

**Delegates Assembly on Policing and Public Safety  
July 8, 12:00 – 2:30 PM**

**Agenda**

**Welcome**

- Michael Fromm, JCPA Chair
- David Bohm, JCPA Policy Advisory Committee Chair

**Ending Systemic Racism in Policing**

- Scott Roberts, Senior Director of Criminal Justice Campaigns, Color of Change

**Understanding Policing and Where We Go From Here**

- Dr. Andrea S. Boyles, Division Chair of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Associate Professor of Criminal Justice, Lindenwood University-Belleville (Moderator)
- Dr. Robert “Bobby” Brown, Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Criminal Justice, North Carolina Central University
- Dr. Alex Vitale, Professor of Sociology and Coordinator of the Policing and Social Justice Project, Brooklyn College

**Redefining Public Safety: What Communities Need to Succeed**

- Pamela Rodriguez, President and Chief Executive Officer, TASC’s (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities) Center for Health and Justice
- Jessica Nickel, President and CEO, Addiction Policy Forum
- Aqeela Sherrills, Director, Newark New Jersey Community Street Team

**Small Group Interactive Conversations: Reflections**

## **Speaker Bios**

**Dr. Andrea S. Boyles** is a feminist, race scholar—a sociologist and critical criminologist—visiting with Sociology and Africana Studies at Tulane University. Her work accounts for social inequality and (in)justice relative to Black citizen-police interactions; neighborhood disorder and disadvantage; community development and engagement; and resilience and collective action. Boyles has served in various capacities in academia and worked with corporations and organizations, including but not limited to, American Airlines, Amnesty International, and National Organization of Black Law Enforcement (NOBLE). Boyles is also author of [\*You Can't Stop the Revolution: Community Disorder and Social Ties in Post-Ferguson America\*](#) (UC Press, 2019) and [\*Race, Place, and Suburban Policing: Too Close for Comfort\*](#) (UC Press, 2015).

**Dr. Robert A. Brown** is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Criminal Justice at North Carolina Central University. He earned his B.A. in Political Science from Hampton University, his M.S. in Criminology from Indiana State University, and his Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from the University of Cincinnati. Prior to earning his doctorate, he worked as a sentencing mitigation specialist for the National Center on Institutions and Alternatives (NCIA) coordinating offender-specific rehabilitation and supervision plans for offenders at the state and federal levels. Dr. Brown's research focuses on street-level interactions between police officers and citizens (e.g., citation, arrest, use of force), the influence of race and gender (of officials and offenders) on criminal justice processing, and the impact of intermediate sanctions and problem-solving courts on rehabilitation and criminal justice processing.

**Jessica Nickels** is the founder of the Addiction Policy Forum, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to elevating awareness around substance use disorders and helping patients and families in crisis. They work to end the stigma around addiction and translating science and provide services in all 50 states. She also works to build stakeholder engagement and science translation for the Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network (JCOIN), funded through the NIH HEAL Initiative. Jessica serves on the board of directors for the DEA Educational Foundation, Ohio Governor, Mike DeWine's Recovery Ohio Advisory Council, the Princeton Club of Washington and Google's One Fifteen.

**Scott Roberts** is the Senior Director of Criminal Justice Campaigns for Color Of Change. He leads digital campaigners, researchers and field organizers in rallying support to end mass incarceration, fight the way our society criminalizes Black people, and secure more humane treatment for all those in contact with the justice system. Some of his team's key accomplishments include making New York the first city in the country to offer free phone calls from jail and holding Color Of Change's Mama's Day Bailout, where Color Of Change and partners raised bail money to free nearly 150 Black women around Mother's Day.

**Pamela F. Rodriguez** is President & CEO of TASC (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities), a statewide, nonprofit care management organization in Illinois that advocates for people involved in justice, health, and child welfare systems, and specializing in direct services for people with substance use and mental health conditions. Ms. Rodriguez oversees TASC's statewide operations team that provides direct services for more than 40,000 Illinoisans annually, and she also leads the agency's national and international consulting services. She has co-authored numerous articles on alternatives to incarceration and access to healthcare for justice populations, and serves on a number of national and state boards and task forces, including the board of the National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers (NAATP).

**Aqeela Sherrills** is a spirit-centered activist, working to promote healing in marginalized communities and community ownership of public safety. Aqeela is the Director of the Newark, New Jersey, Community Street Team, the Honorable Mayor Ras J. Baraka's community based violence reduction initiative. He is a Fellow with the Just Beginnings Collaborative, a national network of leaders and organizations working to end child sexual abuse. For the past 3 years 2017 – 2020, Aqeela served as the Senior Project Manager, at Shared Safety Initiative, Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice for Alliance for Safety and Justice (also worked as the National Training Director for Alliance for Safety and Justice), a national nonprofit working to replace justice and prison system waste with common sense solutions that create safe neighborhoods and save taxpayer dollars. His primary focus with Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice is meeting the unmet needs of victims of crime, which includes healing, recovery and prevention.

**Dr. Alex S. Vitale** is Professor of Sociology and Coordinator of the Policing and Social Justice Project at Brooklyn College and a Visiting Professor at London Southbank University. He has spent the last 30 years writing about policing and consults both police departments and human rights organizations internationally. Prof. Vitale is the author of *City of Disorder: How the Quality of Life Campaign Transformed New York Politics* and *The End of Policing*. His academic writings on policing have appeared in *Policing and Society*, *Police Practice and Research*, *Mobilization*, and *Contemporary Sociology*. He is also a frequent essayist, whose writings have appeared in *The NY Times*, *Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, *The Nation*, *Vice News*, *Fortune*, and *USA Today*.