Louisville, Kentucky (2013)

Workshop Leader, "Behavior Management in Juvenile Justice Facilities," National Partnership for Juvenile Services, Annual Conference, Louisville, Kentucky (2013)

Presenter, "Quality Assurance and Oversight," National Center for Youth in Custody, Videoconference (2013)

Featured Presenter, Texas Legislative Budget Board, Criminal Justice Forum, Austin, Texas (2012) *(co-presented with my students)*

Speaker, "Juveniles in the adult system in Texas: Conditions for certified youth in adult county jails," Texas Jail Association, Annual Conference, Austin, Texas (2012) *(co-presented with my students)*

Speaker, "Juveniles in the adult system," Texas Juvenile Justice Summit, Austin, Texas (2012) *(co-presented with my students)*

Moderator and Panelist, "Public Dialogue on Immigration Detention and Criminal Justice," Human Rights First's Public Dialogues Series, Austin, Texas (2012)

*Moderated two panels and spoke on oversight of conditions in immigrant detention facilities*

Featured speaker, "Privatization of juvenile correctional facilities," National Juvenile Justice Network Forum, Washington, DC (2011)

Featured speaker, Legislative Briefing, 82<sup>nd</sup> Texas Legislature, Austin, Texas (2011)  
*Invited to brief legislative staff and agency officials about my research on juveniles in the adult criminal justice system*

Featured speaker, "Juveniles tried as adults," Children's Law Symposium, Houston, Texas (2011)

Panelist, Association of State Correctional Administrators (ASCA), San Francisco, California (2010)  
*Address to the heads of all 50 state correctional systems on transparency in prison operations and the need for outside monitoring of conditions in facilities*

Presenter, Texas Center on the Judiciary, "Juvenile justice and recent legislative reforms," Austin, Texas (2010) (judicial training)

Keynote Speaker, Community Alliance on Prisons, Conference on criminal justice reform, "Prison oversight, prison privatization, and alternatives to incarceration," Honolulu, Hawaii (2009)

Panelist, American Society of Criminology, Annual Meeting, "Juveniles tried as adults and legislative reform," Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (2009)

Panelist, National Association of Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE), Annual Conference, "Models of correctional oversight," Austin, Texas (2009)

Panelist, American Constitution Society-Texas chapter, "*Pittman v. South Carolina* and juvenile transfer to adult court" (2008)

Major Session Panelist, American Correctional Association (ACA), Congress of Correction, "Correctional Processes and Practices that Guarantee Public Confidence" (2007)  
*Along with the directors of two state corrections agencies, I participated in a debate about the value of independent prison oversight.*

Panelist, National Association of Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE), Annual Conference, San Jose, California (2007)

Panelist, Association of Investigative Reporters and Editors, "Investigating Prisons: The Role of the Media in Providing Oversight of Prisons," Fort Worth, Texas (2006)

Speaker, American Correctional Association (ACA), Congress of Correction, "Prison Oversight" (2005)

Featured Speaker, Texas Department of Criminal Justice, 2nd Annual Sentencing Conference, Austin, Texas (2004)  
*Addressed 250 judges, prosecutors, and probation officials on Texas sentencing policies and practices, placing Texas in national and global context*

Presenter, Live Videoconference on "Alleviating Jail Crowding: A Systemic Approach," National Institute of Corrections (2001)

Presentations to Visiting Legislative Delegations from Argentina and Brazil, Austin, Texas (1995 and 1999)

Featured Speaker, Conference on Crime, Drugs, and Media, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (1994)  
*One of four Americans invited to address audience comprised of Brazilian corrections officials, military police, academics, and advocates on innovative community corrections programs*

Speaker, International Conference on Crime, Justice, and Public Order, "Developing and Enforcing Minimum Standards in Prisons: What Can We Learn from the American Experience?," St. Petersburg, Russia (1992) (proceedings published by John Jay College of Criminal Justice)

## **Academic Presentations and Conferences Organized**

Conference Chair and Organizer, Conference: "Deaths in Custody," Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, University of Texas, Austin, Texas (November 14-16, 2024)  
*Conceived, organized, and convened a 2-1/2 day convening with 150 leading prison experts from around the United States and some international guests.*

Moderator, "Why are People Dying in Prisons and Jails?," plenary session at "Deaths in Custody" conference, Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, University of Texas, Austin, Texas (November 15, 2024)

Moderator and Organizer, "Solitary Confinement in Texas," Film screening of "The Box: 27 Years in Solitary" and panel discussion, Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, University of Texas, Austin, Texas, (October 7, 2024)

Conference Chair and Organizer, Conference: "Cruel and Not Unusual: Can America's Prisons and Jails Change, and If So, How?," Prison and Jail Innovation Lab, University of Texas, Austin, Texas (February 2-4, 2023)

*Conceived, organized, and convened a 2-1/2 day convening with 100 leading prison experts from around the United States and some international guests.*

Featured Speaker, "The Texas Criminal Justice System: A Den of Inequity," College of Staten Island, City University of New York, online (2023)

Panelist, "Oversight of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department," Loyola Marymount University Law School, online (2022)

Panelist, "Prison Oversight," Prisoners' Rights Advocacy Conference, Northwestern University School of Law, Chicago, Illinois (2022)

Panelist, "Death Row Incarceration," Capital Punishment Center, University of Texas School of Law, Austin, Texas (2022)

Co-Chair, "New Frontiers in Independent Oversight of Jails, Prisons, and the Police," NACOLE Academic Symposium, University of Texas School of Law, Austin, Texas (2020)

*Co-chaired, organized, and convened this academic symposium as a collaboration between the University of Texas and NACOLE (National Association of Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement). The event brought together 120 academics and practitioners from around the country to discuss police oversight and corrections oversight. Papers to be published in the American Journal of Criminal Law.*

Panelist, NACOLE Academic Symposium, University of Texas School of Law, "New Frontiers in Independent Oversight of Jails, Prisons, and the Police," Austin, Texas (2020)

*Presented a paper on "The State of Correctional Oversight in the United States". Also, supervised the research for six interactive poster sessions and three issue briefs prepared by my students.*

Panelist, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Guggenheim Symposium on Crime in America, "Is America Ready for Prison Reform?," New York, New York (2020)

*Presented on "Reimagining Confinement: What should a 21<sup>st</sup> century prison look like?: The Travis County Women's Jail Project"*

Featured Speaker, Trinity College, Dublin, "Models of Prison Oversight in the United States and Comparisons to European Models," Dublin, Ireland (2019)

Panelist, UT School of Law, Rapoport Center for Human Rights, Conference on "Penal Abolition, Human Rights, and Prison Reform," Austin, Texas (2019)

*Presented paper on "A Prison Reformer's Perspective: The Travis County Women's Jail as a Case Study"*

Featured Speaker, Vital Voices Speaker Series, University of Houston-Downtown, "The Era of Magical Thinking: Youth in the Adult Criminal Justice System in Texas and Beyond," Houston, Texas (2017)

Conference Chair, Presenter, and Moderator, "Out of the Shadows: The Promise of Independent Prison Oversight," University of Texas, LBJ School of Public Affairs, Austin, Texas (2016)

*Conceived, organized, and convened a 2-1/2 day invitation-only convening with 50 leading criminal justice experts from around the United States*

Featured Presenter, Social Justice Symposium: "Youth, Family, and The State of Incarceration," St. Edward's University, Austin, Texas (2016)

Symposium Organizer and Moderator, "Police, Jails, and Vulnerable People: New Strategies for Today's Challenges," University of Houston (in collaboration with LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas), Houston, Texas (2016)

*Moderated a roundtable discussion with experts on jail safety and suicide prevention*

Moderator and Panelist, Center for Health and Social Policy (CHASP), LBJ School of Public Affairs, "Solitary Confinement in Texas Prisons," Austin, Texas, 2014

Symposium Chair and Moderator, Barbara Jordan Freedom Foundation Symposium, "School Discipline: A Pathway to the Juvenile Justice System or an Opportunity for Effective Intervention?," The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas, 2012

