

# U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

QUARTERLY COMMUNITY OUTREACH NEWSLETTER

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## JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR BUILDING COMMUNITY TRUST AND JUSTICE FOCUS OF COLUMBUS GATHERING

The U.S. Attorney's Office co-hosted the National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice's first large-scale, daylong program at Capital University Law School in Columbus on January 21, bringing national and local law-enforcement officers, academics and judges together with community members to lay out the issue of police-community rapport and discuss solutions. More than 150 officials and community members – including two chiefs of police, the Columbus City Attorney, the Franklin County Prosecutor and the U.S. Attorney – committed to actionable steps for progress.



*Assistant Attorneys General Vanita Gupta and Karol Mason and Professor David Kennedy are helping lead the Department of Justice's National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice.*

The National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice is a multifaceted approach to enhance community trust and help repair and strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and the communities they serve. The National Initiative will explore, advance and disseminate information about strategies intended to enhance procedural justice, reduce implicit bias and support racial reconciliation.

The Justice Department is partnering with a consortium of national experts on law enforcement which is led by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and comprised of Yale Law School, the Center for Policing Equity and the Urban Institute. The initiative is

guided by a board of advisors that includes national leaders from law enforcement, academia, faith-based groups, community stakeholders and civil rights advocates.

## KEY CONCEPTS

**PROCEDURAL JUSTICE** emphasizes the fairness of the process. How people regard the justice system is tied more to the perceived fairness of the process and how they were treated rather than the perceived fairness of the outcome. This includes a chance to participate in a neutral, transparent, and fact-based process as well as interactions with sincere and well-intentioned officials who treat those in the community with dignity and respect.

**IMPLICIT BIAS** refers to the automatic association between two concepts that can influence behavior and lead individuals and groups to respond in stereotype-consistent ways. Put another way: implicit bias is the tendency to associate a group with its stereotypes – even when we do not believe the stereotype. Implicit bias can compromise the effective disbursement of justice and promotion of public safety.

**RACIAL RECONCILIATION** brings communities and criminal justice system practitioners together to acknowledge past and present racial harms, address damaging narratives on both sides (e.g. police beliefs that troubled communities approve of violence, or neighborhood beliefs that the police are complicit in the drug trade), and find common ground to move forward to work together on public safety concerns.

A substantial portion of the U.S. population has contact each year with law enforcement and the criminal justice system – as victims, witnesses, offenders, advocates or community partners. Every one of these contacts is a potential opportunity to build personal and public trust in the criminal and juvenile justice systems and enhance public safety, or alternatively, to cause tension and erode trust in institutions charged to maintain law and order.

The National Initiative will:

**Establish pilot sites to implement and test strategies** to promote procedural justice in policing, address issues of implicit bias, and create opportunities for racial reconciliation.

**Establish an information clearinghouse** to provide assistance for the broader field of justice practitioners and local communities.

**Develop evidence translation materials** by making extant and emerging research on procedural justice, bias, and racial reconciliation accessible to practitioners and policymakers.

**Conduct research** to gauge and expand knowledge about procedural justice and related concepts, and identify and address gaps in our understanding about the scope and impact of these issues.

**Promote the public discourse** and a broader public understanding of these issues among the general public in order to influence the national discourse on community policing and shape policy, practice, and police-community relations.

More information on the National Initiative can be found at:

<http://www.ojp.gov/communitytrust.htm>

<http://nnscommunities.org/special-projects/community-trust-initiative>.

## U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE CELEBRATES CIVIL RIGHTS ACT, VOTING RIGHTS ACT 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARIES

The U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Ohio, The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law and Kirwan Institute hosted the second event in a series recognizing the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.



From left to right: U.S. Attorney Carter Stewart; Todd Purdum; James Dicke, Crown Corporation; Alan Michaels, Dean, Moritz College of Law

The second event, which took place on January 22 at the Moritz College of Law, celebrated the legacy of the late Congressman William McCulloch, who played a critical role in the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The event featured Todd S. Purdum, author of *An Idea Whose Time Has Come: Two Presidents, Two Parties and the Battle for the Civil Rights Act of 1964*.

