

Executive Briefing Series Supporting High Performance Government: Leading Large Scale Change

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Biographies

John Feinblatt

Chief Advisor to the Mayor for Policy and strategic Planning and Criminal Justice Coordinator for the Mayor

John Feinblatt was appointed Chief Advisor to Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg for Policy and Strategic Planning in February 2010. He works in close consultation with the Mayor, Deputy Mayors, and Commissioners in the development and implementation of policies that cut across city agencies. In addition, he leads the Mayor's national coalitions on guns, immigration reform and infrastructure investment. In addition, Mr. Feinblatt has held the position of Criminal Justice Coordinator for the City of New York since January 2002. He serves as the Mayor's chief advisor on criminal justice policy and liaison to the state court system, the city's five elected district attorneys and the state criminal justice system.

Prior to joining the Bloomberg administration, Mr. Feinblatt was the founding director of the Center for Court Innovation. The recipient of the 1998 Innovations in American Government award from the Ford Foundation and Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government, the Center is the country's leading think tank devoted to problem solving justice and has created national models for drug courts, community courts, mental health courts, prisoner re-entry courts and domestic violence courts.

Before the Center, Mr. Feinblatt was the founding director of the Midtown Community Court, which was created as part of the economic revitalization effort of Times Square. The Midtown Court is now the model for over 60 community courts in this country and abroad. On behalf of the Midtown Community Court, Mr. Feinblatt received the 1997 Smithsonian award for technology, the 1996 Certificate of Merit from New York City's Municipal Arts Society, first prize for the innovative use of technology at the 1995 Windows World Open, and the 1994 Justice Achievement Award from the National Association for Court Management.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Feinblatt was the deputy executive director of Victim Services (now Safe Horizon), the country's largest victim assistance organization. He was also a trial attorney at the Legal Aid Society in New York City and a research associate at the Vera Institute of Justice.

Mr. Feinblatt has been appointed by the Chief Judge of New York State to serve on the Commission on the Future of Probation, the Commission on the Future of New York State Courts and the Commission on Alternatives to Incarceration. He has also served as the board chair of Bowery Residents Committee, one of New York City's largest independent agencies serving the homeless.

Mr. Feinblatt is the co-author of “Good Courts: The Case for Problem-Solving Justice” published in 2005 by The New Press. In addition, he has contributed articles and opinion pieces to Law and Policy, Court Manager, Judicature, Fordham Urban Law Review, The New York Times, New York Newsday, New York Post, Daily News and other publications. He is a graduate of Wesleyan University and the Columbus School of Law at Catholic University.

John Mattingly

Commissioner, Administration for Children’s Services

John Mattingly was appointed Commissioner of New York City’s Administration for Children’s Services (ACS) on July 6, 2004. ACS was established in January 1996 as the first agency in New York City’s history solely devoted to serving children. The agency is responsible for child protective, foster care, adoption, child care and Head Start services.

Mr. Mattingly most recently served as Director of Human Service Reforms at the Annie E. Casey Foundation, a national foundation headquartered in Baltimore and dedicated to helping build better futures for disadvantaged children and families. At the Foundation, Mr. Mattingly designed and for 12 years managed the Family to Family foster care initiative and has also been the Foundation’s team leader for child welfare policy. From 1998 to 2001, he served as a member of the New York City Special Child Welfare Advisory Panel, whose work helped end two child welfare class action lawsuits in the City. He also helped to mediate a class action case against the state of Tennessee in 2001 and 2003 and convened a similar panel currently operating in that state.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Mr. Mattingly served for more than six years as the Executive Director of Lucas County Children Services, the public child welfare agency serving the Toledo, Ohio area.

Mr. Mattingly has also served as Executive Director of the Institute for Child Advocacy in Cleveland and the West Side Community House in the same city. Prior to that, he directed the statewide effort to remove juveniles from Pennsylvania’s adult correctional system known as the Camp Hill Project.

Mr. Mattingly received a Ph.D. in community systems planning from Pennsylvania State University and a Master of Social Work from the University of Pittsburgh.

