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A2J Summit Collection Contributors

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A2J SUMMIT COLLECTION CONTRIBUTORS

Katherine Alteneder has been the Executive Director of the Self-Represented Litigation Network (SRLN) since 2013. During her tenure, SRLN has grown from being a small unfunded project nested within the National Center for State Courts to an independent national backbone organization with more than 2000 members who work daily to get people the legal help they need, when they need it and in a format they can use. Before joining SRLN, Katherine spent her career in Alaska, initially as a trial court law clerk and then as a legal aid lawyer. In 2001, Katherine joined the Alaska Court System to serve as the Founding Director of the nation's first comprehensive phone and internet based court self-help center. In 2008, Katherine established a successful unbundled practice and founded the first Unbundled Law Section of a state bar. She has a BA from Northwestern University, and her J.D., cum laude from Seattle University School of Law. She resides in Virginia.

Sandra McAlister Ambrozy is a former senior fellow with The Kresge Foundation focused on civil legal justice. With more than 30 years of experience in philanthropy, Sandra has developed expertise in human services, arts and culture, green buildings, and civil legal aid. Sandra was named as a 2016 Presidio Institute fellow and participated in the fellowship program to build cross-sector leadership skills to address complex social challenges. Her work has been recognized with six Wilmer Shields Rich Awards from the Council on Foundations for creating transparency and accessibility in Kresge's communications. Sandra also coordinated the Partnership to Raise Community Capital, a national initiative for community foundations. She has served on the Economic Opportunity Funders steering committee and on the board of the Funders Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities. A U.S. Green Building Council LEED Accredited professional, Sandra led Kresge's Green Building Initiative to encourage nonprofits to design environmentally sustainable facilities. She also served as a reviewer for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Sustainable Communities and Regional Planning Grant Program in 2010 and 2011.

Martha Bergmark is the founding executive director of Voices for Civil Justice, the national communications and media resource for advocates of civil justice reform. She believes America can deliver on its inspiring promise of equal justice under law, but right now we are in default. Most Americans—three out of four—go without legal help to navigate complicated civil court proceedings that put their families, homes and livelihoods at risk,

and the human toll is high. She and her staff at Voices tap the awareness-raising power of media to bring attention to the need for civil justice reform and the vital role of civil legal aid.

Since its launch in 2013, Voices has built a 1500-member, 50-state network of advocates and has had a hand in more than 500 media placements in *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *NPR*, *CNN*, *Fox News*, and other media outlets. Martha's opinion pieces illuminating practical solutions to the civil justice crisis appear regularly in national outlets, and she is a frequent guest speaker, panelist and trainer. Voices' latest project is "All Rise for Civil Justice," an ambitious digital storytelling website and campaign. By defining the civil justice crisis and conveying its urgency, All Rise aims to build a narrative that unifies an emerging national movement for civil justice reform.

Martha previously served as founding president of the Mississippi Center for Justice, president of the Legal Services Corporation, and senior vice president for programs of the National Legal Aid & Defender Association. She began her legal career as a civil rights and legal aid lawyer in her home state of Mississippi. She is a graduate of Oberlin College and University of Michigan Law School, and she holds honorary doctorates from Oberlin College and Millsaps College.

Peter Chapman co-leads the legal empowerment concept at the Open Society Justice Initiative which focuses on strengthening community-based justice services, particularly with marginalized communities. The Justice Initiative uses law to protect and empower people around the world, supporting the values and work of the Open Society Foundations. Prior to joining the Justice Initiative, Peter worked on governance and justice reform in Africa and East Asia with the World Bank's Justice for the Poor program. He previously worked on legal empowerment and access to justice with the Carter Center in Liberia and the Public International Law & Policy Group in Uganda and Washington, D.C. Peter holds a Juris Doctor from the Washington College of Law, American University; a Master of Arts in international affairs from the School of International Service, American University; and a Bachelor of Arts in peace studies and political science from Colgate University.

