



Fall News 2021



We are pleased to bring you the Robina Institute's latest news, recent publications, and more.

Support the Robina Institute in furthering our mission to create transformative change in sentencing law and correctional policies and practices.

Join Us Virtually on November 10th!



PRISON RELEASE DISCRETION AND PRISON POPULATION SIZE

*Creating Transformative Change:
Robina Institute 10th Anniversary Series*

Wednesday, November 10th

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m CST

1.5 standard CLE credits have been requested. Event code: #421025

This virtual event is free and open to the public. Registration required.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

With a focus on the length of prison sentences and their contribution to America's high rate of incarceration, our *Prison Release: Degrees of Indeterminacy Project* shines a light on the oft-ignored role that back-end decision-makers - like parole boards and prison officials - play in determining actual time served. Cross-state differences in legal frameworks for prison release decisions reflect differing capacities to reduce and increase prison populations. An empirical examination of how these system design features affect time served provides policymakers with potential tools to manage prison population size.

The "Prison Release and Prison Population Size" presentation features a panel of researchers and practitioners who will review the lessons emerging from the *Prison Release: Degrees of Indeterminacy Project* and its potential for system-wide effects.

Panelists include:



Kevin R. Reitz

James Annenberg La Vea Professor of Law
University of Minnesota Law School



Jennifer Shaffer

Executive Officer
California Board of Parole Hearings



Julia Laskorunsky

Research Scholar
Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice
University of Minnesota Law School



Kristen Hilkey

Chair
Colorado State Board of Parole

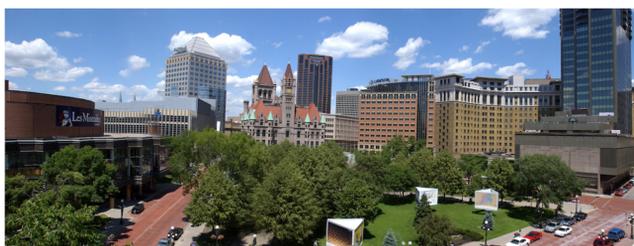


Moderated by

Kelly Lyn Mitchell

Executive Director
Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice
University of Minnesota Law School

The Robina Institute Announces Its Participation in Phase Two of the Reducing Revocations Challenge



In continued partnership with Ramsey County Community Corrections, we are proud to announce our participation in the second phase of the Reducing Revocations Challenge, with work slated to begin in the fall of 2021. In July 2021, our participation in phase one of the Arnold Ventures and CUNY ISLG-supported project culminated in the publication of *Understanding Probation Violations and Disrupting the Revocation Pathway in Ramsey County, Minnesota*. The report provides an extensive look into how probation works in Ramsey County, Minnesota and identifies changes in policy and practice that can reduce probation revocations and lead to better outcomes for individuals on probation while protecting public safety. Phase two offers the opportunity to implement select proposed changes and engage in ongoing assessment of the strategies through a racial equity lens. Learn more about the project at z.umn.edu/797a.

Examining Probation Officer Views on the Links Between Probation and Health Report



As part of the interdisciplinary *Mass Probation and Health* project, we led a survey of probation officers aimed at learning about probation officer attitudes and beliefs about the links between probation and health, and how they saw their role with regard to the health of people on probation.

The *Examining Probation Officer Views on the Links Between Probation and Health* report summarizes the survey findings and suggests potential policy interventions that could be implemented to improve the health and probation outcomes of people on probation.

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