



American Psychology-Law Society

APA DIVISION 41

**Welcome to the February 2025
American Psychology-Law Society (AP-LS) Newsletter**

Our monthly Newsletter provides information about activities, upcoming events, and resources to connect the psychology-law community.

AP-LS aspires to excel as a valuable, effective, and influential organization advancing the science of psychology-law and the translation of psychology-law knowledge into practice and policy.



**Seeking Nominees:
AP-LS Executive Committee Positions**

In mid-April, an election will be held to fill the Division 41 positions of President-Elect and Member-at-Large. We encourage you to apply or nominate your colleagues!

AP-LS also solicits nominations for a divisional representative for the APA Council of Representatives. This individual would serve a 3-year term that begins in January of 2026. Council representatives must be members of the APA and either a full

member or fellow of Division 41. During the term of service, this individual would also serve as a voting member of the AP-LS Executive Committee.

For more information about these positions, please click [HERE](#).

We are seeking nominations (self-nominations are also welcome) for these positions. Nominees must be current AP-LS members .

If you're interested in being considered for the election slate, please send the following materials in a single PDF or Word Document to Daniel Murrie (dcm3w@uvahealth.org), Chair of the Nominations and Awards Committee:

- CV
- Letter(s) in support of the nominee
- Statement of interest (for self-nominations)

If you are nominating someone for the election slate, please ensure they are willing to run if they are selected to be on the ballot. All nominations are due by **February 10, 2025**. All nominations and questions regarding nominations should be submitted to Daniel Murrie (dcm3w@uvahealth.org), Chair of the AP-LS Nominations and Awards Committee.

GRANT SUBMISSION TIMELINE CHANGE

The Grant-in-Aid for Early Career Professionals Will Have a New Submission Timeline

The Early Career Professionals Committee is pleased to announce that we are moving the annual call for their Grants-in-Aid for Early Career Professionals. The submission deadline was held annually in October. Beginning this year, the submission deadline will be moved to the spring semester. Further details are forthcoming, but please anticipate a new deadline of **April or May 2025!**

The purpose of this award is to support AP-LS members who are ECPs in conducting research related to psychology and law. It is the committee's desire that these awards are not limited only to members who are psychologists, but instead open to AP-LS members from all backgrounds. Applications are open to all AP-LS members who are within ten years of receiving their last degree. For further information regarding eligibility criteria, proposal guidelines and templates, please visit: <https://ap-ls.org/awards/grants/ecgrantinaid>.

2025 AP-LS Conference Plenary Talks

Trust in Psychology, Law, and Institutions
Friday, March 13, 10:45-12:15

Panelists:

Amy Fetting, J.D., Acting Co-Executive Director, Fair and Just Prosecution

Joseph Hamm, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Michigan State University

Anthony Perillo, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Forensic Training Director, University of New Mexico (Health Sciences Center)

In recent decades, society has witnessed eroding public trust in government institutions, including the legal system, and a 2024 Gallup poll suggests Americans' confidence in the justice system is at a historic low (35%). Although the public holds a generally favorable view of science and its impact on society, society is also increasingly skeptical of scientific institutions and communities. This panel will explore the historical events that contribute to public mistrust, as well as the current factors that further fuel skepticism. The panel will also consider the ways in which institutions, including the academy and legal entities, engage with communities. The panel will consider the various motivations for community/institution partnerships and explore how motivation shapes outcomes. Finally, the panel will discuss the science of trust and the ways in which the psychology-law field can move towards improving the administration of justice within legal institutions as well as the public's

Towards a More Research-Informed Corrections System: Ensuring Science Translates to Practice

Saturday, March 14, 10:45-12:15

Speakers:

Ashley Batastini, PhD, Associate Professor, Swinburne University of Technology

David Pitts, PhD, Vice President, Justice and Safety Division, Urban Institute

Over 11 million individuals are incarcerated around the world, approximately 2 million of whom are incarcerated in the United States. Despite the size of the population in jails and prisons, our field conducts comparatively little research in the correctional setting. The field of Psychology and Law can provide guidance to how best to address the needs of individuals who are incarcerated. This Plenary will discuss the challenges, difficulties, and benefits of conducting correctional psychology research, highlighting the need to collaborate with a wide range of groups involved in the process. The Plenary will also use an innovative prison reform project to illustrate ways to help research translate into practice and policy.

Congratulations to AP-LS 2025 Award Winners

AP-LS Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology and Law

The AP-LS Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology and Law honors one who has made distinguished theoretical, empirical, and/or applied contributions to the field of psychology and law. This award is reserved for those individuals whose contributions are so unusual as to merit special commendation.

Congratulations to [Margaret Bull Kovera](#) at John Jay College of Criminal Justice

As summarized in her nomination letters, "Margaret has continuously demonstrated remarkable dedication, innovation, and leadership in the field. Her sustained commitment to excellence, along with the tangible impact of her work on scholarship in the discipline, implementation of that work in the field, and the proliferation of those she has mentored, make her a worthy candidate for this award."

