Current Developments in Criminal Law
February 18, 2022 / 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Cosponsored by the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Government
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The North Carolina Office of Indigent Defense Services

Six School of Government experts will discuss recent developments in criminal law that they have been studying. The webinar includes a dynamic visual presentation, live audio, and interactive Q & A session. Additional information about the webinar is located at https://www.sog.unc.edu/courses/criminal-law-webinars-case-and-legislative-updates

CLE Credit: 1.50 Hours of General CLE Credit

SPEAKERS

John Rubin, Albert Coates Professor of Public Law & Government
John Rubin joined the School of Government in 1991, where he specializes in criminal law and indigent defense education. He has written several books, articles, and other resources on criminal law, including a book on The Law of Self-Defense in North Carolina and a guide to Relief from a Criminal Conviction, among other publications. He is also the editor of a seven-volume practice manual series on indigent defense. He regularly teaches and consults with judges, magistrates, prosecutors, public defenders, and other criminal justice officials. In 2004, John created the Indigent Defense Education program at the School of Government, supported by contract revenue, grants, registration fees and sales, and fundraising.

As director of the program, he oversees the work of several lawyers and professional employees who develop and deliver a curriculum of annual training programs, a library of reference materials, online educational offerings, and consultation services. He helped establish and continues as a consultant to the North Carolina Office of Indigent Defense Services, the statewide agency responsible for overseeing and enhancing legal representation for indigent defendants and others entitled to counsel under North Carolina law. In 2008, John was awarded a two-year distinguished professorship for faculty excellence. In 2012, he was named Albert Coates Distinguished Professor of Public Law and Government. In Fall 2018, he served as the faculty director for UNC’s honors study abroad program in London, and he teaches an honors undergraduate seminar on criminal law and justice at UNC. Before joining the School, John practiced law for nine years in Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles, California. He earned a J.D. from UNC–Chapel Hill in 1982 and a B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley in 1978.

Phil Dixon, Jr., Defender Educator, Public Defense Education
Phil Dixon joined the School of Government in 2017. Previously he worked for eight years as an attorney in Pitt and surrounding eastern North Carolina counties, focusing primarily on criminal defense and related matters. Dixon served as assigned counsel to indigent clients throughout his career and represented adult and juvenile clients charged with all types of crimes at the trial level. He earned a BA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a JD with highest honors from North Carolina Central University. He works with the public defense education group at the School to provide training and consultation to public defenders and defense lawyers, as well as to research and write about criminal law issues.
Jacqui Greene, Assistant Professor of Public Law and Government
Jacquelyn "Jacqui" Greene joined the UNC School of Government’s legal faculty in 2018 to focus on juvenile justice. She teaches, advises, and writes about juvenile law as it relates to the juvenile justice system. She authored the Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Act Implementation Guide in 2019 and trained juvenile justice stakeholders across North Carolina in this new law that raised the age of juvenile court jurisdiction. Before coming to the School, she provided national training and technical assistance on the intersection of juvenile justice, schools, and mental health. She came to that work following 15 years of New York State government service in juvenile justice, including as the Executive Director of the Governor’s Commission on Youth, Public Safety, and Justice; and as Director of Juvenile Justice Policy at the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services. Her work included shaping New York State’s “Close to Home” juvenile justice reform initiative, designing fiscal incentives to foster the use of community-based services when appropriate, providing technical assistance to school–justice partnerships, and coordinating reentry system improvement planning. She also directly represented children in family court matters, beginning her legal career providing legal services to runaway and homeless youth and continuing to represent young people in a range of Family Court matters in New York State. Greene holds a bachelor’s degree in psychology and political science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a law degree from Harvard Law School.

Jamie Markham, Thomas Willis Lambeth Distinguished Chair in Public Policy
Jamie Markham joined the School of Government faculty in 2007. His area of interest is criminal law and procedure, with a focus on the law of sentencing, corrections, and the conditions of confinement. He was named Albert and Gladys Coates Distinguished Term Associate Professor for 2015–2017. Markham earned a bachelor's degree with honors from Harvard College and a law degree with high honors, Order of the Coif, from Duke University, where he was editor-in-chief of the Duke Law Journal. He is a member of the North Carolina Bar. Prior to law school, Markham served five years in the United States Air Force as an intelligence officer and foreign area officer.

Brittany Williams, Assistant Professor of Public Law and Government
Brittany Williams joined the School of Government in July 2020. Prior to joining the School, she received her JD from the North Carolina Central University School of Law (summa cum laude), where she served as the Notes and Comments Editor for the North Carolina Central Law Review. Brittany is a member of the North Carolina State Bar.

Jeffrey Welty, Professor of Public Law and Government
Welty joined the School of Government in 2008 and works in the area of criminal law and procedure. His research interests include search and seizure, digital evidence, criminal pleadings, capital punishment, and firearms law. He served as the director of the North Carolina Judicial College, which provides training and education to the state’s judicial officials.

Welty founded and contributes regularly to the North Carolina Criminal Law Blog, an award-winning resource visited by approximately 100,000 users each month. He has written for, appeared on, or been quoted in the New York Times, the Washington Post, TIME, Newsweek, National Public Radio, Bloomberg News, Lawyers’ Weekly, the Raleigh News and Observer, and many other media outlets. His books about capital punishment and digital evidence are widely used legal references.