

Using Local Data to Reform Traffic Enforcement

Speaker Biographies

Jacob Denney is the associate director of research for Vera California, leading research team efforts to advance statewide criminal legal system reform and contributing impactful research on alternatives to incarceration. Before joining Vera, Jacob was the economic justice policy director at the San Francisco Bay Area think tank, SPUR. There, his original research and advocacy helped lead to the dismissal of \$100 million in fines and fees and the adoption of the country's most progressive pretext stop ban. Jacob, who also worked at the Insight Center and The Pew Charitable Trusts, co-founded the Economic Justice Project at the Southern Poverty Law Center, which confronts debtors' prisons and private probation practices in the American South. He began his career working in the Massachusetts State Senate. Jacob holds a BA in political philosophy from the University of Massachusetts, Boston and an MPP from the Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California.

Susan Nembhard is a research associate in the Justice Policy Center at the Urban Institute, where she conducts mixed-methods research on victimization, community policing, and crime reduction with a focus on racial equity and community approaches to safety. Most recently, she led the data analysis in the "Exploring Educational Stability and Youth Justice Involvement in California" brief. Before joining Urban, Nembhard was a police misconduct investigator in Washington, DC. She has also conducted research as a part of Seattle University's evaluation of the Micro-Community Policing Plans project with the Seattle Police Department. Nembhard received her bachelor's degree in criminology and criminal justice from the University of Maryland, College Park, and her master's degree in criminal justice with a victimology specialization from Seattle University.

Marie Pryor is passionate about using data and technology to protect fundamental rights of individuals impacted by the criminal justice system. A researcher by training, conducting program evaluation for government, academic, and nonprofit entities for over a decade, she currently works as the Senior Manager of Innovation & Community Justice Reform Initiatives within Microsoft's Justice Reform Initiative. In this role she manages corporate social responsibility efforts to support locally embedded nonprofit organizations who are using data and technology to advance racial equity in their communities. Marie has previously worked as the Senior Director of National Policy at the Center for Policing Equity, and as the Chief Program Analyst for a statewide employment-based reentry program that provides supportive services to formerly incarcerated persons in New Jersey.

Lily Robin is a senior research associate in the Justice Policy Center at the Urban Institute, where their work focuses on community-driven approaches to safety and well-being, policing, the school-to-prison pipeline, and disability in the criminal legal system. They have led several evaluations of programs in these topic areas using mixed-methods approaches and community-engaged methods. Before joining Urban, Robin worked in criminal legal system research and technical assistance, with a focus on law enforcement. They hold a BA from New York University, with a concentration in the school-to-prison pipeline, and an MPP from the George Washington University, with a concentration in mixed-methods program evaluation.

Paula Sen has worked as an attorney at the Defender Association of Philadelphia, the city's public defender office, since 2013. She became the co-lead of the Defender's Police Accountability Unit (PAU) in 2018. The PAU works to improve outcomes for Defender clients, aid attorneys representing clients with police-related issues, and effectuate policy and legal changes related to systemic police misconduct, with the goal of working toward a fairer, more accountable, and transparent criminal legal system.