



LEGAL SUMMIT: SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE

Tuesday, July 1, 2014

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers

301 E. North Water Street

Chicago, IL

Moderator: Rev. Janette Wilson, Esq.

The School-to-Prison Pipeline is shorthand for the continuing failures in the education system where students of color disproportionately are incorrectly over-categorized in special education, are disciplined more harshly, achieve at lower levels, and eventually drop or are pushed out of school, often into juvenile justice facilities and prisons. This pipeline has been a crucial concern of parents, educators, lawyers, judges, ministers, civil rights leaders, youth advocates, and legislators for years. The School to Prison Pipeline is now a major public concern across the country as statistics continue to illuminate its enduring downward spiral and disproportionately negative impact felt by children of color and their families. Some youth advocates have defined the problem as a systematic way of syphoning children out of public schools. Others see the current situation as a manifestation of implicit bias inherent in the education system. Many civil rights lawyers regard the journey from school- to-prison as the most critical civil rights issue facing our country today.

Disciplinary practices and policies, including new federal guidance, are changing and local and state programs around the country are making progress in limiting the school to prison pipeline, but more is needed.

The goal of the Summit individually and collectively is to bring together key individuals and organizations, to recognize ongoing research, and to showcase local programmatic interventions. The Summit will particularly call for conversation about the role of implicit bias in the current disproportionalities and about the potential role for lawyers and law students in dismantling the school to prison exodus.

The registration fee is \$100 for admission to all workshops June 30 – July 2, 2014. Meal events are not included. Please see the attached [Business Day](#) flier for July 2, 2014, or go to www.rainbowpush.org to see the full schedule of events.

The Summit will offer a forum for presentations, discussion, networking, and resource sharing as well as provide a critical opportunity for organizations who are interested in developing a collaborative plan of action.

For additional information please contact: Tracey Foster, Rainbow PUSH, email tfoster@rainbowpush.org, phone 773/256-2706 or Deidra Franklin, ABA Coalition on Racial and Ethnic Justice, email deidra.franklin@americanbar.org, phone 312/988-5409.