Jennifer Ching is Executive Director of North Star Fund, a community foundation that supports grassroots organizing in New York City and the Hudson Valley. Prior to joining North Star, Jennifer was the Legal Services NYC Project Director of Queens Legal Services. From 2008-2010, Jennifer was the Director of New York Appleseed, a public interest center connecting grassroots groups with policy advocacy. As a litigation associate at Paul Weiss LLP, Jennifer spent several years representing individuals incarcerated by the United States in Guantánamo Bay. Jennifer has also served as a Gibbons Fellow in Public Interest Law and Constitutional Litigation and as a Skadden Fellow at the ACLU-NJ. She has also worked

as an Urban Fellow with the New York City Human Resources Administration and a community organizer with immigrant worker centers in Boston and New York's Chinatown. Jennifer is the daughter of immigrants, a graduate of Harvard University and NYU School of Law.

Matthew Diller is a prominent scholar of social welfare law and policy. He has lectured and written extensively on the legal dimensions of social welfare policy, including public assistance, Social Security, and disability programs and on disability law and policy. His articles have appeared in the *Yale Law Journal*, *UCLA Law Review*, *Texas Law Review*, and *Michigan Law Review*. Dean Diller began teaching at Fordham Law in 1993. He was the Cooper Family Professor of Law and co-director of the Louis Stein Center for Law and Ethics. From 2003 to 2008, he served as the associate dean for academic affairs. He has received the Louis J. Lefkowitz Award for the Advancement of Urban Law from the *Fordham Urban Law Journal* (2000), the Eugene J. Keefe Award for outstanding contributions to the Law School (2002), and the Dean's Medal of Achievement (2009). Prior to being appointed dean at Fordham Law, he served as dean at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law from 2009 to 2015. Dean Diller is a member of the New York State Permanent Commission on Access to Justice and is chair of the commission's Committee on Law School Involvement. He serves on the board of the Legal Aid Society of New York and is a member of the executive committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. He is also a member of the Judicial Institute on Professionalism in the Law and a fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He served as a member of the board of directors of Legal Services NYC from 1999 to 2009, and he was vice chair from 2003 to 2007. He was a member of the executive committee of the poverty law section of the Association of American Law Schools and was chair in 1999-2000. From 2000-2008, he was a member of the board of directors of the National Center for Law and Economic Justice. He was also a member of the New York City Bar Association's Task Force on New Lawyers in a Changing Profession. In fall 1999, he was scholar-in-residence at the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law. He received an A.B. and a J.D., both magna cum laude, from Harvard University, where he was an editor of the *Harvard Law Review*. He then clerked for the Honorable Walter R. Mansfield of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He worked for the Legal Aid Society in New York, where he was a staff attorney in the civil appeals and law reform unit. In 1991, the Association of the Bar of the City of New York honored him with a legal services award. In 2014, the AALS Section on Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities awarded him the Deborah L. Rhode Award for his leadership in legal education and public service.

Lisa Foster is the Co-Director of the Fines & Fees Justice Center. A retired judge, she served as Director of the Office for Access to Justice at the United States Department of Justice from 2014-2017. Under her leadership, the Office greatly expanded its statement of interest practice and increased

the size and scope of the Legal Aid Interagency Roundtable. Lisa also led the Department's work on fines and fees reform. Her collaborative work across multiple Department components resulted in two DOJ convenings, millions of dollars in funding, and the development of critical advocacy tools. With Vanita Gupta, then head of the Civil Rights Division, Lisa wrote a "Dear Colleague" to every Chief Justice and state court administrator, addressing the legal framework that governs the enforcement of fines and fees. She and former Assistant Attorney General Karol Mason coauthored an Advisory to juvenile courts throughout the country on the civil rights implications of imposing fines and fees in juvenile justice proceedings. As a California Superior Court Judge in San Diego, where she served for ten years, Lisa presided over criminal, family and civil cases and served as the Presiding Judge of the Court's appellate division and the Assistant Presiding Judge of the Family Law Division.

James Gamble is Senior Counsel and Director of the Justice Index Project at the National Center for Access to Justice at Fordham Law school, where he guides on a pro bono basis NCAJ's Justice Index, helping to develop its research criteria, indexing methodology, public profile and pro bono support. Jamie counsels NCAJ on strategic direction for all NCAJ initiatives. Jamie retired as a litigation partner of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP in 2010, having practiced for 14 years in the areas of corporate governance and federal securities law. He is a 1994 graduate of Columbia Law School (J.D.) and Columbia Business School (M.B.A., Finance).

