



**LAW AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE**  
joint with the Labor and Economic Development Committee

***Offender Reentry and Collateral Consequences***

Thursday, December 9, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

**Speaker Biographies**

**Lesley Buchan**  
Outreach Coordinator  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
U.S. Department of Justice  
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Washington, DC 20531  
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Lesley Buchan is the Outreach Coordinator for the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) in the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Ms. Buchan is part of the Strategic Initiatives Unit in BJA's Policy Office. She contributes to strategic planning to develop national policymaker engagement and program sustainment strategies in the field of criminal justice. Prior to joining the BJA staff in December 2008, Ms. Buchan was Program Director at the National Association of Counties for more than six years. In that position she directed education, training and technical assistance designed for county government practitioners and policymakers to build the capacity of local health and criminal justice systems across the country. Ms. Buchan has also worked in community-based non-profit organizations managing programs at the grassroots level to improve adolescent health and reduce homelessness. She served a one year and six month term of national service through the AmeriCorps Program. Ms. Buchan has a bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh and studied Public Administration at the graduate level at the American University.



**NCSL Fall Forum 2010, Phoenix, Arizona**  
**Law and Criminal Justice Committee – Offender Reentry Bios**

**Page 2**

**Maurice Emsellem**  
**Policy Co-Director**  
**National Employment Law Project**  
**405 14<sup>th</sup> Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**  
**Oakland, CA 94612**  
[memsellem@nelp.org](mailto:memsellem@nelp.org)

Maurice Emsellem is Policy Co-Director for the National Employment Law Project (NELP), a national advocacy organization for employment rights of lower-wage workers. At NELP, he has worked on collaborations to modernize state unemployment insurance programs, create employment protections for workers, and reduce certain barriers to employment of people with criminal records, at state and local levels. Mr. Emsellem has testified before Congress and numerous state legislatures on employment policy issues. Before joining NELP in 1991, he worked for the Legal Aid Society in New York City. Mr. Emsellem was a Soros Justice Senior Fellow in 2004 and a Stanford Public Interest Law Mentor in 2003. His publications include *Innovative State Reforms Shape New National Economic Security Plan for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* for NELP in 2006; and “The Challenge of Employment in the Era of Criminal Background Checks,” in *The Gloves Off Economy: Workplace Standards at the Bottom of America’s Labor Market*, Cornell University Press in 2008. His bachelor’s degree is from the University of Michigan; and his law degree from the Northeastern University School of Law in Boston, Massachusetts.

**The Honorable Linda Gray**  
**State Senator**  
**Arizona State Legislature**  
**1700 W. Washington**  
**Room 308**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85007**  
[lgray@azleg.gov](mailto:lgray@azleg.gov)

Senator Gray has served 12 years a lawmaker for District 10 in Arizona, representing a large portion of the Northwest Valley. She is Chairwoman of the Senate’s Public Safety and Human Services Committee and Vice Chair of the Education K12 Committee. She also serves on the Senate Higher Education and Government committees. In addition to her work as a state lawmaker, Senator Gray is a mother, community activist and volunteer. She has served on the Washington Elementary School Board and as Precinct Committeeman for the District 10 Republican Party. She also has worked with the Angel Tree Project, which assists children whose parents are incarcerated. In the Legislature, Senator Gray championed stronger DUI legislation, including sponsoring legislation lowering extreme DUI level from .18 to .15. Senator Gray also is a strong advocate for parental choice in education, working to strengthen Arizona’s school choice laws and charter school system. She holds degrees from the University of Northern Colorado.



**The Honorable Michael A. Costello**  
**State Representative**  
**Massachusetts House of Representatives**  
**Statehouse Room 167**  
**Boston, MA 02133**  
[Michael.costello@mahouse.gov](mailto:Michael.costello@mahouse.gov)

Representative Michael Costello has since 2002 served the First Essex District, which includes the cities of Newburyport and Amesbury and the town of Salisbury, in the Massachusetts House of Representatives. He is Chairman of the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security. His lead role on many public safety issues includes sponsoring identity theft legislation; and serving on the Governor's Anti- Crime Council, which discusses critical issues like gang violence and the spread of assault weapons. He served on the Governor's CORI Reform Commission, which helped develop legislation to provide meaningful opportunities for people seeking to transition back into society. He also was named National Chair of the American Bar Association's Re-entry and Collateral Consequences Committee. In 2007, the Massachusetts Bar Association named Representative Costello its Legislator of the Year. In his district, he has worked to sustain many of the valuable organizations that provide social services, and he is committed to preserving the natural environment and historic resources that make the First Essex District a beautiful place to live. An attorney, Representative Costello has served as an assistant district attorney, prosecuting hundreds of cases involving drug possession and distribution, domestic violence, assault and battery and robbery. He also served on the Newburyport City Council, as staff to Congressional campaigns, and as chief of staff to a former chair of the Massachusetts Democratic Party. Representative Costello earned his bachelor's degree from Salem State University in Salem, Massachusetts, and his law degree from Suffolk University Law School in Boston.

**Charles L. Ryan**  
**Director**  
**Arizona Department of Corrections**  
**1601 West Jefferson Street**  
**Phoenix, Arizona 85007**  
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Charles L. Ryan has more than 30 years of experience in the field of corrections. He is currently the Director of the Arizona Department of Corrections, where he also has been Deputy Director of Prison Operations, and has served as a prison warden and a prison administrator. He also served as the Assistant Program Manager for the Department of Justice overseeing the Iraqi Prison System for almost four years. Mr. Ryan has extensive experience in the development of correctional institution policy including the formulation of the inmate classification system, the staffing, operation and activation of various prison complexes and the development of budgets presented to the executive and legislative branches of government. He has also been instrumental in developing operational processes designed to enhance inmate accountability and safer prisons and detention facilities. Mr. Ryan has been honored with many awards which include the Meritorious Honor Award, Ambassador to Iraq, U.S Department of State; the Special Recognition Award, Criminal Division, Department of Justice; the Medal of Valor Award, U.S .Department of Justice; the Quest Award for Use of Force Study and Policy Development, Arizona Department of Corrections; the Meritorious Service Award, Arizona Department of Corrections; the Warden of the Year, Correctional Industries Association; and the Administrator of the Year from the Arizona Department of Corrections and the Arizona Administrator's Association. Mr. Ryan holds a bachelor's degree from Arizona State University and a master's degree in public administration from Western International University.