AP-LS Distinguished Service Award

The AP-LS Distinguished Service Award recognizes members that have contributed exceptional meritorious professional service to the Society and/or the field of legal/forensic psychology.

Congratulations to [Eve Brank](#) at University of Nebraska

As summarized in her nomination letters, “Her service to the field of psychology and law spans many years and many roles.” She has made “ ... extensive contributions to our Society through her extensive leadership and committee service, services provided to the state and community, and her work in her innovative trial consulting program for graduate students.”

AAFP and AP-LS Saleem Shah Award for Early Career Contributions

The Saleem Shah Award recognizes early career excellence and contributions to the field of psychology and law. This year, we have expanded awards to include two winners, representing clinical and experimental emphasis.

Congratulations to:

[M.E. Wood](#) at Sam Houston State University

[Miko Wilford](#) at Iowa State University

AP-LS Mid-Career Award

The AP-LS Mid-Career Award recognizes members whose work has substantially contributed to the fields of forensic and legal psychology.

Congratulations to:

[Lindsay Malloy](#) at Ontario Tech University

[Monica Miller](#) at University of Nevada, Reno

[Tess Neal](#) at Iowa State University

APA’s Dissertation Research Awards

Looking for funds to support doctoral student research? APA’s Dissertation Research Awards program offers as many as 15 grants of up to \$5,000 to doctoral students in psychological science to assist with research costs. [Apply HERE by March 1, 2025.](#)

Grants Pass Legal Update Part 1

When the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) released its decision in June of 2024 in City of Grants Pass v. Johnson, many feared that the outcome was outlawing homelessness outright. Rather, the Court held that it does not constitute cruel and unusual punishment to enforce city ordinances against public camping, even for individuals who are “involuntarily homeless.” This two-part Legal Update seeks to shed light on the technical holdings of Grants Pass, as well as chart paths forward for addressing the nexus among homelessness, behavioral health, and criminal justice involvement. Part 1 will explore the background of the case and the Court’s decision, as well as examine the relationship that exists among homelessness, behavioral health challenges, and criminal justice involvement. Part 2 will illuminate future avenues for

addressing the intersection among Social Determinants of Health, behavioral health challenges, and criminal justice involvement. Read Part 1 [HERE](#).

International Journal of Environmental and Public Health: Call for submission

Call for paper for a Special Issue entitled “Understanding Risks and Protective Factors to Promote Health in Justice-Involved Youth” in the open access *International Journal of Environmental and Public Health* (ISSN 1660-4601, Scopus and PubMed indexed, <https://www.mdpi.com/journal/ijerph>). Deadline for submissions is **March 1, 2025**.

More information can be found on the Special Issue website:

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/ijerph/special_issues/1K93SNY95Q

Please do not hesitate to contact the Editorial Office (harley.chen@mdpi.com) if you require any further information.

Dr. Adam Schmidt and Dr. April G. Thomas

Social Psychology in Legal Contexts



Social Psychology in Legal Contexts

Join us at
SPSP 2025 Feb 20th in
Denver Colorado!



Our session will begin with a keynote
address from distinguished professor
Saul Kassin.



Invited faculty talks with roundtable discussion to follow:



L. Song
Richardson



Kurt
Gray



Jackie
Chen



Kyle
Scherr



Eric
Hehman

Join faculty experts in psychology and law as they dive into powerful discussions
on how morality, race, and intergroup relations shape our legal landscape!

Stick around for early career datablitz talks, a
poster session, and our evening happy hour!

Scan the QR Code
to Register!



On The Job or
Early Bird Discount
Ends January 16th!



Questions? Contact the Organizers!



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Check out [AP-LS's Job Postings Page](#) for up-to-date
information on available psychology-law positions.

Call for Book Proposals

[View Job Postings](#)

The American Psychology-Law Society invites proposals for new titles in its book series,
which is now published by [Sage Publications](#). We publish edited and edited volumes on

Newsletter Editorial Board

current issues at the intersection of psychology and law. Books are typically a state of
the science synthesis of a body of existing research with implications for practice
and/or policy. Authors and editors should have a substantial and recent track record of
publication and/or practice in psychology or law, and at least one should hold a
doctorate in psychology or closely related behavioral science. If you have a proposal
for a new book or if you would simply like more information, reach out to a
member of the editorial team. We would be happy to tell you more.

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For more information or if you wish to contact a member of the AP-LS Executive Committee, details can be found

Membership Services

AP-LS seeks to advance the science of psychology - law and the translation of psychology - law knowledge into practice. Our mission is to enhance the well-being, justice, and human rights though science and practice of psychology in legal contexts.

Newsletter Archives

Archives of the newsletter are available at <https://ap-ls.org/newsletter>.

American Psychology-Law Society

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