Gillian Hadfield, B.A. (Hons.) Queens, J.D., M.A., Ph.D. (Economics) Stanford, is Professor of Law and Professor of Strategic Management at the University of Toronto. Her research is focused on innovative design for legal and dispute resolution systems in advanced and developing market economies; governance for artificial intelligence; the markets for law, lawyers, and dispute resolution; and contract law and theory. Gillian is a Faculty Affiliate at the Vector Institute for Artificial Intelligence in Toronto and at the Center for Human-Compatible AI at the University of California Berkeley and Senior Policy Advisor at OpenAI in San Francisco. Her book *Rules for a Flat World: Why Humans Invented Law and How to Reinvent It for a Complex Global Economy* was published by Oxford University Press in 2017. Gillian served as clerk to Chief Judge Patricia Wald on the U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit. She was previously on the faculty at the University of Southern California, New York University, and the University of California Berkeley, and has been a visiting professor at the University of Chicago, Harvard, Columbia, and Hastings College of Law. She was a 2006-07 and 2010-11 fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford and a National Fellow at the Hoover Institution in 1993. She has served on the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council for Technology, Values and Policy and Global Agenda Council for Justice and is currently a member of the American Bar Association's Commission on the Future of Legal Education.

Thomas B. Harvey is the Justice Project Director at Advancement Project. Before this role, he served as the National Director of Strategic Partnerships and Advocacy for The Bail Project and as ArchCity Defenders' first executive director, which he co-founded in 2009. Thomas built a civil rights litigation unit that worked with organizers and partners on campaigns including federal and state class action impact litigation on debtors' prisons, cash bail, police misconduct and the illegal use of chemical munitions during protests following the murder of Mike Brown in Ferguson, MO. Thomas is the lead author of ArchCity's 2014 paper on St. Louis County's municipal court system which served as the template for the Justice Department's findings in Ferguson. His writings sparked a national conversation about the way police and local courts work in concert to criminalize Black lives and destroy public confidence in the justice system and government. Thomas also authored a chapter on police abolition in Cambridge's Handbook on Policing in the United States and a chapter of Ferguson Fault Lines detailing the systemic racism, for-profit policing, and unconstitutional procedures and practices in St. Louis' municipal courts. Thomas is an executive member of the Future of Justice Policy, an advisory board member of the Misdemeanor Justice Project, 2016 Trial Lawyer of the Year, and a 2015 Harvard Law Wasserstein Fellow. Thomas helped organize the historic Law4BlackLives convening in Harlem's Riverside Cathedral and his work has been featured in the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Democracy Now, MSNBC, and National Public Radio.

Meena Jagannath co-founded the Community Justice Project, Inc. in 2015. She is a movement lawyer with an extensive background in activism and international human rights. Prior to coming to Miami, she worked for the Bureau des Avocats Internationaux in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, where she coordinated the Rape Accountability and Prevention Project, which combined direct legal representation with advocacy and capacity building of grassroots women's groups. While using her legal skills to build the power of movements locally in South Florida, she has also brought to bear her international human rights expertise in delegations to the United Nations to elevate U.S.-based human rights issues like police accountability and Stand Your Ground laws to the international level. Meena has published several articles in law journals and other media outlets, and has spoken in numerous academic and conference settings. She received her J.D. from University of Washington Law School where she was a William H. Gates Public Service Law Scholar. She also holds a Master's degree in International Affairs (human rights concentration) from the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University, and a B.A. in International Relations and Peace and Justice Studies from Tufts University.

The Honorable Jonathan Lippman, former Chief Judge of New York and Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals, the state's highest court,

