



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Mike Hannigan

Co-Founder and President

Give Something Back

Mike Hannigan was born in Pensacola Florida. He earned his B.A. in Philosophy from U.C. San Diego and his M.A. in Criminology from U.C. Berkeley. He began work for the Xerox corporation and built his career in management for business products companies for the next decade until starting GSB. Mr. Hannigan states, "I was active in the usual social movements of the late '60s and '70s, and although I was very successful as a businessperson, I was never really comfortable in that role and never happy unless I was involved in some type of community political activism. I approached Sean Marx with the idea of forming a company that would combine our business skills and our values. We saw an opportunity to use the power of business to further the goals of community service through funding non profit organizations. We started the company in 1991 with \$20,000 each from our savings and started making sales calls from my living room."

Jeanne Woodford

Senior Distinguished Fellow

Chief Justice Earl Warren Institute on Law and Social Policy

University of California, Berkeley School of Law

Ms. Woodford is a Senior Distinguished Fellow at the Chief Justice Earl Warren Institute on Law and Social Policy. She began her career at San Quentin State Prison in 1978 following graduation from Sonoma State University with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Ms. Woodford was promoted through the ranks and was appointed Warden of San Quentin State Prison by Governor Davis in 1999. She remained Warden of San Quentin until called upon by Governor Schwarzenegger in 2004 to serve as the Director of the California Department of Corrections. Her mission was to bring reform and rehabilitation to the California Department of Corrections. She was appointed to the position of Undersecretary of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, the largest correctional system in the United States in July of 2005. Ms. Woodford then became the Chief of the San Francisco Adult Probation Department. She retired in 2008 completing 30 years of work at the state and county level of government in the field of criminal justice. Ms. Woodford is currently offering her expertise on several criminal justice reentry and policy projects throughout the state of California.

Susana Villarreal

Enterprise Zone, Tax Credits and Incentives Coordinator

City of Oakland

Ms. Villarreal serves as Oakland's Enterprise Zone, Tax Credits and Incentives Coordinator and has issued thousands of hiring tax credits to Oakland, Emeryville and Berkeley businesses worth millions of dollars in



savings. She is responsible for developing and administering the City of Oakland's Enterprise Zone Program. In her 19 years with the City of Oakland she has developed strategies to assist businesses in their recruitment, outreach and retention of employees resulting in hundreds of placements. She is instrumental in partnering with a private sector company to develop a web based online vouchering program, the first in California. Ms. Villareal provided assistance in the development of the City of Oakland's first Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and continues to assist in coordinating WIB priorities with economic development. Prior to joining the City of Oakland she had over 8 years of experience in the private sector as a human resources professional and 2 years of non-profit job training experience. Her office is located at the City of Oakland's Business Assistance Center, at 250 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza.

KEY STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

Meredith Desautels

Staff Attorney, Racial Justice Project, mdesautels@lccr.com

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area

Meredith Desautels is a staff attorney at the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area. With a focus on advancing racial justice and civil rights in the criminal justice system, Ms. Desautels directs Lawyers' Committee's Second Chance Legal Clinic, which provides free legal services to people with past arrests and convictions to help them overcome the barriers to successful community reintegration. She also engages in community outreach and education, policy advocacy, and impact litigation to promote reentry and criminal justice reform. Before joining Lawyers' Committee, Ms. Desautels clerked for Judge Noonan on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, and worked as a supervising attorney in the Clean Slate Practice at the East Bay Community Law Center. She is a graduate of UC Berkeley School of Law, Boalt Hall.

Michelle Natividad Rodriguez

Senior Staff Attorney, mrodriguez@nelp.org

National Employment Law Project

Michelle Natividad Rodriguez is a senior staff attorney with the National Employment Law Project (NELP), a non-profit organization that conducts research and advocates on issues affecting low-wage and unemployed workers. She works with state and local allies across the country in their efforts to reduce barriers to employment for people with arrest and conviction records. She is also leading NELP's efforts to promote fair chance hiring campaigns nationally and co-authored [*65 Million "Need Not Apply": The Case for Reforming Criminal Background Checks for Employment*](#) (2011), featured in national media. Prior to working at NELP, Ms. Rodriguez was a senior staff attorney at the nonprofit law firm and advocacy organization, Public Advocates. She is a graduate of Columbia Law School and is on the Board of Directors of Common Counsel Foundation.



Miya Saika Chen

Staff Attorney, Community Empowerment/Economic Justice Project, Mchen@lccr.com
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area

Miya Saika Chen is staff attorney at the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area and leads the Community Empowerment and Economic Justice Project. Ms. Chen works to promote the economic empowerment of underserved communities through policy advocacy, community-based education, and litigation. She directs Legal Services for Entrepreneurs, which provides free legal assistance to low-income individuals starting businesses, as well as existing small businesses ("mom and pop shops") in areas where gentrification is a force for displacement. Prior to joining LCCR, Ms. Chen was a law fellow at the public interest law firm, Justice First, where she worked on indigent juvenile defense appeals. Previously, she was a senior advisor in the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders where she developed the Obama Administration's national community engagement strategy to increase AAPI community access to programs across 23 federal agencies and led a series of summits on entrepreneurship and small business growth. Ms. Chen serves on the Board of Directors of Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Asian Law Caucus. She received her J.D. from American University, Washington College of Law and is an Oakland, CA native.

Jessica Flintoft

Community Outreach Liaison, jflintoft@lccr.com
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area

Jessica Flintoft is an independent consultant working on issues of prisoner reentry and criminal justice reform. She was the founding Director of the Reentry Division of the San Francisco Adult Probation Department until November 2013. The Reentry Division is responsible for the development and implementation of Public Safety Realignment and reentry services, as well as interagency planning and evaluation efforts, including staffing the Community Corrections Partnership and the Reentry Council of the City & County of San Francisco. From 2007 through 2011, she worked for the San Francisco Public Defender's Office as the founding Reentry Policy Director of the Reentry Council of the City & County of San Francisco and Program Coordinator of the San Francisco Safe Communities Reentry Council (SCRC). Ms. Flintoft has over 10 years of experience in group facilitation and strategic planning, program development and evaluation, policy analysis, fund development, and management in non-profit and philanthropic organizations to further social justice, reduce health disparities, and end homelessness. She graduated cum laude from Cornell University with a degree in American Studies, and received her Master of Public Policy from the University of California at Berkeley. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Center for Young Women's Development.