Symposium Chair, Moderator, and Panelist, "The Promise of Freedom and Justice in America," Symposium to celebrate the launch of the Barbara Jordan Freedom Foundation, The University of Texas at Austin, Texas, 2011

Panelist and moderator, American Journal of Criminal Law, Annual Symposium, University of Texas School of Law, "Juveniles tried as adults," Austin, Texas, 2010

Panelist, Harvard Law School, Lambda Legal Advocacy Conference, "Correctional Health Care Law," 2009

Distinguished Lecturer, University of Leiden, The Netherlands, Faculty of Law--Honours College, 2007  
*Gave a daylong set of lectures entitled "The U.S. Criminal Justice System and the Myth of Risk Management"*

Speaker, Annual Symposium of the Texas Journal on Civil Liberties and Civil Rights, "Re-examining Incarceration: A Discussion on Civil Rights and the Prison System," University of Texas Law School, 2007

Speaker, Barbara Jordan National Forum on Public Policy, LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas, "*The Penal Divide: Is Racial Justice Possible in the U.S. Given the Criminal Justice Landscape?*", 2007

Conference Chair, Speaker, and Moderator, "Opening Up a Closed World: What Constitutes Effective Prison Oversight?," University of Texas, Austin, Texas, 2006  
*Conceived, organized, and convened a 2-1/2 day invitation-only convening with 115 prison experts from around the world; presented paper entitled "Distinguishing the Various Functions of Prison Oversight"*

Conference co-organizer, Speaker and Moderator, Conference on "Prison Reform Revisited: The Unfinished Agenda," Pace Law School, White Plains, New York, 2003  
*Presented a paper to national audience on the vision of prison reform*

Speaker and Moderator, Workshop on "Responding to the Crowded Jail," University of Minnesota Law School, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2000  
*Addressed national audience of policy-makers and corrections professionals on subject of reducing population pressures in jails through community-based programs*

Presenter, Oxford University, Centre for Criminology and Criminological Research, Oxford, England, 1990



Presenter, University of Edinburgh, Faculty of Law, Edinburgh, Scotland, 1990

Presenter, Institute for Advanced Legal Studies, London, England, 1990

Guest lectures in numerous classes, including at Harvard Law School, Amherst College, University of Florida, Pitzer College, Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London, and the University of Texas (1990 – present)

### **Public Presentations (selected)**

Panelist, LatinoJustice Convening, “Human Rights and Prison Conditions,” Atlanta, Georgia, 2023

Panelist, Brennan Center for Justice, “Punitive Excess,” New York, New York, 2021

Congressional Briefing at US Capitol, “Prison Conditions and the Need for Independent Oversight,” Washington, DC, December 9, 2019

Panelist, Texas Tribune Festival (TribFest), “Gendered Justice,” Austin, Texas, 2019

Moderator, Panel discussion following screening of documentary “Traffic Stop”; panel included subject of the film, Austin schoolteacher Breiaon King, who was arrested following a nationally publicized violent encounter with a police officer. Event was organized by Texas House County Affairs Committee Chair Garnet Coleman and held at the Texas Capitol, February 19, 2019

TEDx Talk: “Why are we trying kids as adults?,” Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts, December 2014

Panelist, Texas Tribune, “On the Road” Series: “Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System,” San Antonio, Texas, 2013

Panelist, Texas Public Policy Foundation, “Texas Juvenile Justice Reform,” Austin, Texas, 2013

Panelist, Texas Tribune Festival (TribFest), “The Texas Legislature and Juvenile Justice,” Austin, Texas, 2012

Panelist, American Civil Liberties Union of Texas, 70th Anniversary Conference, 2008

Featured speaker, Distinguished Speaker Series, Central Texas Libertarian Society, 2003

Also make presentations on a regular basis to community groups, continuing education organizations, and social clubs, 2004 – present)

### **Documentaries and Podcasts**

Featured on Just City’s “The Permanent Record” Podcast, “Jails, Deaths, and Oversight” (November 2023)

Featured on Government Executive Magazine’s “GovExec Daily” podcast, “The Post-COVID World in Corrections Systems” (February 1, 2021)

Featured on the Christian Science Monitor's "Perception Gaps" podcast, Season 2, Episode 7: "Can America move beyond mass incarceration?" (September 14, 2020)

Featured on "This Is Democracy" podcast, in Episode 109: "*Prison Reform Revisited: COVID-19, Black Lives Matter, and New Opportunities for Reform*," Jeremi Suri, interviewer (August 5, 2020)

Host and Panelist for "In the Arena" podcast on "*Jails and Prisons in the Era of COVID-19*," (other speakers were Nancy LaVigne, Urban Institute, and Ronald Day, Fortune Society), LBJ School of Public Affairs (April 8, 2020)

Featured on "Race and Democracy" podcast, in Episode 34: "*Criminal Justice Reform in the Trump Era*," Peniel Joseph, interviewer (April 5, 2020)

Featured in and consultant to a documentary film about a therapeutic program for youth incarcerated in Texas, by Alison Armstrong, award-winning Canadian filmmaker (*forthcoming*)

Featured in a documentary film, "*A Minor Injustice*," Jonathan Seaborn and Emily De Santos, filmmakers (about juvenile justice reform in Texas and the raise-the-age issue) (award-winning film premiered at the Deep in the Heart Film Festival in March 2019)

Featured on "This Is Democracy" podcast, in Episode 22: "Prison Reform," Jeremi Suri, interviewer (January 16, 2019)

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Documentary: "*State of Incarceration*," Andrew Gregg, filmmaker (45 minute documentary in which I was featured throughout the film speaking about America's experience with incarceration; premiered on Canadian national television in October 2014)

Interviewed by Dan Rather for "Dan Rather Reports," Episode 421, 2009  
*Lengthy taped in-person interview on topic of prison privatization and immigrant detention*

## **MEDIA COVERAGE**

The Marshall Project, "Journalists: How to Report on Deaths in Jails and Prisons," January 31, 2025

Stateline, "Prison abuse, deaths and escapes prompt calls for more oversight," January 13, 2025

Freedom of the Press Foundation, "Covering the mass incarceration system, Part 2," January 6, 2025

K5 News, "Bill aims to reinstate statewide jail oversight amid growing abuse concerns," December 26, 2024

Columbus Dispatch, "Who should investigate jail deaths? Not the sheriffs who run the jails, Ohio governor says," December 25, 2024

NPR (Morning Edition), "Prison lockdowns during the holidays makes it hard for inmates to connect with family," December 24, 2024

Cal Matters, "California's jail population will rise, thanks to Prop. 36. So will inmate deaths, advocates say," December 17, 2024

KHOU-11 Investigates, "Force used against inmates in handcuffs at the Harris County Jail," December 16, 2024

The Marshall Project, "After Jail deaths and No Justice, This Kentucky Lawyer Tried To Make a Difference," December 4, 2024

KHOU-11 Investigates, "'STRUCK': Hundreds of inmates punched in the head in the Harris County Jail," December 3, 2024

Stateline, "State prisons turn to extended lockdowns amid staffing shortages, overcrowding," December 3, 2024

Jacksonville Tributary, "If your incarcerated spouse falls deathly ill, the Duval jail might not tell you," December 3, 2024

Texas Tribune, "Handshakes, murals and ministry: A reopened Texas prison focuses on rehabilitation," December 2, 2024

KING5-TV.com, "'It's long overdue': Experts call for statewide scrutiny of local jails amid inmate deaths, suffering," November 26, 2024

CQ Researcher, "Prison Reform: Does rehabilitation work better than punishment?," November 8, 2024

Metro Philadelphia, "Jail oversight negotiations continue as legislation moves forward," October 30, 2024

Wisconsin Examiner, "Department of Corrections, reform advocates pursue different methods for review of prison system," October 23, 2024

Tonight with Andrew Marr, "Labour Considers Texas-Style System," October 22, 2024 [8-minute segment on one of the UK's top political talk shows)

