

Agenda for the A2J Summit

October 2, 2018

Introduction

Thank you for joining in this A2J Summit. Through conversation among participants with diverse backgrounds and perspectives, we aim to provoke and elicit your best ideas about how to support and grow the access to justice movement with the ultimate objective to serve individuals and communities that have the most at stake in civil and criminal justice. To structure the discussion, we have posed a series of important questions facing the community as a step toward developing “manifestos” (i.e. vision statements) for the access to justice movement (in the morning), to be turned into “action plans” (in the afternoon). We invite you to be as modest or ambitious, pragmatic or idealistic, accommodating or uncompromising, as you are moved to be. We recognize that if movements actually had manifestos and action plans, they could not be developed in this manner. But we are confident you will find the exercise interesting, and that valuable insights and ideas will emerge. We will capture the discussion and use it as a springboard to move forward during the day and following the Summit. We hope you will find this guidance useful, but the day belongs to you and its success is in your hands.

Activities

8:30-9:00 **Breakfast available**

9:00-9:10 **Vision (Jonathan Lippman)**

9:10-9:20 **Welcome (Matthew Diller)**

9:20-10:00 **Landscape Snapshots (David Udell)**

1. **Katherine Altener** - Self-Represented Litigation Network
2. **Martha Bergmark** - Voices for Civil Justice
3. **Jennifer Ching** - North Star Fund
4. **Mark O’Brien** - Pro Bono Net
5. **John Pollock** - National Coalition for a Civil Right to Counsel
6. **Becky Sandefur** - American Bar Foundation & University of Illinois
7. **Jim Sandman** - Legal Services Corporation
8. **Blake Strode** - Arch City Defenders
9. **Jo-Ann Wallace** - National Legal Aid & Defender Association

Agenda for the A2J Summit

October 2, 2018

10:00-11:30 **Manifesto Creation** – In a facilitated conversation using the template provided, outline the group’s vision for the AtJ Movement, identifying the goals envisioned and designating the policies and practices that need to change. Please consider the following questions:

- 1. To what extent should the AtJ movement pursue specific goals, and the reform of specific policies and practices?** Should the AtJ movement pursue process reforms (emphasizing access), substantive reforms (emphasizing justice), or something different, and to what extent do these interrelate?
- 2. To what extent should the AtJ movement pursue incremental change, as distinct from deeper changes in the infrastructure of justice?** If improving the current system risks embracing its flaws, how would you pursue structural changes to assure access to justice and justice?
- 3. To what extent should the AtJ movement relate to other movements?** Is there more that the AtJ movement should be doing to offer value to, or to draw value from, movements for racial justice, gender justice, poverty reduction, immigrant justice, and other social justice goals?
- 4. To what extent should the manifesto inform and relate to communities that pursue AtJ in single practice areas?** What is gained and lost if we commit ourselves to expanding AtJ in one (or more) specific areas of law, such as preserving homes, defending savings, or unifying families ?
- 5. To what extent should, or must, the AtJ movement address the civil-criminal connections?** Does the AtJ movement envision changing how civil legal problems push people into jails and prisons, and vice versa, or see useful ways to link the civil and criminal justice reform movements?

11:30-11:45 **Break**

11:45-12:30 **The Criminal Justice & Immigrant Rights Movements (David Udell)**

- **Robert Rooks** - Vice President, Alliance for Safety & Justice;
Co-director, Californians for Safety & Justice
- **Frank Sharry** - Founder and Executive Director, America’s Voice and
America’s Voice Education Fund

Agenda for the A2J Summit

October 2, 2018

12:30-1:30 **Lunch**

1:30-3:00 **Action Plan Creation** – What are the key elements of your group’s action plan? Using your manifesto and the template provided, outline why and how your working group can and will achieve its goals, policies and practices. Please consider the following questions:

1. **What is your strategy for achieving success?**
 - Which decision-makers will you target to achieve your goals?
 - What issues will they decide?
 - Who can influence them?
 - How can they be influenced?
 - When can they be influenced?

2. **To what extent, does the AtJ community possess or lack the skills and capacities needed to accomplish your goals?**
 - Litigation
 - Communications
 - Organizing
 - Lobbying
 - Scholarship
 - Data, research & indexing
 - Technology
 - Leadership & infrastructure
 - Funding

3. **To what extent, will your action plan be able to engage the relevant stakeholders, and what steps are needed to succeed in doing so?**
 - Individuals with the greatest stake in the outcome
 - Communities and their leaders
 - Judiciary
 - Activists pursuing related, but different, goals
 - Institutions and reformers in government
 - Institutions and reformers in the global AtJ movement
 - Private bar
 - Business community

Agenda for the A2J Summit

October 2, 2018

4. **To what extent, will your action plan seek to rely on technological innovation?**
 - locating individuals with unmet needs
 - offering navigational assistance
 - providing advice, and learning whether it is executed and effective
 - providing interpreting and translating
 - automating assistance to help draft and file pleadings
 - facilitating alternative dispute resolution
 - recommending decisions in cases

5. **To what extent, will your action plan look to law schools for support, and, also, can law schools achieve their academic objectives by participating in the movement?**
 - Students
 - Faculty
 - Staff

6. **What new projects, large or small, would you guide philanthropy to support to advance your work plan and the AtJ movement?**

3:00-3:15 **Break**

3:15-4:30 **Manifesto & Action Plan Discussion (Lauren Sudeall)**

4:30-4:45 **Reflections on the Day, Envisioning the Future (Matthew Diller)**