



Criminal Justice Section Spring Meeting
Co-sponsored by The State Bar of New Mexico

Neuroscience:
Paving the Way for Criminal Justice Reform!
April 28 - 30, 2016 || Albuquerque, New Mexico

American Bar Association
Criminal Justice Section - Spring Meeting
“Neuroscience: Paving the Way for Criminal Justice Reform!”
April 28 – April 30, 2016
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Thursday, April 28, 2016

8:00 – 4:30 [CJS Committee Meetings](#)

3:00 – 4:00 **Border Patrol Excessive Force and Profiling: Reforming the Nation's Largest Federal Police Force with Policing Best Practices**

Roughly two-thirds of the U.S. population lives within the 100 mile border zone where U.S. Customs and Border Protection, our nation’s largest federal police force, has extraordinary discretion to stop and search residents. With approximately 44,000 armed agents—and at least 42 deadly-force incidents in the last six years—U.S. Customs and Border Protection's failure to adopt best practices for state and local police threatens the safety and constitutional rights of our nation’s border residents. This presentation will explore advocacy, and touch on litigation aimed at achieving Customs and Border Protection reforms including body-worn cameras, a ban on racial profiling, and a responsive, independent complaints mechanism.

Convener: Mary Torres, Law Offices of Mary T. Torres

Speakers: Brian Erickson, ACLU of New Mexico Regional Center for Border Rights

4:30 – 5:30 **CJS Hospitality Reception**

Friday, April 29, 2016

8:30 -8:40 **Welcome and Conference Opening**
Honorable Bernice B. Donald, *Chair*
United States Court of Appeals, 6th Circuit
Memphis, Tennessee

8:45 – 10:15 **A Neuroscience Primer for the Criminal Justice Practitioner:**
How neuroscience is paving the way to criminal justice reform

A distinguished panel will address the following timely issues: what neuroscience can tell us about justice; whether neuroscientists can help lawyers make the argument for criminal justice reform; when should lawyers rely on neuroscience to prove injustice; how to make neuroscience more accessible; and evidentiary issues related to neuroscience.

Moderator:
Honorable Andre Davis, *United States Court of Appeals, 4th Circuit*
Baltimore, MD

Speakers:
Francis X. Shen, J.D., Ph.D., *Associate Professor of Law, University of*
Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

Craig Stark, Ph.D., *Professor of Neurobiology and Behavior, University of*
California Irvine, Irvine, CA

Convener: Tina Luongo, *Legal Aid Society, New York, NY*

10:15-10:30 **Coffee and Networking Break**

10:40 – 12:00 **The Neuroscience of Fear and PTSD: Underlying Causes of Substance Abuse and Violence**

Dr. Ressler will review scientific literature on the role of child abuse and civilian trauma exposure on risk for Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and substance abuse, which contribute to ongoing cycles of violence in at-

risk communities. Dr. Ressler is the Director of the Grady Trauma Project in Atlanta, Georgia, and Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. In Atlanta, the project has interviewed a cohort of over 10,000 subjects from inner-city Atlanta, and they find that the rates of PTSD and Depression are higher than in our military veterans. These disorders, which result in part from trauma exposure during development, significantly increase likelihood of substance abuse and violent behavior, explaining a significant percentage of the high risk for criminal behavior and arrest in this population. Dr. Ressler will review the neuroscience of trauma, PTSD, and substance abuse comorbidity, and explain how dissemination of accepted treatment approaches targeting these disorders could reduce recidivism and decrease cycles of violence.

Speaker:

Kerry Ressler, MD, Ph.D., *Chief Scientific Officer
James and Patricia Poitras Chair in Psychiatry
Chief, Division of Depression & Anxiety Disorders, McLean Hospital
Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School
2016 President Elect, Society for Biological Psychiatry
Cambridge, MA*

Commentator: Hon. Michael Davis, *U. S. District Court, District of
Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN*

Convener: Marissel Descalzo, *Shareholder, Carlton Fields, Miami, FL*

12:00 – 1:30

Lunch

Speaker: Chief Justice Charles W. Daniels
*Supreme Court of New Mexico
Sante Fe, New Mexico*

Introduction: Martha Chicoski
Immediate Past President, State Bar of New Mexico

1:45 – 3:00

Neuroscience and Solitary Confinement

Numerous studies have documented the widespread psychological effects of solitary confinement. These studies have shown that inmates subjected to this type of confinement may experience various adverse psychiatric reactions ranging from depression and anxiety to hallucinations and psychosis. In this session, panelists will discuss the various mental and physical effects of solitary confinement, and the future of this method of confinement going forward. This session will give attendees an opportunity to hear multiple points of view on solitary confinement that will assist attorneys representing clients facing this type of punishment or working on new policies related to corrections and prison conditions.

Speakers:

Edwin Aro, *Partner, Arnold & Porter, Denver, Colorado*

Jeffrey Metzner, M.D., P.C., *Psychiatrist, Denver, Colorado*

Rick Raemisch, *Executive Director, Department of Corrections, Colorado Springs, CO*

Convener/Moderator: Matt Redle, *Chair-Elect, Sheridan County Attorney's Office, Sheridan, WY*

3:00 – 3:30

Keynote Address

Roberta Cooper Ramo, *President, American Law Institute*

3:35 – 4:45

The Neuroscience of Hate: The Making of Extremist Groups

Are people born predisposed to hating those different from themselves? Or does environment play a larger role than our genes? In this session, Dr. Pete Simi, Associate Professor of Criminology at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, explains how neurological factors lay the groundwork for the creation of extremist groups. Dr. Simi has spent his career studying the psychology of various hate groups, and has authored numerous papers and books on the topic including [American Swastika: Inside the White Power Movement's Hidden Spaces of Hate](#), published in 2010. Dr. Simi will share his insight into the world of hate crimes and their perpetrators to shed light on the question of whether extremists are born or made. This session will provide attendees with information on cutting-edge research that will be of particular interest to prosecutors and attorneys representing clients charged with hate crimes.

Moderator:

Hon. Earnestine Hunt Dorse, *Municipal Court Judge, Memphis, TN*

Speaker:

Dr. Pete Simi, *Criminologist, University of Nebraska, Omaha*

4:45 – 5:00

Conference Closing

Honorable Bernice B. Donald

5:00 – 6:00

Women in Criminal Justice Networking Meet and Greet

6:00 p.m.

Reception

Saturday, April 29, 2016

7:30 – 8:45

[CJS Council and Committee Meetings](#)