Atlanta Journal Constitution, "Rare killing of female prisoners comes to light as Georgia prisons set homicide record," October 21, 2024

Idaho Statesman, "Idaho jails frequently fail inspections. Some say they 'can't' meet minimum standards," October 15, 2024

Truthout, "Several Florida Jails in Hurricane Milton's projected Path Are refusing to Evacuate People Inside," October 10, 2024

Houston Public Media, "Report: 'Staffing crisis' in Texas prisons makes staff, inmates, and public less safe," October 2, 2024

Texas Tribune, "Texas prisons and jails are recruiting more teenagers to shore up staffing shortage," September 26, 2024

BBC News Belfast, "Texas prison reform," September 26, 2024 (6-minute interview on live news show)

The Times, "Why Labour is looking to Texas for prison reform," September 25, 2024

Daily Telegraph, "Labour considers releasing 'well behaved' prisoners early," September 25, 2024

The Times of England, "Prisoners will earn points to cut jail time in Texas-style reform," September 25, 2024

PBS Wisconsin, "Short on fixes for prison problems, Wisconsin weighs independent oversight," September 16, 2024

Dallas Morning News, "Texas' overcrowded and understaffed jails send people awaiting trial to other counties and states," August 16, 2024

The Daily Texas, "US Department of Justice finds unconstitutional conditions in Texas Juvenile Justice Department facilities," August 12, 2024

The Marshall Project, "Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court Using Private Facilities as Detention Alternative," August 1, 2024

Miami Herald, "Systematic failures preceded violent attack in Florida school," August 1, 2024

Houston Chronicle, "Cameron Moon convicted in 2008 killing of Deer Park teenager," July 18, 2024

Illinois Answers, "The U.N. Calls restraint Chairs Torture. Illinois Jails Use Them Every Day," July 9, 2024

The Appeal, "Cook County's Deadliest Year in Decades Reveals Lapses and failed Oversight," June 17, 2024

Texas Observer, "Texas' Plantation Prisons: Inside a 200-Year History of Forced Labor Shrouded in Secrecy," June 15, 2024

Austin Chronicle, "Plantations to Prison Farms: How Far Have We Come?—Texas's tradition of forced labor lives on," June 14, 2024

Austin Chronicle, "Suicides in Texas Prisons Have Dramatically Increased," June 14, 2024

Injustice Watch, "Cook County Jail deaths highlight lapses in supervision," June 12, 2024

Politico, 'Cooking someone to death': Southern states resist calls to add air conditioning," June 5, 2024

Austin American Statesman, "How the staffing shortage at Travis County Jail impacts people inside," June 6, 2024

Los Angeles Times, "For some incarcerated women, getting menstrual products is a nightmare," June 2, 2024

WWNO-Gulf State Newsroom, "After Louisiana jail death, a family struggles for answers," May 29, 2024

AJC, "Georgia officials won't release information on how prisoners are dying," May 23, 2024

NPR, "Juvenile detention abuse allegations are on the rise around the country," May 17, 2024

Sacramento Bee, "After Bee investigation, Newsom signs law forcing CA sheriffs to announce jail deaths," May 8, 2024

Esquire Magazine, "Texas Prisons are Keeping Inmates at Sweltering Temperatures," May 2, 2024

Axios Austin, "How COVID's prison death rate jumped in Texas," April 24, 2024

Texas Tribune, "Extreme heat kills Texas inmates in un-air conditioned units," April 23, 2024

San Antonio Current, "Lawsuit accuses Texas of 'horrific' treatment of inmates in un-air conditioned prisons," April 23, 2024

Austin American-Statesman, "Advocacy groups sue Texas over dangerous heat in state prisons," April 23, 2024

USA Today, "Texas inmates are being cooked to death due to heat in prisons: Suit," April 23, 2024

The Daily Texan, "'85 to Stay Alive' exhibit demonstrates importance of humane prison conditions," April 19, 2024 (article about an event I organized)

Los Angeles Times, "Closure of women's prison dubbed 'rape club' stokes new worry," April 16, 2024

Texas Observer, "Some Texas prisoners Allowed Only Four Hours of Sleep a Night, Lawsuit Says," April 2, 2024

KRISTV.com, "Dying for Help: Falfurrias woman dies in custody of Kleberg Sheriff's Office, March 25, 2024

CalMatters, "Deaths in California jails increase despite decline in inmates," March 25, 2024

KERA News, Tarrant County paid \$37,500 to recruit new detention officers. Three got hired, jail chief says," March 12, 2024

Bolts Magazine, "'We're Going to be Overwhelmed': How Louisiana Just Ballooned its Jail Population," March 8, 2024

C-Span Washington Journal, "Michele Deitch Discusses the US Prison System," March 2, 2024 (45-minute live call-in TV news show)

Boston Globe, "As MCI Concord closure looms, will inmates get a say in their future?," February 22, 2024

Alabama Appleseed, "The Alabama Department of Corrections is desperate for officers and fired hundreds in recent years," February 2024

The Baltimore Banner, "System failure: How a man killed himself on suicide watch in the Harford County Jail," February 15, 2024

Willamette Week, "Sheriffs Inspect each Other's Jails. They Found Nothing Amiss in Portland, February 13, 2024

12 News, "Hospitalizations and HVAC repairs: The cost of extreme heat in Arizona's women's prison," January 24, 2024

New Jersey Monitor, "County jail conditions — 'hazardous even to a dog' — spur calls for independent oversight," January 22, 2024

Atlanta Journal-Constitution, "FROM THE INSIDE: CRIMINAL KINGPINS--Public 'getting nothing for its money' from Georgia's prison system failing at rehabilitation, expert says." December 28, 2023

Atlanta Journal-Constitution, "Georgia clamps down on information that could expose critical problems," December 28, 2023

The New York Times, "Who Investigates the Sheriff? In Mississippi, Often No One.," December 28, 2023

New York Focus, "Who Watches New York's Jail Watchdog?," December 18, 2023

Washington Post, "Fourteen incarcerated Mississippians died while awaiting mental health treatment," December 8, 2023

Pro Publica/Mississippi Today, "Jailed for Their Own Safety, 14 Mississippians Died Awaiting Mental Health Treatment," December 7, 2023

Texas Standard, "Texas prison system uses open records laws to obscure information in assault case," December 6, 2023

The Baltimore Banner, "A corrections ombudsman? Support building for bill that could reshape the Maryland prison system," November 27, 2023

The Advocate, "Louisiana Jails need updated regulation, report finds," November 27, 2023 (features PJIL's research and report)

Post and Courier, "Sexual assaults. Riots. Too few guards. Broken locks. Why can't the state fix county jails?," November 20, 2023

Houston Landing, "Uncounted: Harris County Jail didn't report inmate deaths. Did state law require it?," October 24, 2023

KERA, "Siren call: MedStar finances rocky as ambulance rides for Tarrant inmates go unpaid," October 23, 2023

The 19<sup>th</sup>, "Incarcerated people endure sweltering heat and freezing cold inside ill-equipped facilities," October 5, 2023

WyoFile, "Wyoming's jails are among the deadliest in the nation for suicide," October 4, 2023

National Public Radio (Morning Edition), "Why 1 in 4 inmate deaths happens in the same federal prison in North Carolina," September 25, 2023

Denver Post, "Colorado's county jails soon will have to meet basic standards. Should sheriffs play a key role in oversight?" September 23, 2023

Texas Public Radio, "Texas prison guards under criminal investigation over hospitalized inmate," September 21, 2023

Dallas Morning News, "Do Texas prison lockdowns limit inmates' food, water? Families, officials disagree." September 15, 2023

KUT, "Deadly heat in Texas prisons sounds 'cruel and unusual.' Why is it still happening?" August 31, 2023

Houston Chronicle, "The most dangerous Texas jails, ranked by deaths, use-of-force in exclusive analysis," August 17, 2023