is Of Counsel in the New York office of Latham & Watkins LLP and a member of the firm's Litigation & Trial Department. He provides strategic counsel to clients on New York Law and appellate matters nationwide, and is a leader of the firm's pro bono practice. Judge Lippman served as Chief Judge of the State of New York and Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals from February 2009 through December 2015. During his tenure on the Court of Appeals, Chief Judge Lippman authored major decisions addressing constitutional, statutory and common law issues shaping the law of New York, the contours of state government, and the lives of all New Yorkers. As the state's Chief Judge, he championed equal access to justice issues in New York and around the country and took the leadership role in identifying permanent funding streams for civil legal services. Chief Judge Lippman made New York the first state in the country to require 50 hours of law-related pro bono work prior to bar admission and established the Pro Bono Scholars and Poverty Justice Solutions Programs to help alleviate the crisis in civil legal services. He strengthened the state's indigent criminal defense system, addressed the systemic causes of wrongful convictions, created Human Trafficking Courts across New York State, and led efforts to reform New York's juvenile justice, bail and pre-trial justice systems. Judge Lippman championed the state's commercial division as a world-class venue for business litigation, reformed the state's attorney disciplinary system, adopted the Uniform Bar Exam, and succeeded in the creation of a statewide salary commission for judges. Chief Judge Lippman has served at all levels of the New York State Court system in a career spanning more than four decades, including service as a staff attorney, administrator and judge. From January 1996 to May 2007, he served as the longest-tenured Chief Administrative Judge in state history, playing a central role in many far-reaching reforms of New York's judiciary and its legal profession. From May 2007 to 2009, Judge Lippman served as the Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, First Department, dramatically reducing the court's pending backlogs. In 2008, Judge Lippman received the William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence, presented each year by the nation's Chief Justice to a state court judge who exemplifies the highest level of judicial excellence, integrity, fairness and professional ethics. Judge Lippman was selected for his "unparalleled ability to promote and achieve reform in the state courts. His leadership in the New York courts contributed to numerous improvements in that state's justice system and served as an example for courts across the country." In 2013, the American Lawyer named Chief Judge Lippman one of the Top 50 Innovators in Big Law in the Last 50 Years. A New York Times article in December 2015 stated that Judge Lippman had left an altered legal profession in New York by using "his authority to promote an ideal of lawyering as a public service." Judge Lippman was the 2016 American Bar Association's John Marshall Award recipient, an award whose prior recipients include Supreme Court Justices Anthony Kennedy and Sandra Day O'Connor. Judge Lippman presently serves as the Chair of the Independent Commission on New York City Criminal Justice and Incarceration Reform, a twenty-seven person blue

ribbon commission, formed to examine the future of the Rikers Island jail facilities in the context of systemic criminal justice reform.

Justine Olderman is the Executive Director of The Bronx Defenders. She is a skilled trial lawyer with over eighteen years experience representing clients in criminal matters, including complex felony and homicide cases. Justine is also a sought after lecturer and trainer on trial skills, bail advocacy, legal writing, and the attorney-client relationship. She has taught courses at Fordham and Seton Hall Law School, has been a guest lecturer at NYU School of Law, trained at the Judicial Institute and presented at public defender offices across the country. She joined BxD in 2000 as a staff attorney. She later became a training team supervisor for new lawyers, a team leader for experienced practitioners, and the Managing Attorney of the Criminal Defense Practice (CDP), a position she held for 7 years. As Managing Attorney of CDP, Justine oversaw the expansion of the criminal practice from forty lawyers handling 12,500 cases a year to a practice of more than 100 lawyers handling 30,000 cases a year. In 2016, Justine became the Managing Director of the organization, overseeing all of the practice areas as well as the day-to-day operations of the organization. Justine currently sits on the Advisory Board of the New York State Office of Indigent Legal Services and the board of the Chief Defenders Association of New York. Justine graduated magna cum laude and Order of the Coif from New York University School of Law. She spent two years clerking for Judge Robert J. Ward in the Southern District of New York. She also holds a B.A. from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Sheena Paul is the Executive Assistant at The Bronx Defenders. Prior to working at The Bronx Defenders, she studied History and Social Welfare at UC Berkeley, where she also advocated for and served marginalized communities as an organizer, grant-writer, and program coordinator. As an organizer, she worked to address the displacement poor Black and brown people in the Bay Area. Sheena also organized around issues of racism and police brutality in California, with particular focus on the ways Black, Brown, Muslim and Sikh communities in California were over-surveilled. As a program coordinator, Sheena supported the recruitment and retention of low-income students of color, former foster youth, and system impacted students. Sheena has strong ties to low-income and immigrant communities in Los Angeles, and is a proud UCLA Law Fellow and the product of programs and community leaders that empower foster youth and system-impacted youth. Sheena is dedicated to building community power and racial justice through engaging and empowering the most vulnerable communities.

Runa Rajagopal, a litigator and social justice advocate for over 14 years, is currently Managing Director of the Civil Action Practice at The Bronx Defenders. Having joined BXD in 2011, Runa oversees a practice of thirty attorneys, advocates and other staff in defending against the full range

of civil consequences and problems that arise out of an accusation and systems involvement, including evictions, termination of crucial benefits, suspension of employment, forfeiture of property and government misconduct. In addition to training and supporting attorneys and advocates to do so, Runa represents individual clients in city, state and administrative fora, where no civil right to counsel exists. She also develops litigation, legislative and educational strategies as they relate to CAP's direct services work and to impact broader civil and other justice reform. Runa provides technical assistance to and trains defense attorneys, civil practitioners and members of the community alike in identifying the potential civil fallout from entry into justice and court systems and to promote interdisciplinary, intersectional approaches to safeguard clients and their reintegration into the community.