Purdum is a contributing editor at *Vanity Fair* and senior writer at *Politico*. He previously spent more than twenty years at *The New York Times*, where he served as diplomatic correspondent, White House correspondent, and Los Angeles bureau chief. A graduate of Princeton University, he lives in Los Angeles with his wife, Dee Dee Myers, the political commentator and former White House press secretary, and their two children.

The final event featured Deputy Assistant Attorney General Pamela Karlan, who addressed the history, legacy and future of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Karlan serves as the Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Karlan is one of the nation's leading experts on voting and the political process, and has served as Co-Director of Stanford Law School's Supreme Court Litigation Clinic. She has served as the commissioner on the California Fair Political Practices Commission, and an assistant counsel and former cooperating attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund.

## **PRESIDENT OBAMA ANNOUNCES EXECUTIVE ACTION ON IMMIGRATION**

On November 20, 2014, the President announced a series of executive actions to crack down on illegal immigration at the border, prioritize deporting felons not families, and require certain undocumented immigrants to pass a criminal background check and pay taxes in order to temporarily stay in the U.S. without fear of deportation.

These initiatives include:

- Expanding the population eligible for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program to people of any current age who entered the United States before the

age of 16 and lived in the United States continuously since January 1, 2010, and extending the period of DACA and work authorization from two years to three years.

- Allowing parents of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents to request deferred action and employment authorization for three years, in a new Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents\* program, provided they have lived in the United States continuously since January 1, 2010, and pass required background checks
- Expanding the use of provisional waivers of unlawful presence to include the spouses and sons and daughters of lawful permanent residents and the sons and daughters of U.S. citizens
- Modernizing, improving and clarifying immigrant and nonimmigrant visa programs to grow our economy and create jobs
- Promoting citizenship education and public awareness for lawful permanent residents and providing an option for naturalization applicants to use credit cards to pay the application fee

These initiatives have not yet been implemented. Beware of anyone who offers to help you submit an application or a request for any of these actions before they are available. Protect yourself from becoming a victim of an immigration scam.

For more information on the immigration action, or to subscribe to email updates, visit [www.uscis.gov/immigrationaction](http://www.uscis.gov/immigrationaction). For more information on how to protect yourself from scams, visit [www.uscis.gov/avoid-scams](http://www.uscis.gov/avoid-scams).

The U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Ohio is coordinating with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission, the Ohio Asian American and Pacific Islander Advisory Council, and the Columbus Community Relations Commission to host an educational seminar for the public in the coming months. Details will be shared as they are confirmed.

Learn more about common fraud schemes [here](#).

### Telephone Scams

Do not fall victim to telephone scammers posing as USCIS personnel or other government officials. In most instances, scammers will:

- request personal information (Social Security number, Passport number, or A-number);
- identify false problems with your immigration record; and
- ask for payment to correct the records.

