

MICHAEL S. ROMANO



EXPERIENCE

STANFORD LAW SCHOOL

Stanford, CA

Director & Co-Founder, Stanford Three Strikes Project & Criminal Defense Clinic | 2006 – present

www.threestrikesproject.org

- Founding director of the Stanford Criminal Defense Clinic (now Three Strikes Project).
- Developed and teach clinic-style curriculum in criminal defense practice and public policy reform, primarily focusing on sentencing reform and non-capital, post-conviction litigation in state and federal courts. Course includes seminar on criminal justice policy reform research and advocacy, history of criminal sentencing, related constitutional doctrine, and advanced litigation strategies and skills. (Overall teaching evaluations: 4.9/5.0.)
- Policy reform projects include local, state and federal initiatives including drafting and implementing successful statewide ballot measures.
- Partnerships with outside organizations and government entities include: NAACP Legal Defense Fund (2011-present) (general policy development); Office of White House Counsel (2014-16) (executive clemency initiative); San Francisco District Attorney (2015-16) (officer involved shootings); Los Angeles District Attorney (2011-12 (three strikes reform).

RIORDAN & HORGAN, LLP

San Francisco, CA

Of counsel | 2004 – 2016

www.riordan-horgan.com

- Co-counsel in numerous criminal and civil rights appeals and post-conviction cases.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

Seattle, WA

Law Clerk to Judge Richard C. Tallman | 2003 – 2004

THE INNOCENCE PROJECT

New York, NY

Researcher | 2000 – 2001

www.innocenceproject.org

- Drafted articles and legal briefs involving federal civil rights claims to potentially exculpatory DNA evidence.

JOURNALIST

Seattle, WA

1994 – 1997

- Staff writer at *Seattle Weekly*. Also wrote feature news stories on politics, technology, and pop culture for *The New York Times*, *U.S. News & World Report*, and *Wired* among others.

EDUCATION

Stanford Law School, J.D. with honors (2003)

Yale Law School, M.S.L., Knight Journalism Fellow (1999-2000)

Wesleyan University, B.A. (1994)

Oxford University, St. Edmund Hall, visiting student in philosophy (1993)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Lessons from California on Prison and Jail Downsizing (chapter), *DECARCERATING AMERICA: FROM PUNISHMENT TO PUBLIC HEALTH*, New Press (ed. E. Drucker) (2018)

Justice That Heals: Promoting Behavioral Health, Safeguarding the Public, and Ending Overreliance on Jails, Whitepaper: Stanford Law School & S.F. Dist. Attorney (2016) (with C. Haney, J. Johnson, and K. Lacey)

A Different Kind Of Sentencing Commission: A “Smart” Solution For California And A Model For Prison Downsizing Across The Country, 2 *STAN. J. CRIM. LAW & POL.* 44 (2015)

When Did Prisons Become Acceptable Mental Healthcare Facilities?, Stanford Three Strikes Project & NAACP LDF (2014) (with D. Mills, D. Steinberg)

The Passage and Implementation of the Three Strikes Reform Act of 2012, 25 *FED. SENTENCING REPORTER* 265, Univ. of California Press (2013) (with D. Mills)

Divining the Sprit of California’s Three Strikes Law, 22 *FED. SENTENCING REPORTER* 171 Univ. of California Press (2010)

Striking Back: Using Death Penalty Cases to Fight Disproportionate Sentences Imposed Under California’s Three Strikes Law, 21 *STAN. LAW & POL. REV.* 311 (2010)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & TESTIMONY

Race and Criminal Justice Reform in California, California State Black Legislative Caucus, “State of Black California 2019,” Feb. 27, 2019.

Criminal Justice Reform, Regulations, and Implementation of Proposition 57 (testimony), Joint Hearing before the California Senate Committee on Public Safety and Assembly Committee on Public Safety, Aug. 22, 2017.

Sentencing Reform and Offenders Confided in State Hospitals (testimony), Cal. Senate Committee on Public Safety, Mar. 21, 2017.

Disrupting the Cycle: National Prosecutors’ Reentry Roundtable, New York Univ. Law School, Dec. 3, 2016.

Role of the University in the Era of Mass Incarceration (keynote), Wesleyan Univ., Oct. 14, 2016.

Mental Health Challenges to the Criminal Justice System, Stanford Medical School, Sept. 26, 2016.

Stanford Journal of Criminal Law and Policy Symposium: Conviction Integrity Units (moderator), Stanford Law School, Apr. 22, 2016.

Federal Clemency: What's Next?, Columbus School of Law, Catholic Univ., Apr. 1, 2016.

Life After Executive Clemency Symposium (panelist), The White House, Mar. 31, 2016.

White House Principals Briefing: Long Prison Sentences and Successful Reentry, The White House, Jun. 23, 2015.

California Criminal Justice Reform and Proposed Sentencing Commission, Office of the Governor of California, Nov. 24, 2015.

Presidential Commutations and a New Paradigm for Prisoner Re-entry, Univ. of Chicago Law School, Nov. 17, 2015.

The Role of Academics and Research in Legislative Reform and Community Engagement, Univ. of California Criminal Justice and Health Consortium, Nov. 12, 2014.

A Sustainable Model for Prison Downsizing in The Era Of Mass Incarceration, Univ. of San Francisco Law School, Apr. 15, 2015.

Recidivism, Reentry, and Next Frontier of Criminal Justice Reform, Criminal Courts Bar Association, Apr. 11, 2015.

As Goes California, So Goes the Nation? The Impact of California's Recent Prison Reform Initiatives (panelist), Stanford Law School, Nov. 18, 2014.

Mass Incarceration, Criminal Justice Reform Ballot Measure Movements, and Mental Illness, Stanford University Public Policy Graduate Colloquium, Nov. 6, 2014.

Categorical Approach and Defining Crimes of Violence Roundtable, United States Sentencing Commission, Oct. 15, 2014.

Social Justice, Incarceration and Reentry: New Directions for a Better Way (moderator and panelist), Milken Global Institute, Apr. 28, 2014.

Reversing the Effects of Mass Incarceration Symposium, Univ. of Washington Law School (panelist), Apr. 29, 2014.

Three Strikes and Innocence, Univ. of Loyola Law School, Apr. 16, 2014.

Three Strikes Reform: Implementation and Adjudication, Stanford Law School, May 2, 2013.

Enacting and Implementing California Sentencing Reform, California Public Defenders Association, New Statutes Seminar, Feb. 2, 2013.

Reform Through Individual Narrative (panelist), NAACP Legal Defense Fund Arlie Civil Rights Symposium, Oct. 12, 2012.

Enacting Criminal Justice Reform in California, Berkeley Law School, Nov. 20, 2012.

Three Strikes Law: Past Present and Future (panelist), Stanford Law School, Feb. 28, 2012.

Criminal Justice Reform and the Media (panelist), Yale Law School, Apr. 28, 2010.

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS & BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

Western Society of Criminology, Founders Award (2016)

Criminal Courts Bar Association, President's Award (2015)

American Constitution Society, Justice Honoree (2014)

Daily Journal, Top 100 Lawyers in California (2009)

Stanford Law School, Criminal Justice Fellow (2004)

Yale Law School, Knight Fellowship for Journalists (1999-2000)

Anti-Recidivism Coalition, board of directors (2013-present)