Prior to joining The Bronx Defenders, Runa was a Senior Staff Attorney for the Mental Health Law Project at MFY Legal Services, Inc., where she represented mental health consumers in the areas of fair and affordable housing, income preservation, consumer defense, family law, and disability rights. Runa is a recipient of the 2016 New York City Bar Association's Legal Services Award for outstanding civil legal assistance to NYC's most marginalized and disenfranchised communities. Runa received her J.D. from the Washington College of Law, American University in 2005 and her B.A. in Sociology and Communication from the State University of New York at Geneseo.

Rebecca L. Sandefur studies access to civil justice from every angle—from how legal services are delivered and consumed, to how civil legal aid is organized around the nation, to the role of pro bono, to the relative efficacy of lawyers, nonlawyers and digital tools as advisors and representatives, to how ordinary people think about their justice problems and try to resolve them. Sandefur joined the American Bar Foundation (ABF) in 2010 to found and lead its access to justice research initiative. As a Faculty Fellow she continues to head this initiative, and she is also Associate Professor of Sociology and Law at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. In 2013, Sandefur was The Hague Visiting Chair in the Rule of Law. In 2015, she was named Champion of Justice by the National Center for Access to Justice. Before joining the ABF and the University of Illinois, Sandefur received her Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Chicago and served for nine years on the faculty of Stanford University.

Purvi Shah is one of the nation's premiere thinkers on law and social movements. She is the Founder and Executive Director of the Movement Law Lab, an innovation lab that accelerates and incubates legal start-ups that connect law to community organizing. Purvi is also the Co-Founder of Law For Black Lives, a national network of over 3,500 lawyers founded in the aftermath of the Ferguson and Baltimore uprisings to support the growing Movement For Black Lives. From 2012-2016, Purvi served as the Bertha

Justice Institute Director at the Center For Constitutional Rights where she founded the nation's first training institute working to advance the theory and practice of movement lawyering across the United States and the world. Prior to that, Purvi cofounded the Community Justice Project at Florida Legal Services where she litigated on behalf of taxi drivers, tenant unions, public housing residents, and immigrants. Purvi also directed the Community Lawyering Clinic at the University of Miami School of Law from 2007-2011. Prior to becoming a lawyer, Purvi worked as a community organizer with youth in Miami, students in India, and families of incarcerated youth in California. Purvi currently sits on the advisory boards for Law For Black Lives, the Detroit Justice Center, Community Justice Project. Inc., and Constitutional Communications. She has been awarded an Echoing Green Fellowship, a Soros Equality Fellowship, Miami Foundation Fellowship, and a New Voices Fellowship for her work. She is a graduate of Northwestern University and the Berkeley School of Law at the University of California. Founder, Movement Law Lab; Co-Founder, Law For Black Lives Echoing Green Fellow - 2018-19; Soros Equality Fellow - 2017-18.

Ariel Simon, as vice president, chief program and strategy officer, oversees The Kresge Foundation's programs and learning and evaluation departments, and directs the foundation's Opportunity Fund. He leads Kresge's efforts to explore new forms of cross-disciplinary and place-based work and to pursue imaginative uses of philanthropic tools, strategies, and learning agendas. Ari joined Kresge in January 2013 after five years with McKinsey & Company in Washington, where he focused on social innovation, economic development, and public health. While at McKinsey, Ari was a co-author of "And the Winner is..." a study of prizes and their role in fostering innovation, and he worked with charitable foundations, nonprofits, and governments across the Americas, Europe, and Africa on issues of strategy, policy, and advocacy, organizational effectiveness and governance. Ari previously worked as a writer and editor for NASA's Space Shuttle Columbia Accident Report; for the United Nations Independent Inquiry Committee Investigation of the Oil-for-Food Programme; as a volunteer Red Cross paramedic in the Middle East; and as a legal researcher and writer at the Innocence Project and Williams & Connolly LLP. Ari earned a bachelor's degree in history and science from Harvard College, a master of science in biology from Oxford University, and a juris doctorate from Stanford University.

