

Past Harms Present Remedies



Law Enforcement and Families Affected by Historical Police Violence in Conversation

Loyola University College of Law

Gillis Long Poverty Law Center
540 Broadway, Room 320
New Orleans

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Northeastern University School of Law's Civil Rights and Restorative Justice Project (CRRJ) investigates racial violence committed in the South between 1930 and 1970. Working with descendants of victims, their communities and the justice system, CRRJ has amassed documents for close to 1,000 cases. In hundreds of those cases, police officers were responsible for the deaths. In all but a few of these cases, the police officers were not prosecuted and the departments imposed no discipline. Civil remedies were rare, and the families did not experience justice.

CRRJ works with families to preserve the history of these cases and to create projects that acknowledge the need for accountability, repair and social transformation. By bringing justice to the past, we can lay the groundwork for seeking justice today.

Saturday, October 20, 2018

This convening will focus on the loved ones of those killed by law enforcement from 1930 to 1955 in the four states with the highest concentration of killings: Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Mississippi. We will examine a history that was close to erasure and discuss methods for reparations. Together with police chiefs, we will examine actions necessary to acknowledge the lives lost, incidents of violence, injustices of failed investigations, sham legal proceedings and lenient sentences.

PANELISTS



Margaret Burnham

University Distinguished Professor of Law, Northeastern University School of Law

Margaret Burnham is founder and director of CRRJ. In 2016, she received a Carnegie Fellowship to support her research and investigations related to mid-century racial violence in the South.



Louis Dekmar

Chief of Police, La Grange Police Department

Louis Dekmar issued an apology to the family of Austin Callaway, who was taken from police custody in LaGrange and lynched on September 8, 1940. Chief Dekmar is president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.



Andrea Armstrong

Professor of Law, Loyola University College of Law

Andrea Armstrong's research interests involve examining the prison system and conditions of incarceration, international human rights and regional conflict dynamics.

Advance registration is required: northeastern.edu/law/past-harms-present-remedies

FREE FOR INVITED PARTICIPANTS AND LOYOLA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND FACULTY. \$15 FOR THE PUBLIC. Scholarships are available for hardship situations.