



February 2014

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the Foundation for Criminal Justice, the Brennan Center for Justice, the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, the Center for NuLeadership on Urban Solutions, and the New York County Lawyers' Association, we are pleased to offer you the *New York University Journal of Legislation and Public Policy* issue featuring articles on race and ethnic disparities in the criminal justice system.

The publication, entitled *Symposium Criminal Justice in the 21st Century: Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparity in the Criminal Justice System* (Vol. 16, No.4), is the culmination of a two-year effort that included an October 2012 convening; a [report](#) detailing recommendations generated from the convening; a [series of articles](#) on race published in *The Champion* magazine; a three-part [podcast](#) series featuring organizers of the conference discussing the goals and objectives of the convening; and a follow-up [convening](#) on December 6, 2013, entitled *Criminal Justice in the 21st Century: Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparity in the Criminal Justice System: Advancing the Reform Dialogue Through Action*. We encourage and invite you to visit www.nacdl.org/racialjustice to access the various elements and resources of the project.

The *Journal* articles are written from the perspective of some of the leading criminal justice experts around the country and address many themes generated by the conferences and report. The publication of the *Journal* denotes the final element of the project, but in no way represents the cessation of our efforts to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in the criminal justice system. We will continue to diligently work with legislators, key policy makers, advocates, and others to address inequities in the system and seek mechanisms to alleviate the disparities that exist.

Sincerely,

Angelyn C. Frazer
State Legislative Affairs Director, NACDL