

Introduction to Issue Two

Each spring, the *Loyola University Chicago Law Journal* organizes a Symposium to stimulate awareness of and dialogue about burgeoning legal issues. On April 9, 2021, the *Law Journal* hosted its first virtual Symposium, “The Criminal Justice System in Review: Accountability, Reform & Policy,” to examine important challenges in our criminal justice system.

Esteemed panelists from across the spectrum of academia gathered to consider current and future policy disputes broken down into four categories within the modern-day criminal justice system: general police accountability; wrongful convictions, pleas, and sentencing; federal consent decrees; and qualified immunity. The panelists were joined by keynote speaker Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raul, who spoke on his own experiences working in the criminal justice system and emphasized the need for reform efforts to uplift law enforcement so that it can serve its purpose.

The first four articles in this issue were written by panelists who participated in last year’s Symposium. The first, by Professor Joshua Chanin, focuses on how the role the Department of Justice plays in reshaping law enforcement agency practices needs to proactively incorporate racial dialogue. The second article, by Professor Melanie Wilson, proposes the benefits of diversifying the office of the prosecutor and ways in which this can be achieved. Professor Teresa Ravenell is the author of the third article, which looks at the doctrine of qualified immunity and confronts the flaws in its foundations. The fourth Symposium article, written by Professor Colin Miller, addresses a criminal defendant’s right to autonomy and argues that it should include preventing their attorneys from making partial admissions on their behalf.

We are honored that an additional author, Judge Patrick Carroll, agreed to join Issue Two. Judge Carroll recently retired after dedicating over thirty years of service to the Lakewood Municipal Court in Cleveland, Ohio. He brings to this Issue his perspective on the rights and consequences of a third party who posts bail for a criminal defendant.

The *Law Journal* graciously thanks our panelists for their participation in the Symposium and for their contributions to these fruitful and important conversations. Finally, the *Law Journal* thanks everyone who made the Symposium a tremendous success, including Executive Editor for Conference Management Paxton Lozano, Loyola’s law school

administration, and the law faculty of Loyola, especially Professors John Dehn, Alan Raphael, Stephen Rushin, and Barry Sullivan for their work in assembling and moderating our dynamic panels.

I would like to express my own appreciation to the editor in chief, Editorial Board, and staff members of the *Law Journal* for their commitment and contributions; to the authors for entrusting us with the publication of their scholarship; and to you for reading.

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