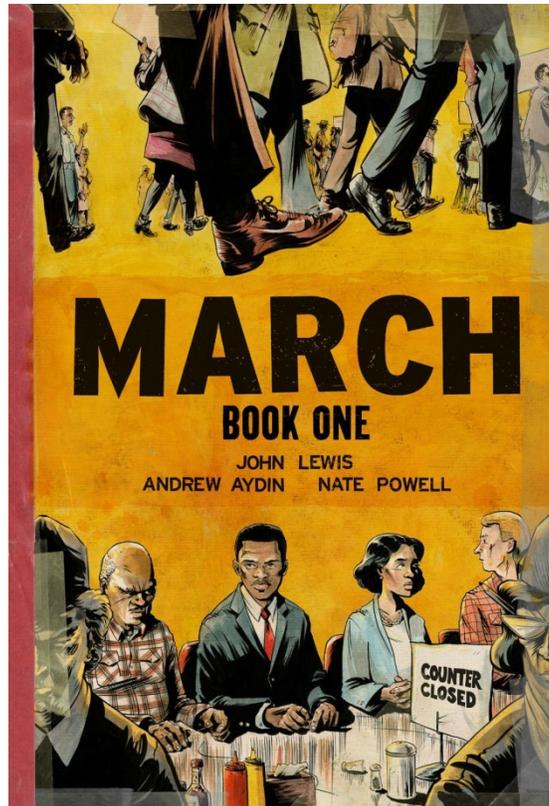


If a scammer calls you, say "No, thank you" and hang up. These phone calls are being made by immigration scammers attempting to take your money and your credit card information. USCIS will **not** call you to ask for any form of payment over the phone. Don't give payment over the phone to anyone who claims to be a USCIS official.

If you have been a victim of this telephone scam, please report it to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). Learn more about telephone scams and telephone scammers' techniques by visiting [Federal Trade Commission-Telemarketing-Scams](#).

## OUT AND ABOUT

- Nov 3: U.S. Attorney Carter Stewart, First Assistant U.S. Attorney Mark D'Alessandro and Outreach Coordinator Jennifer Thornton toured Cristo Rey Columbus Charter School in Columbus, OH.
- Nov. 6: U.S. Attorney Carter Stewart presented to law students at the University of Cincinnati in Cincinnati, OH.
- Nov. 6: U.S. Attorney Carter Stewart presented at the FBI Citizen's Academy Alumni meeting in Cincinnati, OH.
- Nov. 13: U.S. Attorney Carter Stewart talked with the Gahanna Lincoln High School senior class about the criminal justice system in Gahanna, OH.
- Nov. 14: Assistant U.S. Attorneys Sheila Lafferty and Brent Tabacchi presented at the Dayton Bar Association Bench Bar Conference in Dayton, OH.
- Nov. 15: The U.S. Attorney's Office co-hosted "March: An Evening with Congressman John Lewis" in celebration of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 through Lewis' graphic novel *March*.



Community Engagement hosted by the National Counterterrorism Center in McClean, VA.

- Nov 17: Criminal Chief Kenneth Parker presented at a Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence event in the Avondale neighborhood of Cincinnati, OH.
- Nov. 18: Assistant U.S. Attorney Kevin Kelley presented on federal criminal practice and search and seizure at the Columbus Police Academy in Columbus, OH.
- Nov. 19: Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Hunter provided remarks to 150 law enforcement officers at VALOR training in Columbus, OH.
- Nov. 18-19: Outreach Coordinator Jennifer Thornton participated in a conference focused on Countering Violent Extremism and Community Engagement hosted by the National Counterterrorism Center in McClean, VA.
- Dec. 2: Assistant U.S. Attorneys Kevin Kelley and Dave DeVillers spoke with students at Harrison College in Columbus, OH about careers in federal prosecution.
- Dec. 4-5: Criminal Chief Kenneth Parker presented at Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence call-in sessions in Cincinnati, OH.

- Jan. 9: Assistant U.S. Attorney Heather Hill participated in a law enforcement panel at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Ohio Human Trafficking Awareness Day in Columbus, OH.
- Jan. 17: Assistant U.S. Attorney Heather Hill presented at “Break Every Chain” Human Trafficking Awareness Day in Reynoldsburg, OH.
- Jan 19: U.S. Attorney Carter Stewart led guests in the Pledge of Allegiance at the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Breakfast in Columbus, OH.



- Feb. 18: U.S. Attorney Carter Stewart participated in the Community Trust law enforcement panel at the Columbus Metropolitan Club in Columbus, OH.
- Feb. 19: Assistant U.S. Attorney Debbie Solove participated in an FBI Strategic Partnership event with private industry representatives in Columbus, OH.
- Feb. 19: Assistant U.S. Attorney Jessica Kim participated in a Capital Law School Women’s Law Association event in Columbus, OH.
- March 2: Assistant U.S. Attorney Christy Muncy provided remarks at the Greater Cincinnati Internet Crimes Against Children training in Cincinnati, OH.
- March 6: Senior Litigation Counsel Doug Squires and Assistant U.S. Attorney Pam Stanek presented on interdiction legal issues and federal forfeiture to law enforcement in Warren County, OH.