KXAN, "135 people have died in Texas prisons since June 1; Families demand answers," August 16, 2023

Texas Public Radio, "Texas charges prisoners 50% more for water as heat wave continues," July 20, 2023

San Diego Union-Tribune, "Atkins' jail reform bill would no longer let county supervisors wrest control of local lockups from sheriffs," July 8, 2023

Austin American-Statesman, Editorial: "Sweltering Texas prisons are inhumane," July 7, 2023

Al Jazeera, "Solitary confinement is still widespread in US prisons and jails," June 27, 2023

Los Angeles Times, "Fights, beatings, and a birth: Videos smuggled out of L.A. jails reveal violence, neglect," June 24, 2023

Texas Standard, "Texas prison officials change 'strange' policy that kept some women in solitary wearing gowns," June 16, 2023

KUT, "'Strange' Texas prison policy keep some women in solitary wearing gowns," June 12, 2023

Decaturish, "The system failed her—Questions remain following deadly year at the DeKalb County Jail," May 23, 2023

Atlanta Journal-Constitution, "Atlanta area jails to track inmates with high-tech wristbands," May 3, 2023

The Nation, "A Texas Prison Guard Punishes a Woman for Talking about Abortion," May 2, 2023

Texas Public Radio, "Jails across Texas strain with prisoners but Gov. Abbott wants to see even more people behind bars," February 17, 2023

Scripps News, "US depends on prison labor, but is slow to mandate fair conditions," February 16, 2023

The Texas Observer, "Mapping the legacy of prison hunger strikes in Texas," February 2, 2023

Arizona Republic, "Arizona Gov. Katie Hobbs creates prison oversight commission," January 26, 2023

The Guardian, "Texas prisoners continue hunger strike in protest against solitary confinement," January 19, 2023

Texas Public Radio, "Hunger strike in Texas prisons continues," January 13, 2023

Texas Tribune, "Texas prisons launching hunger strike to protest state's harsh solitary confinement practices," January 4, 2023

Tallahassee Democrat, "Three Suicides at Leon County Detention Facility Raise Questions," November 22, 2022

The Marshall Project, "Why So Many Jails are in a 'State of Complete Meltdown'," November 4, 2022

The New York Times, Opinion: "The False Promise of a Progressive Sheriff," November 3, 2022

Texas Tribune, "East Texas nonprofit hopes small loans and job training will ease the hardships of leaving prison," October 12, 2022

Sacramento Bee, "New law forces sheriffs, prisons to announce deaths," September 30, 2022

Montgomery Advertiser, "Alabama prison labor strike: A look inside," September 29, 2022

Sacramento Bee, "After Bee investigation, Newsom signs law forcing CA sheriffs to announce jail deaths," September 2022

CBS Austin, "Does corporal punishment help correct behavior at schools? Studies say no," August 31, 2022

Texas Public Radio, "Long-overdue Bexar County Jail audit wasn't supposed to 'drag on for a year,' but it has," August 23, 2022

Governing Magazine, "There Continues to Be Lack of Information About COVID-19 in Jail," August 22, 2022

Atlanta Journal-Constitution, "Information about COVID-19 in jails is lacking nationwide," August 19, 2022

PennLive, "'Hiding a homicide': New details emerge on death of man held in Dauphin County Prison," August 9, 2022

Newsweek, "Will Trump Do Time? What Would It Take To Convict the Former President?," July 20, 2022

USA Today, "The path to prison is often paved by illiteracy. Yet many prisoners aren't being taught to read," July 18, 2022

KXAN, "Mental Competency Consequences: The Hidden and Unreliable Data that Texas Tracks...or Doesn't," April 11, 2022 (Note: this investigation won numerous national and local journalism awards)

NBC News, "Do Texas prisons violate human rights? One Scottish judge says yes," March 17, 2022

PBS NewsHour, "Arizona's privatized prison health care has been failing for years. A new court case could change that," March 14, 2022

ProPublica, "Shackles and Solitary: Inside Louisiana's Harsheset Juvenile Lockup," March 10, 2022 (Note: this investigation won several journalism awards)

Texas Standard, "Advocates and jailers fear riot conditions as violence persists in Harris County," Feb. 2, 2022

Boston Globe, "New bill proposes civilian oversight for Massachusetts prisons," Jan. 19, 2022

Boston Globe, Editorial: "Correction Department cries out for oversight," Dec. 1, 2021

Houston Chronicle, "Advocates, legal experts decry Gov. Greg Abbott diverting \$4M in state prisons funding for election audits, Nov. 23, 2021

NPR Here and Now, "Texas county jails near breaking point," Nov. 18, 2021

Texas Observer, "Locked Up and Left to Die," November 1, 2021

Arizona Republic/ The Marshall Project, "Arizona privatized prison health care to save money, But at what cost?," October 31, 2021

Columbus Dispatch, "Ohio prison plagued by deaths, suicide attempts, and staff problems," October 29, 2021

Stateline/The Pew Charitable Trusts, "Some States are Cloaking Prison COVID Data," October 27, 2021

Dallas Morning News, "Prison staff death toll spikes after state relaxes coronavirus precautions behind bars," October 7, 2021

The Intercept, "One bill in Texas Legislature would ease extreme heat in Texas prisons. Another makes it worse." September 25, 2021

NBC News/ The Marshall Project, "Assaults, suicide, abuse: The challenges of changing jail culture," September 23, 2021

The Island Packet, "At least 253 people have died in SC jails since 2009. Why was nobody looking?," September 19, 2021

The Nation, "Honoring Attica After Half a Century," September 13, 2021

Governing Magazine, "Sacramento Sheriff Stays Silent About County Jail Deaths," August 17, 2021

The New Yorker, "A Fight to Expose the Hidden Human Costs of Incarceration," August 16, 2021

NBC News, "Prison Suicides Have Been Rising for Years. The Pandemic Has Made Things Worse." August 12, 2021

PBS News Hour, "Why More Women are Dying in Jails," July 15, 2021

Texas Tribune, "150 guards staff empty prison meant for immigrants," July 8, 2021

Texas Standard, KUT, "Pandemic-related delays fatal for Texas prisoners approved for parole," June 22, 2021

Newsweek, "Dozens of Texans died of COVID-19 in prison despite being granted parole, report finds," June 17, 2021

NBC News Now, "New report finds parole-approved prisoners waited months for release amid pandemic," June 15, 2021



NBC News, "Zoom funerals, outdoor classes: Jails are evolving amid COVID, but what happens afterward?," January 19, 2021

Christian Science Monitor, "Why protecting prisons from COVID-19 is everyone's problem," January 13, 2021

Texas Observer, "Out of Sight, Out of Mind," December 22, 2020

NPR Weekend Edition, "At least 231 people in Texas jails and prisons have died from COVID-19, study finds," November 15, 2020 (*5-minute interview about my report*)

CNN, "Texas becomes the first US state with more than 1 million Covid-19 infections," November 11, 2020 (*live interview about my report*)

Reuters, Special Report: "Why 4,998 died in U.S. jails without getting their day in court," October 16, 2020 (*features my research and links to my law review article*)

New Jersey Advance Media, "N.J. prison watchdog just got new powers to curb abuse. Advocates fear they won't be used.," August 15, 2020

The Marshall Project, "Breaking Out With a Bar of Soap," August 11, 2020

Naked Capitalism, Blog: "COVID-19 and the California Prison Crisis," August 9, 2020

Texas Tribune, "The only Texas prison reporting zero coronavirus cases is where inmates make soap. But that's not what's credited with protecting it." August 7, 2020

San Diego Union Tribune, "COVID-19 spreading through Sheriff's Department by more than 1 case per day," August 7, 2020

"The Source," Texas Public Radio, "COVID-19 is Pummeling Crowded Texas Jails, Including in Bexar County", August 4, 2020 (*live radio call-in show featuring 30 minute interview with me*)

Dallas Morning News, "'It's hell living there': Texas inmates say they are battling COVID-19 in prisons with no A/C," July 31, 2020

