National Criminal Justice Association
Policy Summit – March 9, 2020
Room 285, Hall of States, 444 N. Capitol Street, NW, Washington, DC

8:30 - 9:00  Registration and Welcome
- Chris Asplen, Executive Director, National Criminal Justice Association

9:00 – 10:00  The Perspective from the Advocacy Community and Hopes for Next Phases
This session will bring together key right- and left-leaning criminal justice reform groups to offer their perspectives on the state of the reform movement, hopes for next phases, and focus on grassroots advocacy in the states.
- Sara Field, Vice President for Criminal Justice, Stand Together (a project of the Charles Koch Institute and Americans for Prosperity)
- David Jimenez, Senior Legislative Consultant, Prison Fellowship
- Kyle O’Dowd, Associate Executive Director for Policy, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- Mai Fernandez, Senior Fellow, Justice Policy Institute

10:00 - 10:15  Break

10:15 - 11:15  Working Across Systems to Improve Outcomes for the Justice-Involved
This session will focus on the intersection between the criminal justice and behavioral health systems from the perspective of treatment providers, advocates for people with substance use disorders, and from the state agencies that manage the publicly-funded addiction treatment, prevention, and recovery service system.
- Frankie Berger, Director, State Advocacy and Policy, National Council for Behavioral Health
- Jessica Hulsey Nickel, CEO, Addiction Policy Forum
- Rob Morrison, Executive Director, National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors

11:15 - 12:15  Where is Law Enforcement in All This?
Law enforcement leaders are reluctant participants in reform in many communities, yet are leading innovation in prevention and diversion. This session will bring together national law enforcement associations to share their members’ perspectives on reform and promising areas for action.
- Nelson Bunn, Executive Director, National District Attorneys Association
- Ben Bawden, Partner, Brooks Bawden Moore, LLC
- Laura Cooper, Executive Director, Major Cities Chiefs Association
This panel will allow audience members a chance to hear about the criminal justice priorities of the nations’ governors and counties, where bipartisan consensus lies, and policy issues on the horizon.

- Jeff Locke, Program Director, Homeland Security and Justice, National Governors Association
- Nastassia Walsh, Associate Program Director, Health and Justice, National Association of Counties

1:30 - 2:15   Perspective from Capitol Hill

Bipartisan staff from the House and Senate Judiciary Committees will discuss current legislative priorities and how the federal government seeks to move state policy and practice.

- Amalea Smirniotopoulos, Counsel, Office of Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, Senate Judiciary Committee
- Carter Burwell, Counsel, Office of Sen. John Cornyn, Senate Judiciary Committee

2:15 - 2:30   Break

2:30 - 3:30   View from the Department of Justice

Senior staff from the Department of Justice will discuss the agency’s priorities, how they work with states to address pressing issues, and the resources available to states and practitioners.

- Tracey Trautman, Acting Director, Bureau of Justice Assistance
- Mariel Lifshitz, Senior Advisor, Office of the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs
- Kathrina Peterson, Acting Deputy Director, Office for Victims of Crime

3:30 - 3:45   Break

3:45 - 4:45   Moderated Conversation Among Attendees on Improving the Justice System

This session will allow attendees to reflect on what they have heard and discuss how the policy agenda is playing out in their states.

4:45 – 5:00   Wrap-up and sendoff to Hill Day

NCJA staff will provide support for conversations with congressional delegation offices.

- Chris Asplen, Executive Director, National Criminal Justice Association
- Elizabeth Pyke, Director of Government Affairs, National Criminal Justice Association
NCJA Board Meeting and Hill Day – March 10, 2020

All NCJA members are encouraged to meet with their congressional delegation offices on March 10. Tips for setting up those meetings, talking points, and handouts will be sent in advance.

Also, NCJA will hold its quarterly board meeting on March 10 from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm. Location TBD.