To arrange a presentation for your group, contact Jennifer Thornton at [jennifer.thornton@usdoj.gov](mailto:jennifer.thornton@usdoj.gov) or 614-255-1570.

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### FREE GRANT WRITING SEMINARS

The Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS) is hosting free Grant Writing

seminars in 2015. OCJS's grant trainings provide an overview of identifying grant sources, analyzing program objectives, creating a budget, seeking letters of support, and writing proposals. Federal and state grants available to criminal justice professionals are discussed. Mark your calendars for the 2015 grant writing seminar schedule: April 6, May 6, June 2, August 4, October 6 and November 3. To register, please [click here](#).

### FREE REGIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAINING

The Ohio Network of Children's Advocacy Centers and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services are hosting 5 regional human trafficking trainings. The multidisciplinary trainings will be held this spring in Findlay, Cambridge, Akron, Cincinnati and Columbus. CEUs for social workers and counselors are pending. To register, see below:

March 24, 2015 -- Findlay, OH  
[oncacHTfindlay.eventbrite.com](http://oncacHTfindlay.eventbrite.com)

March 25, 2015 -- Cambridge, OH  
[oncacHTcambridge.eventbrite.com](http://oncacHTcambridge.eventbrite.com)

March 27, 2015 -- Akron, OH  
[oncacHTakron.eventbrite.com](http://oncacHTakron.eventbrite.com)

May 20, 2015 -- Cincinnati, OH  
[oncacHTcincinnati.eventbrite.com](http://oncacHTcincinnati.eventbrite.com)

May 22, 2015 -- Columbus, OH  
[oncacHTcolumbus.eventbrite.com](http://oncacHTcolumbus.eventbrite.com)

If you have questions, please contact Amy Roberts, ONCAC Chapter Director, at [aroberts@oncac.org](mailto:aroberts@oncac.org).

## Grant Opportunities

### SIGN UP FOR FEDERAL GRANT ALERTS

To subscribe to federal grant announcements, visit [www.grants.gov/manage-subscriptions.html](http://www.grants.gov/manage-subscriptions.html). Here, you can subscribe to receive email alerts of all grant notices, or you sign up for notices based on criteria such as topic, sub-agency, and funding opportunity number.

#### **BJA FY 15 Second Chance Act Reentry Program for Adults with Co-Occurring Substance Abuse and Mental Disorders Grant**

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=272748>

#### **BJA FY 15 Law Enforcement and Missing Persons with Alzheimer's Disease**

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=273452>

#### **NIJ FY 15 Research and Evaluation on Children Exposed to Violence**

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=271193>

#### **OVW FY 2015 Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program Grant**

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=273770>



Outreach event dates are subject to change. If you have questions or suggestions regarding community outreach at the U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District of Ohio, contact Jennifer Thornton at [jennifer.thornton@usdoj.gov](mailto:jennifer.thornton@usdoj.gov) or 614-255-1570.

**NIJ FY 15 Using DNA Technology to Identify the Missing**  
<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=274129>

**BJA FY 15 Wrongful Conviction Review Program Grant**  
<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=274660>

**BJA FY 15 Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program Grant**  
<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=274664>

**BJA FY 15 Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program Grant**  
<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=274673>

**BJA FY 15 Smart Defense Initiative Answering Gideon's Call: Improving Public Defense Delivery Systems Grant**  
<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=274716>

**BJA FY 15 Second Chance Act Two-Phase Adult Reentry Demonstration Program: Planning and Implementation Grant**  
<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=274937>

**BJA FY 15 Anti-Human Trafficking National Training and Technical Assistance Program for Law Enforcement Task Forces Grant**  
<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=274955>

**NIJ FY 15 Research on Bias Crime Victimization**  
<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=271389>

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