Vincent N. Schiraldi

Commissioner, Department of Probation

Vincent N. Schiraldi was appointed, Commissioner for the New York City Department of Probation, in February 2010, bringing over 25 years experience working with troubled youth and juvenile justice systems to New York City. He will lead the Department in its mission to protect the community by intervening in the lives of probationers, holding them accountable and serving as a catalyst for positive change. By acting in collaboration with the community and other justice partners, he hopes to apply innovative thinking to the Department’s role of servicing the courts and the probation population, giving each client a fair chance at succeeding in building a crime-free, healthy lifestyle. In this capacity, he is responsible for managing a staff of over 1,000 and providing probation services for approximately 35,000 adults and youth.

As Director of the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services, (DYRS) for the District of Columbia from 2005 to 2010, Mr. Schiraldi managed the agency’s \$68 million dollar budget and transformed the department by creating one of the nation’s best continuums of care that is strength based and community and family focused.

Prior to his appointment at DYRS, Mr. Schiraldi founded the Justice Policy Institute (JPI), where he served as the Executive Director. The JPI conducts research on the impact of mass incarceration and the overrepresentation of

people of color behind bars, and has worked collaboratively on criminal and juvenile justice campaigns in Alabama, California, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland and Texas.

The JPI grew out of the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice (CJCJ), a private, non-profit criminal/juvenile justice agency dedicated to reducing society's reliance on imprisonment as a solution to social problems, which Mr. Schiraldi founded in 1991. As Executive Director, Mr. Schiraldi supervised all phases of agency operations. Successful projects included juvenile justice programming, continuum of care programming, an alternative sentencing program, the supervised citation release program and a supportive living program.

Mr. Schiraldi also worked with the National Center on Institutions and Alternatives, both in New York City and San Francisco for nine years. Among its successful programs was the Parole Assistance Project, which developed social service plans for 156 California Department of Corrections parolees.

A recognized expert in the field of juvenile justice, Mr. Schiraldi has provided research findings and commentaries that have been covered on *the Today Show*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, evening newscasts for ABC, CBS and NBC, *National Public Radio*, CNN and the BBC to name a few. He has also published numerous papers and articles on the topic, and has spoken before a variety of academic and governmental audiences. He served as an advisor on the Washington, DC, Blue Ribbon Commission on Youth Safety and Juvenile Justice Reform in 2001, and has been a member or advisor to the California Blue Ribbon Commission on Inmate Population Management, the California Commission on the Status of African American Men, and was the founding Chair of San Francisco's Juvenile Probation Commission in 1990.

Mr. Schiraldi received his Masters in Social Work from New York University and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Psychology from Binghamton University in Binghamton, NY.

Dora B. Schriro
Commissioner, Department of Corrections

Dora B. Schriro, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Correction, is a nationally recognized innovator in reentry, and the only person in the nation to have led two state and two city correctional systems.

Dr. Schriro was appointed to direct New York City's 13,500 inmate jail system by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg on September 21, 2009. Immediately prior, she had served as Special Advisor to Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano on Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Detention and Removal, and Director of the Office of Detention Policy and Planning for the Department. In that role, she directed work on the Department's plan to overhaul the nation's immigration detention system. The Department released the report and its plans for reform in October, 2009.

Previously, she served for six years as the Director of the Arizona Department of Corrections and, from 1993 to 2001, as Director of the Missouri Department of Corrections. In each state, she was the first woman selected to lead the agency.

Dr. Schriro's appointment as NYC Commissioner of Correction signals her return to New York City. A native of Staten Island, Dr. Schriro served in the administration of Mayor Edward I. Koch from 1984 to 1989, first as Assistant to the Deputy Director in the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice and then as Assistant Commissioner in the Department of Correction. As Assistant Commissioner, she was responsible for delivery of inmate educational programs, the grants office, Ministerial and Volunteer Services, law libraries, recreation programs, work release and special events.

In announcing her appointment, Mayor Bloomberg cited her “distinctive, dynamic style, and innovative thinking” as well as qualifications to “focus on reducing violence, ensuring inmate and staff safety while also preparing inmates to transition back into their communities and lives after release.”

