



Pretrial Policy & Research Advisory Board

June 2023

In April 2018, the Laura and John Arnold Foundation, the precursor to Arnold Ventures, released two Requests for Proposals (RFPs) focused on the overarching goals of reducing unnecessary pretrial detention, promoting racial justice, and increasing equity, fairness, and accountability at the front end of the criminal justice system.

The [first RFP](#) sought a “National Provider” to work in partnership with LJAF on enhancing access to the Public Safety Assessment (PSA), providing technical assistance in up to 200 sites, and delivering more intensive training and technical assistance in 10 diverse research sites. The research and work generated by this RFP has become central to the work of the [Advancing Pretrial Policy and Research](#) (APPR) community.

The [second RFP](#) established a research agenda around examining and evaluating the implementation and validation of the PSA and answering questions about the impact of pretrial detention on individuals and systems. Two examples of the successful work that came resulted from this RFP are Tiffany Bergin’s [Collateral Consequences](#) and RTI’s work on [hidden costs](#).

In order to offer greater transparency, objectivity, and rigor, LJAF brought together a unique group of experts consisting of policy makers, practitioners, and researchers from varied disciplines to participate in the Pretrial Research Advisory Board. Subsequently, the board was renamed the **Pretrial Policy & Research Advisory Board**. The Board provides external guidance on Arnold Ventures’ pretrial research agenda, evaluates proposals, and reviews research as it is submitted. One of the Board’s primary objectives is to objectively analyze research proposals and offer recommendations on how those proposals can be improved and what projects should be considered for funding.

In 2023, the Board will be providing these services in conjunction with a new [RFP](#) focused on understanding the policies and practices related to pretrial release decisions, pretrial release conditions, and pretrial services.

Arnold Ventures is grateful to the members of the Pretrial Policy & Research Advisory Board for their commitment to serve and for sharing our goals to improve the pretrial justice system.

Board members (*as of July 2023*):

Ronald Adrine, Retired Judge, Cleveland Municipal Court

Judge Ron Adrine served on the bench of the Cleveland Municipal Court for 36 years. During his time there, he took a leading role in the debate on bail reform. As the Administrative and Presiding Judge of his court, he gained the unanimous approval of his colleagues to amend the court’s local rules, implement Arnold Ventures’ Public Safety Assessment, and expand a series of effective alternatives to jail within his court’s jurisdiction. The purpose of these reforms was to



eliminate the unnecessary incarceration of low-risk, lower-income people. Under his leadership, the court reduced the total number of those incarcerated by half, with no appreciable increase in the rate of failures to appear or additional criminal activity. During the 1990's, Judge Adrine chaired the Ohio Commission on Racial Fairness and, more recently, served on the Ohio Supreme Court's Criminal Sentencing Commission Ad Hoc Committee on Bail and Pretrial Services. He served on the Board of Directors of the National Center for State Courts (2016–2017) and separately on the Center's National Task Force on Fines, Fees and Bail.

Rosemary Barberet, Sociology Professor, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Rosemary Barberet is a Professor in the Sociology Department at John Jay College of Criminal Justice with teaching and service in International Criminal Justice. Her publications have dealt with self-reported youth crime, women and crime, crime indicators, comparative methodology and victimology. Dr. Barberet's past and current roles include chairing the International Division of the American Society of Criminology, editing *Feminist Criminology*, and representing the International Sociologists Association (ISA) and Criminologists without Borders at the United Nations. She has also consulted for the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Colombian Government's Statistical Agency DANE, and the Puerto Rico Council on Higher Education. Dr. Barberet has received many awards including two for her latest book, *Women, Crime and Criminal Justice: A Global Enquiry* (2014), from the Division of International Criminology of the American Society of Criminology and the International Section of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences for her most recent book.

Mark A. Dupree, Sr., District Attorney of Wyandotte County, Kansas

Mark A. Dupree, Sr. is the two-term District Attorney of Wyandotte County, Kansas and leads an office of over 70 employees. D.A. Dupree and his team of employees are implementing strategic and visionary policies to expand the function of the Wyandotte County District Attorney's Office. D.A. Dupree has successfully created the first ever "Conviction Integrity Unit" in the state of Kansas, since re-named "Community Integrity Unit" which is responsible for ensuring that convictions obtained previously still hold integrity today and holding law enforcement accountable with the establishment of a hotline for residents to register complaints. His efforts for transforming the traditional manner in which District Attorney's Offices have operated has been recognized nationally. Community involvement is the bedrock of the Dupree Administration. It builds community trust, and that trust greatly assists in crime prevention and bringing justice. D.A. Dupree and his administration lead the way in speaking at schools, neighborhood watch meetings, church gatherings, and civic organizations. He is married to his law school sweetheart, Attorney Shanelle Dupree, and they have four beautiful action children.