The Marshall Project, "Your local jail may be a house of horrors," July 30, 2020

Sacramento Bee, "Five months after outbreak, California to publish COVID-19 data on local jails," July 15, 2020

The Marshall Project, "How long can you hide a dead body in a prison cell?," July 13, 2020

Tampa Bay Times, "Inside Pasco jail, 100 inmates test positive for coronavirus. Here's how Tampa Bay jails are faring." July 8, 2020

Sacramento Bee, "'A moral failure': California not tracking jail inmates and staff with coronavirus," June 23, 2020

Sacramento Bee, "COVID-19 outbreak at Placer County jail in Auburn has sickened multiple inmates, one officer," June 11, 2020

Dallas Morning News, "Riot forces at White House include tactical teams wearing insignia from Texas federal prisons," June 5, 2020

Tyler Morning News, "Plaguing Prisons Part 4: Pandemic adds new complications for jails struggling to help inmates with severe mental illness," June 1, 2020

The Appeal, "Coronavirus in Jails and Prisons," May 29, 2020

Texas Observer, "Locked out: Texas prison officials' decisions based on 'misconduct' claims," May 18, 2020

Waco Tribune-Herald, "Gatesville inmates fear for their lives, as prison officials ramp up COVID-19 testings," May 16, 2020

Texas Observer, "How COVID-19 upended Texas prisons," May 13, 2020

Austin American-Statesman, "With no coronavirus cases, Travis County Jail stands out—but some are skeptical," May 12, 2020

San Antonio Express News, "When coronavirus strikes: One month later, no sign of respite at jail in San Antonio," May 11, 2020

Fort Worth Star Telegram, "Inmates, families fear worst for Fort Worth federal prison 'consumed' by coronavirus," May 11, 2020

Sacramento Bee, "Lack of COVID-19 testing in California jails sets up 'perfect storm' for outbreak, experts warn," May 8, 2020

Daily Beast, "Texans brace for a COVID-19 'explosion' just days after reopening," May 5, 2020

KXAN, "COVID-19 spreading like wildfire in Texas prisons, experts call for mass testing," May 4, 2020

Texas Tribune, "70% of Texas prisoners tested have the coronavirus. Experts say it's time for more testing and fewer inmates," May 4, 2020

KXAN, "In under two weeks, Texas jails see 340% increase in inmates testing positive for COVID-19," April 30, 2020

Reuters, "In four U.S. state prisons, nearly 3,300 inmates test positive for coronavirus -- 96% without symptoms," April 25, 2020

Grits for Breakfast, Blog: "Deitch on possible solutions for prisoner phone calls during COVID lockdown," April 23, 2020

Talking Points Memo, "TX judge forces prison to provide sanitary supplies in 'very significant win' for inmates," April 17, 2020

Spectrum News, "First Texas prisoner dies after testing positive for COVID-19," April 9, 2020

Houston Chronicle, "Expert: Officials playing 'life-or-death game of rock, paper, scissors' with Harris County Jail," April 6, 2020

KERA, "County, state officials clash on how to thin jail populations to slow COVID-19," April 3, 2020

KXAN, "Advocates want answers on how Travis County is keeping kids in the juvenile justice system safe," April 2, 2020

Houston Chronicle, "Lina Hidalgo orders release of some inmates from Harris County Jail amid coronavirus pandemic," April 1, 2020

San Diego Union-Tribune, "Deadly virus presents growing threat inside county jails," March 28, 2020

Houston Chronicle, "Exclusive: Lina Hidalgo seeking compassionate releases at Harris County Jail due to coronavirus," March 26, 2020

WCPO, "COVID-19 in jails 'would be catastrophic' — here's how they're preparing," March 24, 2020 (citing my guidance document for Sheriffs and jails to respond to the COVID crisis)

Christian Science Monitor, "Justice during pandemic: Police seek to protect public and prisoners," March 24, 2020

Reuters, "Releasing inmates, screening staff: U.S. jails and prisons rush to limit virus risks," March 22, 2020

Naked Capitalism, Blog: "Prisons and the COVID-19 pandemic: What must be done NOW to prevent catastrophe," March 19, 2020 (interview with me)

USA Today, "Prison restrictions to combat coronavirus leaving monitors, families locked out," March 17, 2020

Austin American-Statesman, "Coronavirus in Texas: Prison population at risk of outbreak," March 14, 2020

ProPublica, "A Little-Known State Law Says Felons Must Carry a Special ID," March 13, 2020

Sacramento Bee, "California prisons cancel visits, citing coronavirus. Conjugal stays to continue," March 11, 2020

Sacramento Bee, "California jails, prisons on alert for coronavirus. Fear it will 'spread like wildfire'," March 6, 2020

Texas Tribune, "As the Texas prison population shrinks, the state is closing two more lockups," February 20, 2020

Texas Observer, "A Solitary Condition: The Prison Inside Prison," January 2020

ProPublica/Mother Jones, "How Some Sheriffs Force Their Inmates Into Medical Debt," December 27, 2019

The Hill, "Washington, DC should follow Washington State's lead on prisons," November 22, 2019

San Diego Union-Tribune, "Review of San Diego County jail deaths, intended for improvement, criticized as shallow," November 11, 2019

Washington Post Magazine, "Can We Build a Better Women's Prison?," October 28, 2019 (*features my work in Travis County to develop a reimagined women's jail*)

Philadelphia Inquirer, "Despite warnings, Pennsylvania failed to detect, stop abuses at Glen Mills and other schools," October 3, 2019

Texas Tribune, "New Texas prison program aims to help women leave the system with jobs waiting for them," September 25, 2019

Bangor Daily News, Editorial: "Jails need oversight. That's why they are supposed to have Boards of Visitors," September 23, 2019

Associated Press, "Virginia Jails struggle to screen inmates, prevent suicide," September 15, 2019

Daily Appeal, "Epstein's suicide reveals 'culture of indifference' in jails," August 12, 2019

Houston Chronicle, "Changing times: Harris County jail expands vocational classes to include women," August 5, 2019 [NOTE: The article references Harris County Sheriff Ed Gonzalez's comment that he credits me as his "key inspiration" for his interest in changing practices for women in the jail.]

Dallas Morning News, "Why a Dallas judge made the rare decision to have a 16-year-old tried as an adult in rape, murder case," July 28, 2019

Austin American-Statesman, "Sudden Deaths Behind Bars," July 12, 2019

Houston Chronicle, "Reports show no progress at Texas's teen lockups," July 5, 2019

Associated Press, "Q&A: A Look at the Issue of Mentally Ill Inmates in Jails," June 18, 2019

Virginian Pilot, "Deaths continue at Hampton Roads Regional Jail; critics say leaders lack urgency," May 31, 2019

KERA News, "Texas Lawmakers Move to Meet Women's Needs in Prison," May 24, 2019

Pacific Standard Magazine, "Who's Legally Responsible for Prison and Jail Suicides?," May 14, 2019

Houston Chronicle, "Arts allow young people in Harris County juvenile detention to express themselves," May 11, 2019

Houston Chronicle, "Texas prison officials roll out updated policy banning disciplinary quotas 1 year after scandal," May 10, 2019

All Things Considered, NPR, "They Love Their Kids: Texas Lawmakers Want to Send Fewer Kids to Prison," May 7, 2019

Associated Press, "4 Texas Prison Guards Fired, 2 Resign for #FeelingCute Posts," April 24, 2019

Dallas Morning News, "How Dallas County's DA shook—and confused—police and politicians with plan for 'ending mass incarceration,'" April 19, 2019

Houston Chronicle, "'Might just gas some inmates today': Texas prisons investigating after #FeelingCute challenge," April 16, 2019

Daily Press, "While mired in investigations and death, Hampton Roads Regional Jail's Board fought against change," April 11, 2019

The Bond Buyer, "Untrained jailers, inmate deaths seen as risk to Texas counties," April 8, 2019