Blake Strode is the Executive Director of ArchCity Defenders, a nonprofit civil rights law firm in St. Louis, Missouri providing holistic legal advocacy and combating the criminalization of poverty and state violence against poor people and people of color. Blake is a native of the St. Louis region and joined ArchCity as a Skadden Fellow and Staff Attorney following his graduation from Harvard Law School in 2015. Blake attended the University of Arkansas and majored in International Economics and Spanish. Blake helped to establish the Civil Rights Litigation unit at ArchCity, which has

brought challenges to a variety of unlawful and predatory practices including debtors' prisons, police misconduct, and inhumane jail conditions, among others. In the past few years, Blake and his colleagues have filed more than thirty civil rights cases in state and federal court, impacting upwards of 40,000 people in the St. Louis region. Blake also played a significant role in the class-action debtors' prison case against the City of Jennings, Missouri that reached final settlement in December 2016. The landmark case provides a blueprint for permanent legal reform in the region's courts and afforded monetary relief to hundreds of individuals who were jailed because of their inability to pay court debts. Blake has spoken at conferences and panels throughout the country and recently authored a column in the *St. Louis American*, entitled *What can we expect from all of this black representation*, and a column in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*: *Jailing people for their poverty is wrong, cruel and illegal*. Blake also co-authored, "Debtors' Prison in 21st-Century America," which appeared in *The Atlantic* in February of 2016.

Lauren Sudeall is an associate professor and the founding faculty director of the Center for Access to Justice at the Georgia State University College of Law. Her research focuses on access to the courts, both civil and criminal, and how lower-income individuals engage with the legal system, either through counsel or on their own. Her scholarship has appeared in the *Columbia Law Review*, *California Law Review*, *UCLA Law Review*, and *Minnesota Law Review*, among other publications.

Before joining the academy, Lauren clerked for Justice John Paul Stevens on the Supreme Court of the United States and Judge Stephen Reinhardt on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. She then worked at the Southern Center for Human Rights, where she represented indigent capital clients and litigated civil claims regarding the right to counsel. She serves on the Southern Center's board of directors and on the Indigent Defense Committee of the State Bar of Georgia. In recent years, she has also served on the ABA Standing Committee on Legal Aid & Indigent Defendants and as chair of the AALS Section on Constitutional Law. Lauren graduated magna cum laude from Harvard Law School, where she served as treasurer of the *Harvard Law Review*, and received her B.A. with distinction from Yale University.

David Udell is the Founder and Executive Director of the National Center for Access to Justice at Fordham Law School, where he leads NCAJ's initiatives, including the Justice Index, and the extension of the Justice Index to track and promote best policies for regulating excessive reliance on fines and fees. Prior to creating NCAJ, David was Founder and Executive Director of the Justice Program at the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University Law School, and also served as a Senior Attorney at Legal Services for the Elderly and a Managing Attorney at MFY Legal Services Legal Services. In addition to directing NCAJ, David is a codirector of the

A2J Initiative at Fordham Law School. David is a graduate of New York University Law School.

Jo-Ann Wallace is the President & CEO of the National Legal Aid & Defender Association (NLADA), the oldest and largest national membership organization devoting all of its resources to equal justice. Before becoming head of NLADA, Jo-Ann was the organization's Senior Vice President for Programs, responsible for oversight of both the civil legal aid and public defense program agendas. She previously served as Director of the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, widely regarded as the nation's model defender agency. Jo-Ann received recognition from the White House as a "Champion of Change". In 2018, she received the Gelman, Rosenberg and Freedman EXCEL Award for Outstanding Nonprofit Leadership. She is a graduate of New York University School of Law.

Amy Widman is the Deputy Director of the National Center for Access to Justice at Fordham Law School, Amy helps guide NCAJ's initiatives including its Justice Index, and the extension of the Justice Index to track state best practices for regulating excessive reliance on fines and fees as a means of financing government. Amy's work also focuses on deepening public understanding of the consumer protection strategies pursued by Attorneys General, and supporting the civil legal aid programs as they develop best practices for relying on data to track outcomes obtained for clients and communities. Previously, Amy served as Associate Professor of Law at NIU College of Law. Amy holds a J.D. from NYU School of Law and a B.A from Northwestern University.