Throughout her career in Corrections, Commissioner Schriro has been committed to and involved in sentencing reform, the crime victims’ community, the Corrections workforce and re-entry efforts. She served for six years as Vice Chair of Missouri’s Sentencing Commission and was a founding member of the Vera Institute of Justice State and Local Sentencing Program. She has also co-led sentencing seminars at St. Louis University and Arizona State University Schools of Law, spearheaded passage of the nation’s first Restorative Justice legislation and established offices of crime victim services and labor relations in the State correctional systems in Missouri and Arizona. Her efforts on behalf of the workforce yielded appreciable pay increases and increased representation. Focusing on the impact of crime on victims resulted in donations of over one million dollars to crime victim organizations. Her practical approach to problem solving reduced inmate litigation by greater than one half in both state correctional systems.

Commissioner Schriro earned a juris doctorate from St. Louis University, a doctorate from Columbia University, an MS from the University of Massachusetts-Boston and a BA cum laude from Northeastern University. She has taught graduate level courses in law and criminal justice throughout her career. Published in the fields of re-entry, sentencing and immigration, Commissioner Schriro has been honored for her work. In 1999, as Director of the Missouri Department of Corrections, she received the Michael Francke Award recognizing her as the top correctional administrator in the United States. She received the National Governors Association Distinguished Service to State Government Award in 2006; and in 2008 her work in Arizona on the comprehensive pre-release strategy titled Getting Ready earned the Harvard University’s Innovations in American Government Award.

Jeremy Travis
President, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Jeremy Travis is President of John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Since his appointment in 2004, President Travis has led a transformation of John Jay College, increasing baccalaureate freshman enrollment by 40%, expanding full time faculty from 338 to 449, supporting the development of liberal arts majors and tripling external funding for faculty research. From 2008 to 2009, President Travis served as Chair of the Task Force on Transforming Juvenile Justice, appointed by New York Governor David A. Paterson, culminating in the Task Force report recommending significant changes to the state’s juvenile justice system.

Prior to his appointment, President Travis served four years as a Senior Fellow affiliated with the Justice Policy Center at the Urban Institute in Washington, DC, where he launched a national research program focused on prisoner reentry into society. From 1994-2000, Travis directed the National Institute of Justice, the research arm of the U.S. Department of Justice. Nominated by President Clinton and confirmed by the Senate, Travis reinvigorated the agency and established major initiatives to assess crime trends, evaluate federal anti-crime efforts, advance forensic sciences, and bolster research on counter-terrorism strategies.

Prior to his service in Washington, Travis was Deputy Commissioner for Legal Matters for the New York City Police Department (NYPD) from 1990-1994; Chief Counsel to the U.S. House Judiciary Subcommittee on Criminal Justice in 1990, chaired by then-Rep. Charles E. Schumer; Special Advisor to New York City Mayor Edward I. Koch from 1986-89; and Special Counsel to the Police Commissioner of the NYPD from 1984-86.

Before joining city government, Travis served as law clerk to then-U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Ruth Bader Ginsburg, currently a member of the U.S. Supreme Court, and was the Marden and Marshall Fellow in Criminal Law at New York University School of Law. Travis was Executive Director of the New York City Criminal Justice Agency from 1977-79 and served six years at the Vera Institute of Justice, where he managed demonstration programs on bail

reform, judicial decision making and victim-witness assistance. He began his career in criminal justice working as a legal services assistant for the Legal Aid Society, New York's indigent defense agency.

Travis has taught courses on criminal justice, public policy, history and law at Yale College, New York University Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York Law School, George Washington University, and John Jay College of Criminal Justice. He is the author of *But They All Come Back: Facing the Challenges of Prisoner Reentry* (Urban Institute Press, 2005), co-editor (with Christy Visher) of *Prisoner Reentry and Crime in America* (Cambridge University Press, 2005), and co-editor (with Michelle Waul) of *Prisoners Once Removed: The Impact of Incarceration and Reentry on Children, Families, and Communities* (Urban Institute Press, 2003). He has published numerous book chapters, articles and monographs on constitutional law, criminal law and criminal justice policy. He is a member of The Committee on Law and Justice of the National Research Council and of the Board of Trustees of the Urban Institute.

Mr. Travis has received numerous awards for his contributions to the field of criminal justice, including the American Society of Criminology's August Vollmer Award, the Gerhard O.W. Muller Award from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, and the Margaret Mead Award from the International Community Corrections Association. He earned a JD, cum laude, from the New York University School of Law, and an MPA from the New York University Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. He received a BA, cum laude, in American Studies from Yale College.