Committee Goals for 2018-2019

Academics

- Continue to prioritize the annual Academics Committee Roundtable. We are particularly interested in building and celebrating a diverse community of legal scholars, and supporting those who are considering entering academia.

- Continue the development and marketing of the Committee’s online directory of committee members and their expertise, and to seek additional ways in which practitioners and academics can network, and connect with others with shared interests.

Criminal Procedure & Evidence

- The Committee will continue to monitor and, if appropriate, comment on any developments in terms of expanding criminal pre-trial discovery (especially with emphasis on the new proposed law for enhanced discovery in New York state).

- The Committee will also monitor the actions of the newly enacted State Commission on Prosecutorial Conduct that recently was voted into existence in New York state.

- The Committee will examine the effect and accomplishments of conviction integrity units at prosecutors’ offices.

- The Committee will monitor and, if necessary, comment on any criminal procedure cases before the United States Supreme Court this Term including Gamble v. United States (Double Jeopardy), Garza v. Idaho (Ineffectiveness of Counsel from failure to file a requested appeal), and Timbs v. Indiana (Incorporation of Eighth Amendment to States).

Global Anti-Corruption

- The Committee intends to continue in its highly-acclaimed National Roundtable Series. We expect our series to continually make stops across the country, in cities such as Washington, D.C., Chicago, Houston, San Francisco, and Denver, among others.

- Because our Committee’s work is truly “global” in nature, as we did last year, we intend to go international with our National Roundtable Series. In an augural event, last year, working closely with our Committee members from Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, we hosted an overseas Roundtable in Hong Kong. This year, working with Committee Co-Chair, T. Markus Funk and his colleagues from Perkins Coie LLP, we intend to host a Roundtable event in Indonesia.

- Last year, the Committee launched a second high-profile and exciting series: The Foreign Corruption Prosecutor Series. Spearheaded by Co-Chair Mara Senn, the Series welcomed prosecutors from all over the world to present in D.C. on topics of interest to the global anti-corruption community, including topics specific to the host nation where the foreign prosecutor practices law. Speakers included prosecutors from Brazil, the UK, Germany and the Netherlands. We also had a panel with heads of the DOJ and SEC FCPA units and the head of the World Bank Integrity Vice presidency, to discuss how each of those institutions coordinates with foreign prosecutors. Continuing in that work, the Committee intends to continue to host and welcome speakers from across the world, but this year the Committee intends to open up the series to speakers beyond just those serving as prosecutors.

Goals and activities of additional committees can be found at the CJS Committees portal web page: www.americanbar.org/groups/criminal_justice/committees.html

Mara Senn, CJS Global Anti-corruption Committee Co-Chair (right) with German prosecutor Simone J Bader.
Legislative & Policy

The Committee will continue its analysis of Bail Reform legislation. At the 2018 CJS Spring Meeting, the Committee focused on Bail Reform legislation in New Jersey and Connecticut. At present California has just passed comprehensive Bail Reform legislation and it is anticipated that such legislation will be re-introduced in New York State in the 2019 Legislative Session. The Committee will conduct an analysis of these new legislative measures as well as practices in other States.

Parole & Probation

- Explore alternatives to traditional probation and parole practices as they relate to the incarceration of individuals for noncompliance and assess how current practices regarding terms, conditions, and fees, impact low-income offenders.

- Document nationwide best practices regarding the alternative disposition of marijuana cases and how these practices impact criminal justice resources, reoffending, and the safety of communities.

- Explore the multi-jurisdictional use of personal recognizance bonds and release conditions as a form of “pretrial probation” and assess the related effects on offenders, the community, and criminal justice practitioners.

- Explore the relationship and applicability of restorative justice principals to probation and parole.

Pretrial Justice

- Continue work on the Prosecutor Pre-Trial Manual with the Prosecutor Function Committee and Harvard Law School.

- Participate in the Uniform Law Commission drafting process for the Alternatives to Bail Project.

- Collaborate with the Alternatives to Incarceration/Diversion Committee & Law Enforcement Committee on a CLE panel focused on Law Enforcement Led Diversion.

- Collaborate with Prosecution Function, Defense Function and Science, Technology & Forensics Committees on a possible resolution focused on best practices for the use of risk tools, algorithms and artificial intelligence in the criminal justice system.

Prosecution Function

- Provide advice and partnership, with an eye to the prosecution point of view, in the area of criminal justice reform. This includes resolutions, providing speakers for panels, and other types of collaboration.

- Continue to develop and promote CLE programs needed in the area of prosecution.

- Complete a publication regarding Prosecutor Discretion.

- Promote “Implicit Bias Training for Prosecutors Toolkit” to ensure prosecutors are receiving this important training.

- Participate in the drafting of a Pre-Trial Manual for Prosecutor Offices.


- Draft resolutions relevant to the area of prosecution.

- Continue to be involved in the Annual Prescription for Criminal Justice Forensics Seminar held in June each year.

Victims

- Create a coalition of leaders from crime victims organizations to voice where we can improve the criminal justice system for victims, and to work to implement those changes.

- Work in conjunction with the potential taskforce on victim’s rights to update standards.

- Sponsor resolutions and chapters that highlight gaps in the criminal justice system that create injustice for victims and work to resolve them.

Women in White Collar Subcommittee

The mission of the Women in White Collar Subcommittee is to be the national representative of female professionals (including private and public defense attorneys, prosecutors, judges, and related professionals) who focus their practices in the area of white collar criminal, civil, administrative, and regulatory law. The Subcommittee will principally seek to advance gender diversity in white collar representation through promoting thought leadership, educational opportunities, and positive publicity to encourage a focus at the national level on the professional excellence and accomplishments of women in the white collar field.