

CROSS-GLOBAL COLLABORATIONS
*Convening Reform-Minded Prosecutors and Policymakers to Advance
Public Health, Drug Policy and Criminal Justice Reform*

Edinburgh, Scotland
Sunday, October 20th, 2019

DRAFT Agenda

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Welcome and Introduction

Lunch will be available

1:30-2:30 PM

Promoting Harm Reduction and Drug Policy Reforms

Discussion overview: While experts in many nations agree on the inefficacy of strictly punitive measures and the promise of harm reduction and public health approaches to drug policy, there are often legal and cultural hurdles to adopting decriminalization, legalization, overdose prevention sites, needle exchanges, heroin-assisted treatment, naloxone programs and Good Samaritan laws.

Topics might include:

- *Where is new innovation and reform in drug policy currently afoot and who is pushing the envelope to the next horizon?*
- *How can prosecutors and policy leaders effectively advocate for, and support the thoughtful implementation of changes to the criminal justice system that avoid criminalizing substance use disorder?*
- *What are the biggest challenges to reform and how can prosecutors use their leadership role as credible law enforcement voices to help propel a public health starting point in addressing these issues?*
- *What are the effects of decriminalization and legalization upon law enforcement, prosecution and elected leaders' perspectives and what outcomes and lessons learned can best impact the perspectives of these constituencies? Who are the strongest champions of change among these constituencies?*
- *How can policy leaders work together to promote strategies, including Good Samaritan laws and overdose prevention sites, that avoid turning fatal overdoses into a crime scene and save lives in the first instance?*
- *How can criminal justice leaders partner and work together with public health professionals and other support networks to promote the resourcing and build out of strategies that address the full range of people's needs (including substance use disorder, co-occurring mental health issues and trauma) and break cycles of harm?*

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM

Break

2:45 PM – 3:45 PM

Forging Global Alliances and Collaborations and Planning for 2020

Discussion overview: Criminal justice policy leaders – and especially prosecutors willing to advocate for reform from within the justice system – have a critical role to play in advancing new paradigms and shifts in attitudes that promote alternative and noncriminal responses to drug use and other issues that impact both public health and safety. But a move away from punitive responses and to an evidence-based public health lens in areas including drug policy as well as strategies to promote violence prevention, will require a significant shift in cultural norms and criminal justice practices. Prosecutors and other policy leaders seeking to advance these reforms around the globe would benefit from sharing their insights and building a collaborative network.

Topics might include:

- *How can we bring a public health lens to issues and conduct currently addressed through the CJ system?*
- *How do we promote a public health lens and starting point on violence and violence prevention and where are there strong models to emulate?*
- *How can criminal justice systems design interventions to ensure that people struggling with mental illness are not fed into the justice system and trapped in cycles of incarceration?*
- *Where do we align and how can we work together to propel change?*
- *What might be important areas to address in 2020 Philadelphia as we seek to promote and import a public health lens into criminal justice reform efforts?*

3:45 – 4:00 pm

Wrap Up and Next Steps

Following the pre-conference, there will be an opportunity to attend the conference opening ceremony (4-6 PM).