

**4th Annual
Louisiana Criminal Justice Summit**

Funding our Future

City Club of Baton Rouge
355 North Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70801
March 15, 2013
9:30am – 4:00pm

Attendees at the first Criminal Justice Summit identified six systemic issues that merited immediate attention, including funding for the criminal justice system. In 2011, participants followed up by working to improve the assessment, collection and distribution of court costs and fines, which has had a positive impact on segments of the criminal justice system. Still, funding remains a challenge for the system as a whole, and there remains concerted interested in developing a more effective, equitable and sustainable strategy for funding. In coordination with those groups, the LSBA Criminal Justice Committee has developed the Summit as an opportunity to build understanding and identify a workable strategy to improve both funding outlooks and public safety outcomes.

AGENDA

9:30 – 10:00 Registration and Coffee

10:00–10:15 Welcome from LSBA President, John H. Musser IV

10:15–11:15 Funding our Future: Justice Reinvestment Initiatives and Incentive Funding (1 hour)

Inimai Chettiar, Director, Justice Program, Brennan Center for Justice
Michael Jacobson, President and Director, Vera Institute of Justice

This session will present research and best practices from national experts in criminal justice funding. This discussion will help summit participants explore reform of Louisiana’s current funding mechanisms and strategies to develop sustainable and equitable funding for the entire criminal justice system.

11:20–12:20 The Big Issue: Incarceration and Justice Reinvestment in the States (1 hour)

Jake Horowitz, State Policy Director, Pew Center on the States
Jim Austin, JFA Institute for Policy Making

Jeanette Moll, Center for Effective Justice, Texas Public Policy Foundation

Incarceration is often the single largest cost to any criminal justice system, and as evidenced by various states, strategic reform has great potential to both improve public safety and cut public spending. This session will explore the cost of incarceration in Louisiana and identify opportunities to develop inventive structures that can reduce corrections costs, support agencies in alternative programs and improve public safety.

12:20–1:00 LUNCH and Update from Sentencing Commission

Ricky Babin, 23rd Judicial District Attorney

Hon. Fredericka Homberg Wicker, Louisiana Fifth Circuit Court of Appeal

- 1:00–2:00
(1 hour)** **Working Toward Solutions: Cost-Saving Strategies**
Sec. James LeBlanc, Louisiana Department of Corrections
Rep. Helena Moreno, Administration of Criminal Justice Committee, Vice-Chair
Sen. Jean-Paul J. Morrell, Judiciary Committee B, Chairman
Speakers representing various components of the Louisiana criminal justice system will discuss opportunities for cost savings in the near future as well as for the long term, such as reclassification of certain offenses, pre-trial services, alternatives to incarceration for criminal justice debt, video conferencing, medical parole, eliminating mandatory minimum sentences, reentry and specialty courts.
- 2:00–2:30
(.5 hour)** **Working Groups**
Participants will have the opportunity to focus on specific topics in small, moderated groups. The goal will be to identify specific solutions that can be achieved to address the challenges related to funding Louisiana’s criminal justice system.
- 2:30–4:00
(1.5 hour)** **Closing Remarks and Facilitated Discussion**
The Summit will conclude with a moderated discussion aimed at identifying the key strategies and solutions on which there is consensus among the various groups. This discussion will be compiled into a final report for the Criminal Justice Committee, the Legislature, the State Law Institute and other stakeholders to use in their work to improve funding for the system.

(5 CLE Hours Available)