

Task Force on Restoration of Rights and Status After Conviction Member Bios

Rick Jones (Co-Chair)

Rick Jones is the executive director and a founding member of the Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem. He is a distinguished trial lawyer with more than 20 years of experience in complex multi-forum litigation. Mr. Jones is a lecturer in law at Columbia Law School and on the faculty of the National Criminal Defense College. He is a member of the NY State Bar Association Criminal Justice Section Executive Committee, sits on the boards of the NY State Defenders Association and the Sirius Foundation, and serves on the Editorial Board of the Amsterdam News. Mr. Jones is a two-term past member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and currently serves as Parliamentarian. He also served as co-chair of both the Indigent Defense Committee and the Special Task Force on Problem-Solving Courts, and is currently co-chair of the Task Force on Restoration of Rights and Status After Conviction.

Vicki Young (Co-Chair)

Vicki H. Young, a criminal defense attorney throughout her career, is of counsel to the Law Offices of Ephraim Margolin in San Francisco. She has a broad criminal defense practice in both federal and state courts, and also devotes significant time to the defense of the indigent. Her practice experience runs the gamut from capital defense to post-conviction litigation to attorney discipline matters. Vicki has served as a director of NACDL and has a long record of service to many other bar groups, including the California Attorneys for Criminal Justice.

Lawrence Goldman

Lawrence S. Goldman was the 44th President of the NACDL. Previous to his appointment, he was Secretary, Treasurer, First and Second Vice-President and President-Elect. A Life Member of NACDL, he received the Robert C. Heeney Award in 1998. A veteran criminal defense lawyer of 30 plus years, he is a Past President of the New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NYSACDL) and the New York Criminal Bar Association.

Elissa Heinrichs

Elissa B. Heinrichs is a partner at Cevallos & Wong, LLP in Newtown, Pa., where she represents criminal defendants in state courts throughout Eastern Pennsylvania and parents in juvenile court proceedings following the removal of their children arising from allegations of abuse and neglect. Elissa's legal career includes stints as legislative counsel to New York Assemblyman Vtio Lopez and counsel in the New York City Comptroller's Office, as well as serving as an assistant district attorney in the Bucks County District Attorney's Office. She also clerked for King's County Criminal Court Judge Wayne Saitta.

Elissa is active in many bar associations, and has been recognized by Thomson Reuters and Pennsylvania Magazine with the Pennsylvania Rising Star Award, and by the Bucks County Bar Association with the Arthur B. Walsh, Jr. Pro Bon Publico Award. Elissa Heinrichs earned her bachelor's degree from Mount Holyoke College and her juris doctor from the University of Texas School of Law.

Margaret Love

Margaret Love practices law in Washington, D.C., specializing in executive clemency and restoration of rights, and sentencing and corrections policy. She has written and lectured widely on the collateral consequences of a criminal conviction, and is co-author of a forthcoming treatise COLLATERAL CONSEQUENCES OF CRIMINAL CONVICTION: LAW, POLICY AND PRACTICE (NACDL/West 2012). Ms. Love chaired the drafting committee for the ABA Standards on Collateral Sanctions and Discretionary Disqualification of Convicted Persons, served as ABA liaison to the Uniform Law Commission's Collateral Consequences project, and now directs the NIJ-funded ABA collateral consequences compilation effort. Before establishing her private practice in 1998, Ms. Love served in the U.S. Justice Department for twenty years, from 1978 to 1997, including as U.S. Pardon Attorney (1990-1997).

Penelope Strong

Penelope Strong is a lifelong criminal and civil rights practitioner, based in Billings, Montana, but with a Midwest upbringing and background.

With over 31 years of criminal justice experience, she has represented in both criminal and civil courts the disenfranchised and downtrodden of our society. Currently, Native Americans represent a large sector of her clients. She is the former chief public defender for Yellowstone County and was a first assistant public defender in Wisconsin. She has also litigated with the Montana ACLU and the National Prison Project in achieving prison reform in Montana.

Geneva Vanderhorst

Geneva Vanderhorst has her own criminal defense practice in Washington, D.C. Primarily, she represents persons accused of criminal offenses on the felony II, Accelerated Felony Trial, Mental Health Court, Domestic Violence Court, Community Court, Drug Court, Traffic and general misdemeanor calendars. Prior to opening her practice, she was a Judicial Law Clerk in D.C. Superior Court, a Dean Scholar Instructor at George Mason University School of Law (GMUSL) and a Howard T. Brooke Fellow in the Office of the Public Defender in Alexandria, VA.

Ms. Vanderhorst is a graduate of Old Dominion University, where she was named among the "Who's Who Among American College Students." She is a member of both the NACDL's Long-Range Planning Committee, since 2005, and is the current Chair of NACDL's Diversity Task Force. She also serves as Vice President of the D.C. Assoc. of Criminal Defense Lawyers and a board member of the Superior Court Trial Lawyers Association. She is also a former president of the Charlotte E. Ray American Inns of Court.

Christopher Wellborn

Christopher Wellborn, a longtime NACDL member, joins the Board as one of the four affiliate representatives. Chris practices in Rock Hill, S.C. He is a past president of the York County Bar Association and the South Carolina Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, an NACDL affiliate that he helped found. Chris has also served as chair of the Criminal Law Section of the South Carolina Bar Association.

Jenny Roberts (Reporter)

Jenny Roberts is a Professor of Law at American University, Washington College of Law and co-Director of the Criminal Justice Clinic. Her research focuses on the regulation of actors in the criminal justice system through constitutional law, statute, rules of professional responsibility, professional standards, and culture. Her articles have been cited by the U.S. Supreme Court, a number of state high courts and lower federal courts, and in numerous briefs to the Supreme Court and other courts. She is co-author of a forthcoming treatise, COLLATERAL CONSEQUENCES OF CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS: LAW, POLICY AND PRACTICE (NACDL/West 2012). Prof. Roberts is co-Vice President of the Clinical Legal Education Association, the nation's largest association of law teachers, and sits on the board of the Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project. She previously taught at Syracuse University and in NYU's Lawyering program. Prior to teaching, Prof. Roberts

was a Senior Research Fellow at NYU Law School's Center for Research in Crime & Justice, a public defender in Manhattan, and a law clerk in the Southern District of New York.