Kristie Puckett Williams, Statewide Campaign for Smart Justice Manager for the ACLU of North Carolina

Kristie Puckett Williams is co-founder of KEP2 (Squared), an advocacy and strategy consulting firm led by people directly impacted by the criminal legal system. Her direct experience with poverty, drug addiction, domestic violence, and incarceration has led her to pursue a career in policy and advocacy. She is an issue area expert on the conditions of confinement for women and girls, including pregnant women and girls in carceral facilities. Williams also serves as the Chair of the Women in Incarceration Workgroup for the State Reentry Council Collaborative and as a commissioner on the North Carolina Commission on Racial & Ethnic Disparities in the Criminal Justice System (NC CRED). She holds an M.A. in Human Services Counseling: Addiction and Recovery Counseling. Williams was recently awarded the highest honor by the N.C. Attorney General, the Dogwood Award, for her tireless advocacy for incarcerated pregnant women. Williams serves on several boards for national and statewide organizations and as an advisor on many research projects, lending her lived expertise to research.

Thomas Cohen, Senior Social Science Analyst, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts

Dr. Cohen is a Senior Social Science Analyst at the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts — Office of Probation and Pretrial Services. He is an experienced analyst with a demonstrated history of working in the judiciary industry. Dr. Cohen has published work on a myriad of topics including evaluations of individual risk characteristics, pretrial detention-release and associated pretrial misconduct, and analyses of different types of case processing procedures and techniques. Prior to his current position, Dr. Cohen worked at the Bureau of Justice Statistics as well as the Pretrial Justice Institute. Dr. Cohen received his Doctor of Philosophy from Rutgers University at Newark School of Criminal Justice. Dr. Cohen also received a J.D. from the University of Maryland School of Law.

Jim Sawyer, Executive Director, National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies

Jim Sawyer is the Executive Director of the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies (NAPSA) and leads NAPSA's work to develop and maintain professional standards, disseminate educational programs, and engage partners at the federal, state, and local level to ensure proper implementation of pretrial services. He brings managerial and strategic planning experience from his time as Vice President of Strategic Partnerships and Client Relations for Security Capital Advisors, LLC. and his eight years at the National Association of Counties. Sawyer works closely with a broad coalition of academic partners, providers, and governments to develop frameworks for justice administration and the use of pretrial risk assessments.

Ilya Shpitser, Assistant Professor, Johns Hopkins University

Dr. Ilya Shpitser is the John C. Malone Assistant Professor at Johns Hopkins University. He received his PhD from UCLA in 2008, under the supervision of Judea Pearl. From 2008 to 2012,



he was a Research Associate in the causal inference group at the Harvard School of Public Health. From 2013 to 2015, he was a Lecturer (Assistant Professor) of Statistics at the University of Southampton. In 2017, Dr. Shpitser received the Causality in Statistics Education prize from the American Statistical Association. His research includes all areas of causal inference and missing data, particularly using graphical models, and teasing out causation from association in observational medical data. His recent work has focused on pretrial algorithms and predictive bias, including work on the COMPAS data.

Andrea Woods, Staff Attorney, Criminal Law Reform Project, American Civil Liberties Union

Andrea Woods is a Staff Attorney with the ACLU Criminal Law Reform Project. She focuses on bail and pretrial reform, litigating cases across the country tackling overreaching pretrial detention, wealth-based pretrial incarceration, the for-profit bail industry, and onerous conditions of pretrial release. Woods co-wrote the ACLU's national strategic plan on bail reform, and spearheaded the organization's work on pretrial risk assessments, which the ACLU opposes. Her work has been featured in the Guardian, CNBC, the Appeal, and other various media outlets across the country. Woods has worked in public defender offices, the anti-death penalty movement, and with the Innocence Project Northwest as a law student. She was a William H. Gates Public Service Law Scholar at the University of Washington, graduating in 2014. Prior to joining the ACLU, Woods clerked for the Hon. John C. Coughenour of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington.