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# CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM: NATIONAL LATINX STRATEGY WORKSHOP

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May 31, 2018



On May 31, 2018 LatinoJustice and the UCLA Latino Policy & Politics Initiative (LPPI) convened the first national Latinx conversation on Criminal Justice Reform at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. Over 50 scholars, practitioners, and advocates came together to share information and identify solutions on criminal justice issues. Participants identified the legal, policy, and cross-sectoral opportunities and challenges to address issues of mass incarceration, public safety, and over criminalization of Latinx in the U.S. through a series of break-out discussion groups, panel presentations, and a plenary discussion.

Following the half-day workshop, LatinoJustice and UCLA LPPI hosted a sneak preview of Carlos Sandoval's new documentary, *Bad Hombres: Latinx & the Criminal Justice System* along with a panel discussion on the film featuring Dr. Virginia Espino, Juan Cartagena, and Carlos Sandoval. The strategy workshop and film screening preceded a two-day community convening (June 1-2) of Latinx advocates and practitioners in Bakersfield, California sponsored by LatinoJustice PRLDEF and Faith in the Valley on the issue of police reform and Latinx officer-involved shootings.



# ORGANIZATIONAL MISSIONS

LatinoJustice and UCLA LPPI co-facilitated the national strategy workshop to initiate a cross-sector partnership. This partnership sought to amplify the needs of Latinx individuals across the criminal justice spectrum. In addition to the partnership between LatinoJustice and LPPI, co-conveners with expertise in advocacy, academia, and film played a pivotal role.

LatinoJustice works to create a more just society by using and challenging the rule of law to secure transformative, equitable, and accessible justice. It does so by empowering the Latinx community and by fostering leadership through advocacy and education.

UCLA LPPI is a comprehensive think tank that addresses the most critical domestic policy challenges facing communities of color in states and localities across the U.S. through research, advocacy, civic engagement, and leadership development.

*To learn more about LatinoJustice visit [www.latinojustice.org](http://www.latinojustice.org)*

*To learn more about UCLA Latino Policy & Politics Initiative visit [latino.ucla.edu](http://latino.ucla.edu)*

Over 50 individuals participated in the workshop, representing no less than three dozen organizations, with representatives from California, New York, Washington, Arizona, New Jersey, Washington, D.C. and beyond (See Appendix I: Workshop Participants). The goals and objectives of the workshop included:

**Goal 1:** To facilitate a cross-sector Latinx conversation on criminal justice.

- Engage Latinx-identifying attorneys, policy advocates, organizers, and academic researchers to discuss criminal justice.
- Initiate new partnerships between criminal justice community-based organizations, governmental bodies, research institutions, and national Latinx civil rights organizations.

**Goal 2:** To identify the challenges and opportunities faced by Latinx within the criminal justice space.

- Share research on the Latinx community and criminal justice, including Latinx public opinions, the school-to-prison pipeline, juvenile justice reform, and the collateral consequences of immigration status and criminal law.
- Discuss local, state, and national examples of effective practices around the Latinx community and criminal justice.

**Goal 3:** To produce a Latinx landscape scan on the criminal justice space from Latinx leaders.

- Identify and prioritize three key criminal justice areas/issues for the Latinx community.
- Assess how these priorities line up with a January 2018 national poll conducted with the Latinx community on criminal justice issues.



# WORKSHOP CRIMINAL JUSTICE PRIORITIES

Workshops served as spaces for participants to continue to educate and engage each other on the impact of the criminal justice system on the Latinx community. To move from education to action, participants identified between five to eight areas/issues of priority for each of the three breakout groups. The litigation breakout group identified five major issues including: data, language access, and public education. The legislation breakout group identified six issues including: resources available to systems-involved individuals, law enforcement divestment, the abolishment of private detention, and police accountability. The innovation breakout group identified eight issues including: crimmigration, public education, and data. All three breakouts identified the Latinx data gap as a priority. Two of the three breakout groups identified the following priorities:

1. Law Enforcement Divestment
2. Storytelling & Public Education
3. Crimmigration/ Immigration Reform
4. Language Access Issues

Based on these priorities, the workshop utilized findings from a national criminal justice poll, commissioned by LatinoJustice and conducted by Latino Decisions, of Latinx attitudes on a variety of reforms to guide the framing of these reforms with respect to Latinx communities.

# LITIGATION PRIORITIES



## Criminal Law & Civil Rights

- Close the Latino Data Gap: improve criminal justice data collection and reporting
- Culturally-tailored approaches to serve the Latinx population
- Provision of Language Access across criminal justice systems
- Storytelling & Public Education: integrating Latinx perspectives and narratives within criminal justice reform
- Bypassing politics to change law

# LEGISLATION PRIORITIES



## Local, State, & Federal CJR Policy Change

- Allocate Resources to Systems-involved people & communities
- Close the Latino Data Gap: Improve criminal justice data collection & reporting
- Divest from Law Enforcement
- Immigration Reform
- End Private Detention
- Police Accountability

# INNOVATION PRIORITIES



## Cross-Sector CJR Opportunities

- Storytelling & Public Education: Integrating Latinx perspectives & narratives within criminal justice reform
- Provision of Language Access across criminal justice systems
- Organizing culture focus vs. campaign culture
- Addressing the intersection of CJ systems
- Mapping of movement organizations working on criminal justice
- Divest from Law Enforcement
- Crimmigration
- Close the Latino Data Gap: Improve criminal justice data collection & reporting

# FINDINGS



Throughout the convening, participants were encouraged to brainstorm priorities for criminal justice reform that they identified within their respective fields. The breakout sessions provided a designated time to collaborate with others to address the needs of the Latinx community. Lectures and research presentations throughout the day gave participants additional exposure to potential reform priorities. As a result, a comprehensive list of recommendations was crafted. While many priorities were identified, the most pertinent reforms were made clear by the number of individuals and groups that prioritized them. These findings provide a scope of policy proposals that need to be addressed in order to reform the way the criminal justice system impacts the Latinx community and other minority groups.

During breakout sessions, the priority that arose in all three group sessions was the data gap in criminal justice reporting. This recurring concern demonstrated a clear need for an increase in data sharing and an increase in the quality of data made available. Institutions, such as police departments, should make data accessible and functional for all, in accordance with privacy laws. Educational institutions and research centers rely on such information to identify

the extent of the issue. Data sharing will reveal the extent of the magnitude of the Latinx criminal justice dilemma, which in turn can help shape necessary policy reform.

Law enforcement divestment was a priority raised in discussion for two out of three groups. Divesting from law enforcement and subsequently investing in community programs, education, and additional public funding serve as ways to financially advance the lives of the Latinx community. Often, the Latinx community is substantially underfunded, consequently leading them down the prison pipeline. By divesting from law enforcement, communities would signal that they value the betterment of their constituents.

Storytelling and public education are also crucial to criminal justice reform, especially within the Latinx community. Similar to investment in communities, information and story-sharing fosters cohesion and unity within the community. Educating individuals on their rights is central to creating well-informed communities that are able to interact with law enforcement in a knowledgeable way. Minority communities often lack the tools necessary to understand how to handle their interactions with the law. With increased public dialogue, they can learn how to navigate through such situations. However, the educational burden should not fall solely on the community. Law enforcement should also be educated on the communities they serve and become aware of the priorities and concerns of their respective communities. By being more in tune with the individuals they are meant to protect, law enforcement can improve their policing practices and cultural understanding.

Crimmigration and immigration reform is particularly crucial to the betterment of the Latinx community. Many Latinx individuals are negatively affected by their immigration status and as such, often encounter additional complications when confronted by law enforcement. Reform in these areas would reduce incarceration

frequencies for Latinx individuals and decrease the level of impact the criminal justice system has placed historically on the Latinx community as a whole. Such reform can take form in the closure of private detention centers, the reuniting of families and children, and the creation of humane ways to interact with immigrants.

Language access played a role in every policy priority outlined above. Over seventy percent of Latinos in the U.S. speak Spanish , and for many, it is their primary language. Those who only speak Spanish are often targeted at higher rates than others by police/law enforcement. Due to this occurrence, all information disseminated to the public must always be accessible in Spanish. Law enforcement should be trained in Spanish phrases so as to not create additional barriers between themselves and the communities they serve.



The workshop served as a starting point for further research and collaboration on Latinx criminal justice reform. Never before has a thorough discussion on all facets of the Latinx criminal justice dilemma taken place in one space. With this new collective understanding of criminal justice priorities, Latinx leaders have research partners to champion reform. The continuation of this dialogue has the potential to pave the way for further improvements and possesses the innate power to hold law enforcement accountable within the Latinx community and beyond.

This strategy workshop aided the articulation of priority areas for reform and a greater, comprehensive understanding of the issues that must be addressed within the Latinx criminal justice sphere. National Latinx leaders convened with data scientists to collaborate and provide their unique level of expertise to the discussion, bringing about a well-rounded set of recommendations to combat the issues at hand. The continuation of this network is critical to drive further research, reform, and change. External partnerships with elected officials and philanthropists are necessary to continue this work, including a follow-up convening and various research-practice partnerships to champion evidence-based policy reforms to decriminalize Latinos.

# Appendix I: Participants

- Alyssa Aguilera, Co-Executive Director of VOCAL-NY.
- Ivette Ale, Statewide Coordinator for CURB (Californians United for a Responsible Budget).
- Carlos Amador, Organizing Director for the California Immigrant Policy Center.
- Dr. Matt Barreto, Co-Founder of the UCLA LPPI.
- Dr. Joe Bishop, Director of the UCLA Center for School of Transformation.
- Juan Cartagena, President and General Counsel of LatinoJustice.
- Manuel Criollo, activist-in-residence at the UCLA Institute on Inequality and Democracy.
- Remy de la Peza, Director of National Initiatives of Root & Rebound.
- Mike de la Rocha, CEO of Revolve Impact.
- Sonja Diaz, Executive Director of UCLA LPPI.
- Sofia Espinoza, staff at UCLA LPPI.
- Nicholas Espiritu, staff Attorney at the National Immigration Law Center.
- Mark Gonzales, consultant.
- Frankie Guzman, Director of the National Center for Youth Law.
- Eunisses Hernandez, policy coordinator of the Drug Policy Alliance.
- Taty Hernandez, researcher at the UCLA Million Dollar Hoods Project.
- Kip Hustance, staff Attorney at MALDEF (Mexican American Legal Defense & Educational Fund)
- Daniel Johnson, law fellow of the UCLA Law Criminal Justice Program.
- Dr. Kelly Lytle-Hernandez, Faculty Director of the UCLA Bunche Center and the Founder of the Million Dollar Hoods Project.
- Danny Montes, Alliances Director of Californians for Safety & Justice.
- Reynaldo Ortiz-Garcia, assistant professor at Brooklyn College.
- Roxana Pardo Garcia, Community Engagement Supervisor at the Seattle Community Police Commission.
- Anthony Perez, Director of The Raben Group.
- Maritza Perez, Senior Policy Analyst at the Center for American Progress.
- Christiaan Perez, Director of Communications at LatinoJustice.
- Dr. Rosita Perez, Director of Education & Constituent Services at the NALEO Educational Fund.
- Marcia Rincon-Gallardo, Co-Founder of National Alianza for Latino Youth Justice & NOXTIN.

- Anthony Robles, staff at Youth Justice Coalition.
- Dr. Michael Rodriguez, professor at the UCLA Geffen School of Medicine.
- Isaac Ruiz, Commission Co-Chair of the Seattle Community Police Commission.
- Jeronimo Saldana, Co-Director of the Criminal Justice Reform Collaborative of LatinoJustice.
- Carlos Sandoval, filmmaker of CaminoBluff.
- Jessica Sandoval, National Campaign Strategist at the ACLU National Prison Project.
- Dr. Xuan Santos, professor at the California State University, San Marcos.
- Dr. Gary Segura, Co-Founder of UCLA LPPI and the Dean of the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs.
- Sergio Serna, Social Welfare faculty at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs.
- Lex Stepling, Lead National Organizer of Just Leadership USA.
- Marisabel Torres, Senior Policy Analyst of UnidosUS.
- Nathalia Varela, law fellow at LatinoJustice.
- Dr. Edward Vargas, assistant professor at Arizona State University.
- Joseph Villegas, Policy Director of CHIRLA.
- Alicia Virani, Deputy Director at the UCLA Law Criminal Justice Program.
- Dr. Hannah Walker, assistant professor at Rutgers University.

# Appendix II: Workshop Agenda

## Criminal Justice Reform: National Latinx Strategy Workshop

May 31, 2018 | UCLA

### Agenda

12:15 pm

Welcome & Introductions

Dean Gary Segura, LPPI Co-Founder

12:35-1:20 pm

Working Lunch: Latinx & 21st  
Criminal Justice Reform

Dr. Matt A. Barreto, LPPI Co-Founder  
Juan Cartagena, LatinoJustice PRLDEF  
Moderator: Sonja Diaz, LPPI  
Executive Director

1:20-2:00 pm

Breakout Activity 1

LITIGATION: Nathalia Vareda, LatinoJustice  
PRLDEF

LEGISLATION: Maritza Perez, Center for  
American Progress

INNOVATION: Mike de la Rocha, Revolve Impact

### **2:00-2:10 pm: Break**

2:10-2:50 pm

Workshop: Crimmigration

Dr. Kelly Lytle-Hernandez, UCLA Million Dollar  
Hoods & Bunche Center  
Q & A with Dr. Hannah Walker, Rutgers

2:55-3:35 pm

Workshop: School to Prison

Dr. Joseph Bishop, UCLA Center for the  
Transformation of Schools

Manuel Criollo, UCLA Institute on  
Inequality & Democracy

### **3:35-3:45 pm: Break**

3:45-4:30 pm

Workshop: Culturally Tailored  
Latinx Approaches Criminal Justice

Marcia Rincon-Gallardo, NOXTIN: Equal Justice  
for All

Frankie Guzman, National Center for Youth Law  
Moderator: Sergio Serna, UCLA Luskin

4:30-5:15 pm

Breakout Activity II

Dr. Edward Vargas, Arizona State University

5:15-5:30 pm

Closing Remarks & Next Steps

Sonja Diaz, LPPI

Juan Cartagena, LatinoJustice PRLDEF

# Appendix III: Speaker Biographies

## Dr. Matt A. Barreto, LPPI Faculty Co-Founder



Matt Barreto is a professor of political science and Chicana/o studies at UCLA. Barreto came to UCLA in 2015 after serving as a professor of political science at the University of Washington, Seattle, and director of the Washington Institute for the Study of Ethnicity and Race. He holds a Ph.D. in political science from UC Irvine. His research examines the political participation of racial and ethnic minorities in the U.S., and he has taught various courses on racial and ethnic politics, the Voting Rights Act, elections, statistics, and American politics. Barreto has published nearly 50 peer-reviewed research articles, chapters and books that examine the Latino

public opinion, voting behavior, and racial politics in America. His books include “Ethnic Cues: The Role of Shared Ethnicity in Latino Political Behavior” (University of Michigan Press), “Change They Can’t Believe In: The Tea Party and Reactionary Politics in America” (Princeton University Press), and “Latino America: How America’s Most Dynamic Population Is Poised to Transform the Politics of the Nation” (Public Affairs).

## Dr. Joseph Bishop, Director Center for the Transformation of Schools



Dr. Joseph Bishop is Director of the Center for the Transformation of Schools (CTS) at UCLA. Before UCLA, Bishop was a senior policy advisor with the Learning Policy Institute. Bishop oversaw the organization’s school resourcing portfolio and supported state efforts to address teaching shortages and build quality early care and education systems. Bishop has held a number of national and state education leadership positions including Director of Policy

with the National Opportunity to Learn Campaign; Executive Director of Opportunity Action; founding co-chair of the Coalition for Teaching Quality, a 100 plus national membership group; Director of Strategic Initiatives with the Partnership for 21st Century Learning; Director of Education for the National Association of Latino Elected & Appointed Officials Educational Fund and was formerly a governor-appointed member of the California Postsecondary Education Commission. Bishop has a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership, Policy and Organizations from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

## Juan Cartagena, LatinoJustice PRLDEF



Juan Cartagena is one of the nation's leading voices on equality and nondiscrimination who has successfully used the law to effectuate systems change for the benefit of marginalized communities. Cartagena is currently the President and General Counsel of LatinoJustice PRLDEF, a national civil rights public interest law office that represents Latinas and Latinos throughout the country and works to increase their entry into the legal profession. He is a constitutional and civil rights attorney who has vast

experience litigating cases on behalf of Latino and African American communities. He formerly served as General Counsel and Vice President for Advocacy at the Community Service Society of New York. At CSS he also directed the Mass Imprisonment & Reentry Initiative which focuses on the effects these policies have on poor and minority communities. From 1990 to 1991 he worked at the government of Puerto Rico's Department of Puerto Rican Community Affairs in the United States where he served as Legal Director. Mr. Cartagena is a former Municipal Court Judge in

Hoboken, NJ and served as General Counsel to the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey. A graduate of Dartmouth College and Columbia University School of Law, Mr. Cartagena lectures on constitutional and civil rights issues at Rutgers University in New Brunswick and the Interamerican University Law School in San Juan.

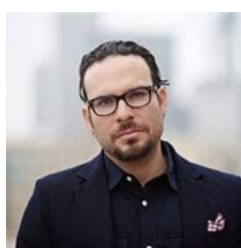
### **Manuel Criollo, UCLA Activist in Residence**



Manuel Criollo, an activist and community organizer with over 20 years of experience in Los Angeles County, has been on the community frontlines building and leading the Bus Riders Union at the Labor/Community Strategy Center. Over the past 10 years, Criollo has led campaigns to end punitive school discipline and criminalization policies and practices in Los Angeles public schools. Through member and leader education, Criollo has recruited hundreds of working class grassroots leaders. His organizing

work has led to the a 95% reduction of citations and tickets to students for minor offenses during the 2015-2016 academic school year. Criollo says, "I want to focus on consolidating, disseminating and expanding our understanding of the punishment, security and policing apparatuses in LA schools and school policing broadly." During his residency Criollo plans to not only to research and document the formation of the Los Angeles School Police Department, but also to create a timeline of community struggles against school policing and organize an organizers' exchange on UCLA's campus.

### **Mike De La Rocha, Revolve Impact**



Mike de la Rocha is a strategist, musician, and one of the most effective change makers of our generation. As Founder of Revolve Impact (an award-winning social action company), he has co-orchestrated several of the largest policy victories and cultural shifts of the last 30 years. Highlights include founding Artists for 47, a coalition assembled to pass California's historic Proposition 47 that has impacted more than 1 million people and led to the largest record change effort in U.S. history, launching the Justice Policy

Network, the country's first bi-coastal fellowship focused on increasing the number of leaders in government advancing a new safety agenda, and producing #SchoolsNotPrisons, an engagement strategy for communities most impacted by mass incarceration. Mike's impact portfolio includes serving as Director of Strategic Partnerships for Californians for Safety and Justice, Legislative Deputy for (future Congressman) Tony Cárdenas, and Policy Advisor for the L.A. Human Relations Commission. His work in utilizing music for social change spans four continents where he has worked alongside notable cultural icons such as Harry Belafonte, Dolores Huerta, and John Legend.

### **Sonja Diaz, Esq. LPPI Executive Director**



Sonja Diaz is a practicing civil rights attorney and policy adviser. Sonja served as policy counsel to U.S. Sen. Kamala D. Harris during her first and second terms as California's attorney general, managing legal and policy issues of statewide and national importance, including civil rights, consumer protection, criminal justice, immigration, and privacy and technology policy. Most recently, Diaz directed a robust voter protection program in Virginia, including an election monitoring program for language minorities. Diaz has also managed domestic policy portfolios at three California nonprofits, clerked in the White House's Domestic Policy Council, and supported litigation efforts at MALDEF, the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, and California's Bureau of Children's Justice. As an undergraduate, Diaz was awarded two Getty Foundation Multicultural Undergraduate Internships to work at art and cultural institutions in Los Angeles County. Diaz received her J.D. from UC Berkeley's School of Law, holds a M.P.P. from UCLA Luskin, and a B.A. in politics from UC Santa Cruz.

### **Dr. Virginia Espino, UCLA Lecturer, Department of Chicana/o Studies**



Virginia is a native daughter of California, born and raised in northeastern Los Angeles. She is an oral and public historian whose research focuses on health activism, motherhood and the varied uses of public space. She earned her PhD from Arizona State University writing about population control politics and reproductive injustice during the 1970s. As the Series Leader for Latina and Latino History at UCLA's Center for Oral History Research she developed history projects around civil rights struggles that document the role of the California Latina/o community in creating social change and make up an invaluable archival collection accessible to scholars and the public at large. Her research has been published in the Chicano Studies Journal, *Aztlán*. Her investigation of the history of coercive sterilization at the Los Angeles-USC Medical Center provided the impetus for the documentary film, *No Más Bebés/No More Babies*, for which she is a Producer and Lead Historian.

### **Francisco Guzman, Director, California Youth Justice Initiative, National Center for Youth Law**



Attorney Francis ("Frankie") V. Guzman is a juvenile justice attorney at the National Center for Youth Law. He is working to eliminate the practice of prosecuting and incarcerating children in California's adult criminal justice system and advocates for alternative sentencing and local treatment for youth charged with serious offenses statewide. Raised in a poor, mostly immigrant community plagued by crime and drugs, Guzman experienced his parents' divorce and his family's subsequent homelessness at age 3, the life-imprisonment of his 16-year-old brother at age 5, and lost numerous friends to violence. At age 15, he was arrested for armed robbery and, on his first offense, was sentenced to serve 15 years in the California Youth Authority. Released on parole after six years, Frankie attended law school and became an expert in juvenile law and policy with a focus on ending the prosecution of youth as adults. Through partnerships with community organizations and advocacy groups, Guzman has helped lead the effort to reduce the number of youth prosecuted as adults and serving time in adult prisons. Recent successes include SB 260 (2013) & SB 261 (2015) Youth Offender Parole Hearings, and SB 382 (2015) Juvenile Fitness Hearings. Even more recently, Guzman played a significant role in developing the youth justice portion of the Public Safety and Rehabilitation Act of 2016 in partnership with the Office of California Gov. Jerry Brown.

### **Dr. Kelly Lytle Hernandez, Professor of History & African American Studies**



Kelly Lytle Hernandez is a Professor of History and African American Studies at UCLA. She is also the Interim Director of the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA. One of the nation's leading experts on race, immigration, and mass incarceration, she is the author of the award-winning book, *Migra! A History of the U.S. Border Patrol* (University of California Press, 2010), and *City of Inmates: Conquest, Rebellion, and the Rise of Human Caging in Los Angeles* (University of North Carolina Press, 2017). Currently, Professor

Lytle Hernandez is the research lead for the Million Dollar Hoods project, which maps how much is spent on incarceration per neighborhood in Los Angeles County.

### **Maritza Perez, Center for American Progress**



Maritza Perez is the senior policy analyst for Criminal Justice Reform at American Progress. Prior to joining American Progress, Perez was a legislative staff attorney at the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF) in Washington, D.C. She started her legal career at MALDEF as a Soros justice fellow, advocating for policies to end mass incarceration and the

disproportionate representation of Latinos in the criminal legal system. Her portfolio at MALDEF expanded to include employment law, immigration policy, education rights, and judicial nominations. Perez earned her J.D. at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law and her B.A. at the University of Nevada, Reno. She is originally from Elko, Nevada.

### **Marcia Rincon-Gallardo, Founder and Executive Director of NOXTIN**



Marcia Rincon-Gallardo MSW is founder and executive director of NOXTIN: Equal Justice for All. NOXTIN provides training, technical assistance, and consultation nationally on reducing racial and ethnic disparities of Chicana/Latinx youth in the juvenile justice system. NOXTIN partners with the National Girls Initiative, Annie E. Casey Foundation, and the Burns Institute to bring transformational change by being healing informed, community and system centered in its approach. Marcia also co-founded

the National Alianza for Latino Youth Justice (NALYJ), a coalition comprised of Latino/a Youth Justice leaders including practitioners, advocates, elders, scholars and youth working to improve the quality of life for Latino families and communities impacted by the youth justice system.

### **Dean Gary M. Segura, LPPI Faculty Co-Founder**



Gary Segura is dean of the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, which sits at the convergence of the fields of social work, urban planning, and policymaking. Prior to being appointed dean in January 2017, Segura served as the Morris M. Doyle Centennial Professor of Public Policy and director of the Center for American Democracy and the Institute on the Politics of Inequality, Race and Ethnicity at Stanford University. Segura received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois and was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2010. His research focuses on issues of political representation and social cleavages, the domestic

politics of wartime public opinion, and the politics of America's growing Latino minority. Dean Segura has published more than 55 articles and chapters, co-authored four books, and is a co-editor of "Diversity in Democracy: Minority Representation in the U.S." His research has been published in the most prestigious disciplinary outlets, including the American Political Science Review, the American Journal of Political Science, and the Journal of Politics. Segura's most recent book publications include "The Future is Ours: Minority Politics, Political Behavior and the Multiracial Era of American Politics" (Congressional Quarterly Press), "Latinos in the New Millennium: An Almanac of Opinion, Behavior, and Policy Preferences" (Cambridge University Press), and "Latino America: How America's Most Dynamic Population Is Poised to Transform the Politics of the Nation" (Public Affairs). Segura has briefed members of both the U.S. House and Senate as well as senior White House officials and appeared on NPR, the News Hour, Frontline, the CBS Evening News, MSNBC, and numerous other outlets.

### **Nathalia Alejandra Varela, LatinoJustice**

Nathalia is a Legal Fellow at LatinoJustice PRLDEF, focusing on low-wage Latino workers as part of the Latinas @ Work (L@W) Project Initiative in Nassau County, Long Island, NY. Prior to joining LatinoJustice PRLDEF, Nathalia worked as a staff attorney with the Tenants' Rights Coalition at Bronx Legal Services focusing on eviction defense and tenants' rights. Nathalia graduated from CUNY School of Law in 2015. As a third-year law student Nathalia interned with LatinoJustice where her research and writing contributed to a ground breaking decision holding that DACA recipients are eligible for admission to the New York State Bar.

### **Edward Vargas, Arizona State University**



Edward D. Vargas obtained his Ph.D. in Public Affairs from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University. His research interests include the effects of poverty and inequality on the quality of life, focusing specifically on health, education, and social policy, and how these factors contribute to the well-being of vulnerable families. In particular, he is examining the effects of immigration policy and deportations on health, health hardships on the well-being of Latino/a families. His research interests include the effects of

poverty and inequality on the quality of life, focusing specifically on health, education, and social policy, and how these factors contribute to the well-being of vulnerable families. He also investigates the methodological issues involved in the quantitative study of race and ethnicity.

### **Hannah L. Walker, Rutgers**



Dr. Hannah Walker is an assistant professor of Political Science and Criminal Justice at Rutgers University. Her research examines the impact of the criminal justice system on American democracy with special attention to minority and immigrant communities. Previously, she served as a post doctoral fellow with the Prisons and Justice Initiative at Georgetown University, and received her PhD in June, 2016 from the

University of Washington. Her current book project, "Mobilized by Injustice: Criminal Justice Contact, Political Incorporation and Race," explores the impact of experiences with the criminal justice system on political engagement.