Houston Chronicle, "'I just kept thinking he was coming home': Suicides in Texas prisons hit 20-year high," April 5, 2019

Texas Observer, "A Tale of Two Prison Systems," March 27, 2019

Houston Chronicle, "It's a crisis—nearly one in three guards left the prison system last year," January 25, 2019

Texas Tribune, "Texas House, Senate budget plans tens of millions apart on prisoner health care," January 18, 2019

Dallas Morning News, "Why adult certification won't be an easy call for 16-year old Dallas boy accused of rape, murder," December 25, 2018

Spectrum News, "Travis County Sheriff Still Pushing for New Women's Jail," December 20, 2018

Houston Chronicle, "Lawsuit: TX prison too understaffed to take inmate to hospital for flesh-eating bacteria infection," December 18, 2018

Bloomberg News, "This For-Profit Prison Moves Puerto Rican Inmates 1,800 Miles From Home," October 29, 2018

Houston Chronicle, "Harris County judges responsible for 1 in 5 children sent to state juvenile prisons," October 22, 2018

Honolulu Star-Advertiser, "Task force calls for oversight committee to address Hawaii's inmate suicide rate," October 9, 2018 *[NOTE: this article references that the statewide task force relied on my work in developing its recommendations]*

Austin Chronicle, "A new jail for Travis County?," September 5, 2018

New York Times, "Prison Strike Organizers Aim to Improve Conditions and Pay," August 26, 2018

Houston Chronicle, "Inmate who killed herself in Harris County jail had previously threatened suicide," August 22, 2018

Dallas Morning News, "Still reeling from scandal, Texas's juvenile prisons now need \$1.6 million fix," August 14, 2018

Palestine Herald Press, "State jail standards can't protect employees, prisoners," August 1, 2018

Texas Tribune, "After \$7 million legal fight over air conditioning, Texas prison system touts new heat safety policies," July 26, 2018

Texas Tribune, "'You're not as safe as you should be.' How understaffing is affecting one Texas prison," May 9, 2018

USA Today, "Bloodied bodies stacked in a prison yard: What happens when states slash prison spending," April 30, 2018

Houston Chronicle, "Harris County jail cuts solitary confinement in half 5 years after feces-filled cell scandal," April 29, 2018

National Post (Canada), "Texas man gets 50 years in prison for stealing hundreds of pounds of fajita meat," April 23, 2018

Reuters, "Deadly South Carolina prison riot exposes staffing shortage," April 19, 2018

Texas Observer, "Texas Juvenile Justice System Loses an Advocate, Gains Another Career Cop," February 2, 2018

Texas Tribune, "They're just setting those babies up for the penitentiary.' How minor offenses feed overcrowding at Houston youth jail," February 2, 2018

The Guardian, "The end of American prison visits: jails end face-to-face contact—and families suffer," December 9, 2017

Christian Science Monitor, "Massachusetts justice system wrestles with how to define 'adult'," December 7, 2017

Associated Press, "State data: Texas prison guard turnover nears 30 percent," November 16, 2017

The Marshall Project/ The Weather Channel, "'Cooking Them to Death': The Lethal Toll of Hot Prisons," October 11, 2017

Texas Standard (Texas Public Radio/NPR), "'Raise the Age' Advocates Say 17-Year-Olds Shouldn't Be Jailed With Adults," September 22, 2017

Houston Chronicle, "'Texas prisons eliminate use of solitary confinement for punitive reasons," September 21, 2017

KXAN, "State prepares for Sandra Bland Act to take effect," August 22, 2017

Bloomberg BNA, "SCOTUS Allows Juvenile Rapist's Life Term," June 14, 2017

Truthout, "Forced to Endure Extreme Heat, Prisoners Are Casualties of Texas' Climate Denial, Documents Show," June 12, 2017

Bangor Daily News, Editorial: "Maine has strong prison oversight laws. Lawmakers and correctional leaders should follow them." June 12, 2017

San Antonio Current, "Texas' Prison Population is Shrinking. Will it Continue?," June 2, 2017

All Sides with Ann Fisher, Hour-long call-in radio show about prison oversight in Ohio, WOSU-NPR Radio, March 23, 2017

Dallas Morning News, "Law enforcement groups oppose some of the bills filed in response to Sandra Bland's death," March 20, 2017

Houston Chronicle, "Inmate suicide prompts changes at Harris County Jail," March 7, 2017

Christian Science Monitor, "Sessions memo: Reversal on private prisons could portend shift on justice, observers say," February 24, 2017

Houston Chronicle, "Lawmakers seek lower costs, more reforms at juvenile justice agency," February 14, 2017

Texas Tribune, "Here are four key criminal justice issues in the Texas Legislature," January 29, 2017

All Things Considered, National Public Radio, "Will the Private Prison Business See a Trump Bump?," January 4, 2017

Texas Monthly, "The Prisoner," January 2017

VICE Magazine, "How Blacks and Whites Die Differently Behind Bars," December 17, 2016

Dallas Morning News, "Why Dallas County Can Set \$150,000 Bail for a \$105 Shoplifting Charge—and How Taxpayers Lose," December 29, 2016

Texas Standard, "Adult Crime, Adult Time: How Texas Fast-Track Kids to a Life in Prison," December 19, 2016

Houston Chronicle, "New Sheriff in town: Gonzalez ready to tackle staffing, jail and morale," December 18, 2016

German Public Radio, "Warum CoreCivic auf Präsident Trump hofft" (about private prisons in the US), December 9, 2016

Texas Tribune, "New screening tool, vigilance, lead to drop in jail suicides," December 4, 2016

Marketplace Morning Report, National Public Radio, "Homeland Security reviews use of private detention centers," November 30, 2016

VICE Magazine, "How Donald Trump Could Prop Up the Private Prison Industry," November 17, 2016

Courier-Journal, "Jails crowded, Kentucky reconsiders private prisons," October 8, 2016

Houston Press, "Harris County May Hand Over 17-Year Olds to Private Prison Contractor," September 29, 2016

The Atlantic, "Can a Police Misconduct Lawsuit Lead to Reform?," September 24, 2016

Houston Chronicle, "Ex-inmate says medical care withheld at Waller County Jail where Sandra Bland died," August 30, 2016

The Nation, "Private Prison Companies Are Embracing Alternatives to Incarceration," August 23, 2016

The Takeaway, "What's Next for the Private Prison Industry?," August 19, 2016 (6-minute interview with me that was nationally broadcast)

The Texas Standard, "Feds End Private Prison Contracts After Study Finds Facilities Unsafe, Inefficient," August 19, 2016 (4.5-minute radio interview with me)

Reuters, "U.S. private prison shares rebound as fears of industry's demise ebb," August 19, 2016

Texas Tribune, "Prison System Ponders \$250 Million in Budget Cuts," August 3, 2016

Texas Public Radio, "The Source: Suicides at Bexar County Jail Explored," July 27, 2016 (hour-long radio call-in show)

Houston Chronicle, "Stuck in limbo: Feds say jails need separate housing for youngest inmates," July 1, 2016

Honolulu Civil Beat, "Experts: Act Now to Improve the Contract With An Arizona Prison," May 2, 2016

Wisconsin Public Radio, "Juvenile Corrections: A National Perspective on a Wisconsin Problem," April 21, 2016 (live 15-minute interview with me)

New Mexican, "N.M., like many states, has resisted calls for independent monitoring," April 16, 2016 (this article turned my 2010 research into an interactive display)

Montgomery Advertiser, "Scale of Alabama prison plan draws some concerns," April 1, 2016

Houston Chronicle, "Civil rights lawsuits challenge medical treatment in Harris County lockups," April 4, 2016

New York Times, "Alabama Prison Uprisings Come as State Grapples With How to Fix System," March 15, 2016

Houston Chronicle, "Family files \$25 million lawsuit in son's Galveston jail death," March 14, 2016

CBS News, "CPR started 11 Minutes after staff found Gynnya McMillen," February 1, 2016

CBS News, "'Alarms' missed the day Gynnya McMillen died, experts say," January 28, 2016

Kentucky Center for Investigative Reporting, "State Silent Amid Faults in Jail Health System," December 17, 2015

Kentucky Center for Investigative Reporting, "Dying for Dollars: For-Profit Health Care in Kentucky's Jails," December 17, 2015

Houston Chronicle, "Texas continues to move youths to community programs," December 6, 2015

Dallas Morning News, "Suicides and attempts on the rise in Texas prisons," November 28, 2015

South Korea English Radio Broadcasting, "Special Segment on Crime by Children," November 12, 2015

International Business Times, "Prison Reform 2015: Growing Push to Reduce Incarceration Rates Could Hurt Private Prisons, Experts Say," November 2, 2015

Polish Public Radio One, "The U.S. Justice Department's Prisoner Release," October 30, 2015

New York Times, "Alvin Bronstein, Lawyer Who Fought Prison Abuse, Dies at 87," October 29, 2015

All Things Considered, National Public Radio, "Video of Michigan Man's Death in Custody Draws FBI Scrutiny," October 13, 2015

Michigan Public Radio, "Correctional facilities can do more to protect inmates' health, rights, law professor says," October 7, 2015 (in-depth radio interview)

ThinkProgress, "The Death of Victoria Gray: How Texas Jails are Failing Their Most Vulnerable Captives," September 15, 2015

Dallas Morning News, "Kids or Criminals? Growing Up and Getting Out," August 27, 2015

Houston Chronicle, Editorial: "County Jail Reform," August 19, 2015

Huffington Post, "Suicide in Jails on the Rise," August 5, 2015

The Marshall Project, "Why Jails Have More Suicides Than Prisons," August 4, 2015

Associated Press, "Texas jail death focuses new attention on inmate suicides," July 24, 2015

Texas Tribune, "Sandra Bland Case Shows Deficiencies in Jail Oversight," July 24, 2015

Texas Standard, "Could Better Mental Health Care Have Saved Sandra Bland's Life?," July 23, 2015 (in-depth radio interview)

Dallas Morning News, "Jail Where Sandra Bland Died Has History of State Rules Violations," July 23, 2015

Juvenile Justice Information Exchange, "Texas Reformers: 'Raise the Age' Will Rise Again," June 1, 2015

Denver Post, "Culture change for Denver Sheriff Department could take years," May 28, 2015

Dallas Morning News, "Teen offenders wouldn't be treated like adults under Texas bills," April 30, 2015

The Atlantic, "Rape in the American Prison," February 25, 2015

Christian Science Monitor, "How Communities are Keeping Kids Out of Crime," February 15, 2015 (cover story)

Houston Chronicle, Editorial: "Age Inappropriate," January 8, 2015 (similar editorials citing and endorsing my work appeared in the Austin American-Statesman and the San Antonio Express News)

Houston Chronicle, "Reversals of teens' move to adult court raises questions about process," January 3, 2015

Houston Chronicle, "Juvenile justice advocates want age of adulthood raised to 18," January 1, 2015

Washington Post, "State prison populations down to lowest point in a decade," December 31, 2014

Washington Post, "Best state in America: Texas, where both crime and incarceration are falling," December 5, 2014

New York Times, "Prison Officials Seeking Ways to Recruit and Retain Guards," November 14, 2014

Chicago Tribune, "Tales Differ on Conditions at Cook County Jail," November 13, 2014

Texas Public Radio, The Source, "Texas Prisons," April 21, 2014 (30-minute live call-in show)

Buzzfeed, "Rick Perry's Stand Against Parts of a Law Meant to Cut Down on Prison Rape," April 10, 2014

Texas Tribune, "Force Against Texas Inmates on the Rise," April 3, 2014

Austin American-Statesman, "Keep 17-year olds in juvenile system," April 2, 2014

Texas Tribune, "Perry: Anti-Prison Rape Standards 'Impossible'," March 31, 2014

El Paso Times, "Questions of raising criminal age in Texas fraught with complexity," March 30, 2014

Fort Worth Star-Telegram, "It's time for Texas to raise the adult age for offenders to 18," March 27, 2014

Austin American-Statesman, "Pressure rising to treat 17-year olds as juveniles in Texas," March 25, 2014

Capitol Tonight: "Should the justice system treat 17-year olds as adults?," March 25, 2014 (live in-studio TV interview)

Austin Chronicle, "'Against the Grain' of Justice," March 25, 2014

Associated Press, "Senator blasts Juvenile Justice Department," March 25, 2014



Chicago Tribune, "Ruling allows new hearings for 100 convicted killers," March 20, 2014

Texas Tribune, "Closing Corsicana: Lessons from a Juvenile Lock-Up," February 12, 2014

Juvenile Justice Information Exchange, "Nearly half of U.S. states enact juvenile justice reforms," October 10, 2014

Chronicle of Social Change, "YSI: National Partnership for Juvenile Services, Day Two," October 23, 2013

New York Times, "A Tie to Mental Illness in the Violence Behind Bars," September 22, 2013

Huffington Post, "Prison Quotas Push Lawmakers to Fill Beds, Derail Reforms," September 19, 2013

China Radio International, Today Show, "U.S. Criminal Justice System," September 5, 2013 (hour-long panel debate)

New York Times, "Trial Run for Revised Juvenile Justice System," June 28, 2013

Alcalde Magazine, "*Kids in Cages*," November-December 2012 (feature story about my work on juveniles in the adult criminal justice system)

Longhorn Network, *The Alcalde Show*, December 2012 (video featuring my work on juveniles in the adult system)

NPR, All Things Considered, November 5, 2011 (on private prisons)

Texas Tribune, "A Texas Tribune Interview with Prison Expert Michele Deitch," January 4, 2011

CBS News, "New Divide Over How to Treat Young Sex Offenders," May 6, 2010

Kentucky Courier-Journal, Special Investigative Report: "Behind the Bars: Experts question benefits of private prisons," July 5, 2010

Orlando Sentinel, Special Report: "Central Florida Jails Get Glowing Reviews Despite Problems," May 18, 2010

KUT Public Radio, Austin, Texas, August 3, 2009 (in-depth radio interview on juveniles in the adult criminal justice system)

Austin Chronicle: Feature Story: "Caging Children," August 28, 2009 (on juveniles in the adult criminal justice system)

New York Times: Lead Editorial: "12 and in Prison," July 28, 2009 (on young children tried and sentenced as adults)

Associated Press, "Texas juvenile jail sex assault case stalls again," June 30, 2009

Dan Rather Reports, Episode 421, June 16, 2009 (on private prisons and immigrant detention)

San Diego Union-Tribune, Special Report: "Detention Dollars: Tougher immigration laws turn the ailing private prison sector into a revenue maker," May 4, 2008

NOTE: Additional coverage of my work routinely appears in national and local newspapers and radio outlets around the country. I am regularly interviewed by national and international media representatives as a resource and for commentary as a subject matter expert, on average about 50-100 times per year. The topics of these interviews include prison oversight, jail suicide and safety issues, women and corrections, prison privatization, juvenile justice, children tried as adults, conditions in U.S. prisons and jails, prisoners' rights, and the Texas criminal justice system.

## CONSULTING PROJECTS

### **Expert Consultant, KHOU-TV, Use of Force Analysis (2024)**

Analyzed use of force cases in the Harris County Jail over a multi-year period.

### **San Diego Jail/ Citizens' Law Enforcement Review Board (CLERB), Deaths in Custody Analysis (2023-25)**

Member of consulting team analyzing deaths in custody in the San Diego Jail and identifying prevention opportunities for preventing these deaths. Team is composed of statistical analysis experts; I am providing the correctional expertise for the team.

### **Expert Witness, extradition matter in Scotland, Legal Aid case (2020-21)**

### **Expert Witness, extradition matter in England, Legal Aid case (2020-21)**

In both cases, provided expert testimony about conditions in Texas prisons that may violate international human rights law. The Scottish case resulted in the first known refusal of a foreign court to extradite a person to the United States on the basis of prison conditions. See this story about the case:

<https://www.themarshallproject.org/2022/03/17/do-texas-prison-conditions-violate-human-rights-standards-one-scottish-court-says-yes>

### **Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators/Georgetown University Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, Washington, DC (2016 – 17)**

Served on a team of experts that provided training and technical assistance to Florida and other jurisdictions as they implement best practices affecting incarcerated youth using the Youth in Custody Practice Model.

### **Expert Consultant, Office of the Federal Public Defender, Phoenix, AZ (2016 – 17)**

Served as an expert consultant regarding conditions of confinement in Texas Youth Commission juvenile facilities in conjunction with a death penalty case.

### **District of Columbia Corrections Information Council (2015)**

Provided training on effective monitoring practices to government body that provides oversight of Federal Bureau of Prisons facilities that house prisoners from the District of Columbia.

### **Juvenile Justice Leadership Network, Washington, DC (2015)**

Provided expert assistance to national group of juvenile corrections professionals on issues related to conditions of confinement and behavior management.

### **Expert Witness, *Saffioti v. Snohomish County*, Washington (2014 – 15)**

Expert on jail intake practices and delivery of health care services in case involving death of person in custody.

### **Expert Witness, *Montano v. Orange County, Texas* (2014 – 15)**

Expert on jail conditions and health care practices in death in custody case.

### **National Center for Youth in Custody/ Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (2013 – 14)**

Contracted to research and write two chapters in a Desktop Guide for juvenile corrections practitioners.

### **District of Columbia Corrections Information Council (2012)**

Assisted with capacity building for new prison oversight body.

**Alachua County (FL) Jail (2011 – 12)**

Served on team that evaluated conditions in the jail on behalf of the County Commissioners in order to help determine future management of the jail. Subcontractor to Pulitzer/Bogard & Associates.

**Just Detention International (2010)**

Conducted training sessions for staff and other advocates on prison oversight issues.

**Bernalillo County (New Mexico) Jail (2010)**

Provided consulting services on a wide range of issues relevant to a jail facility under long-term court oversight, including issues related to recent high-profile staff-on-inmate sexual assaults, physical assaults, and investigations. In collaboration with Pulitzer/Bogard & Associates.

**Office of the Independent Ombudsman for the Texas Youth Commission (2008 – 09)**

Provided technical assistance to help improve the effectiveness of the OIO as an independent oversight agency and to develop more productive working relationships between the OIO and other oversight bodies such as the Inspector General, the Auditor, and grievance officials. The OIO was created as part of the massive legislative reforms following high-profile sexual assault scandals in TYC in 2007.

**Camden County (New Jersey) Jail (2008 – 09)**

Served on a consulting team to develop strategies for alleviating jail crowding in conjunction with federal lawsuit and court oversight. Subcontractor to Pulitzer/Bogard & Associates.

**Texas Public Policy Foundation (2008 – 09)**

Researched and wrote a report on barriers to the use of community-based residential group facilities for adjudicated youth in Texas.

**Alachua County (Florida) Jail (2005)**

Served on a consulting team that reviewed pattern of sexual assaults at the jail and that evaluated jail “subculture” at the request of county officials. Subcontractor to Pulitzer/Bogard & Associates.

**Urban Institute/NuStats “Returning Home” Project (2004 – 05)**

Advised research team conducting a major longitudinal study of parolees returning to the Houston area.

**U.S. Department of Justice (OPDAT)/ Bulgarian Government (2003)**

Assisted Bulgarian Ministry of Justice, judges, and other officials to develop and draft a new probation law

**Pace Law School Conference on Prison Reform (2002 – 03)**

Helped plan and coordinate a national symposium entitled “Prison Reform Revisited: The Unfinished Agenda,” a by-invitation-only conference for advocates, practitioners, and academics.

**Governor’s Blue Ribbon Commission on the Suffolk County (MA) Jail (2002)**

Served on a consulting team that investigated allegations of official mismanagement and sexual misconduct in the Boston jail system and made recommendations for improvement of Internal Affairs investigations and inmate grievance system. Subcontractor to Pulitzer/Bogard & Associates.

**National Institute of Corrections (2001)**

Served on a team that planned and presented a major live videoconference entitled “Alleviating Jail Crowding: A Systemic Approach.”

**Atwater v. City of Lago Vista, United States Supreme Court** (2000)

Drafted amicus brief on behalf of the Institute on Criminal Justice (University of Minnesota Law School) and eleven leading experts on correctional and law enforcement administration and policy regarding the use of custodial arrest in non-jailable misdemeanor cases. Brief cited in S.Ct. opinion (532 U.S. 318, 352). This was the case of the “soccer mom” arrested for not wearing a seat belt.

**Institute on Criminal Justice, University of Minnesota Law School** (2000)

Planned a major workshop on jail crowding for a national audience of policy-makers and corrections professionals. The National Institute of Corrections described this event as “the most comprehensive effort ever organized on the subject of jail crowding.”

**Human Rights Watch** (1998)

Conducted research for report on Texas's experiences with privatization of prisons and jails.

**Maine Department of Corrections** (1997 – 98)

Worked on statewide correctional master plan, and developed policy proposals for managing adult and juvenile probationers and parolees in the community. Designed and supervised major data collection effort, and prepared detailed budgets. Subcontractor to Pulitzer/Bogard and Associates.

**Jefferson Parish (Louisiana) Council/Jail Overcrowding Committee** (1996 – 98)

Phase 1: Evaluated alternatives to incarceration for adults and juveniles; analyzed impact of criminal case processing on jail crowding; proposed new organizational structure and funding mechanism for criminal justice agencies. Recommendations resulted in a 40% reduction in use of juvenile detention space, a significant reduction in the number of new jail beds to be built, and 25% decrease in case processing time.

Phase 2: Facilitated development and implementation of new criminal justice agency with a \$12 million annual budget (as recommended in Phase 1); developed pre-trial services pilot project for adult offenders; coordinated development of a juvenile assessment center. Subcontractor to Pulitzer/Bogard & Associates.

**Tulsa County (Oklahoma) Criminal Justice Authority/County Jail System** (1996)

Evaluation of alternatives to incarceration and county's policy coordination.  
Subcontractor to Pulitzer/Bogard & Associates.

**Harris County (Texas) Commissioners Court/Juvenile Probation Department** (1996)

Performance review of local juvenile justice programs. Subcontractor to KPMG Peat Marwick.

**State of Oklahoma** (1994 – 96)

Provided technical assistance on sentencing reform and community corrections.  
Worked through Edna McConnell Clark Foundation State-Centered Project.

**Texas House of Representatives (Corrections and Criminal Jurisprudence Committees)** (1995)

Development, evaluation, and negotiation of criminal justice legislation during legislative session. Worked with Chairmen Allen Hightower and Allen Place.

**Crime Prevention Institute (Texas)** (1995)

Development of evaluation measures for Project Re-Enterprise (job-skills program for prisoners).

**Faculty, Workshop on Fine Collection and Enforcement (organized by Justice Management Institute) (1995)**

Advised national group of judges and court administrators on legal aspects of using fines as criminal sanctions.

**Office of the Governor, Texas Crime Victim Clearinghouse (1994)**

Helped plan statewide summit on crime victims' rights and wrote major report on summit for statewide distribution and legislative use.

**Travis County (Texas) District Attorney's Office/Community Justice Council (1994)**

Developed a model re-entry program for parolees returning to Austin area as part of Travis County's community justice program.

**Office of the State Comptroller/Texas Performance Review (1994)**

Proposed strategies to reform Texas juvenile justice system and to improve operations of Texas Youth Commission and Texas Juvenile Probation Commission for report entitled "Gaining Ground" (November 1994).

**Office of the State Comptroller/Texas Performance Review (1993)**

Advised on performance and management audit of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for report entitled "Behind the Walls: The Price and Performance of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice" (April 1994).

*(Updated January 2025)*