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REAL TALK | Criminal Justice

2-Part Series: Wednesday, June 2 & 9, 2021 - 7pm ET

Examining The Courts for Racial Equity: From Arraignment to Reentry

In Partnership with WKSU, University of Akron School of Law, The Freedom BLOC

More info: www.RealTalkLWV.org

REGISTER: bit.ly/RT CourtsRacialEquity

PART 1: Wednesday, June 2, 7pm

Navigating the System: Arraignment Through Sentencing

FEATURING:

Brant Lee, Professor of Law, Assistant Dean of Diversity & Social Justice Initiatives,

University of Akron School of Law

The Honorable Ronald Adrine, Retired Judge of Cleveland Municipal Court,

Cuyahoga County

The Honorable Cassandra Collier-Williams, Judge of Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court

The Honorable David Hamilton, Judge of Akron Municipal Court, Summit County Tania Nemer, Community Outreach Prosecutor, Summit County Cullen Sweeney, Chief Public Defender, Cuyahoga County

Learn how defendants navigate the complicated judicial process and what impact race, income, and racialized bias have on each stage of the process: initial charges, bail, pretrial, plea bargaining, trial, conviction, and sentencing. Meet the judges, prosecutors, and public defenders working to balance the scales of justice by addressing the fraught cash bail system, mandatory sentencing, punitive excess, and cultural representation in the courts. Learn about their use of diversion programs, alternative sentencing, and restorative justice practices to comprehensively restore and rehabilitate Ohioans and stem racialized mass incarceration.

PART 2: Wednesday, June 9, 7pm

Picking Up the Pieces: 'Collateral Consequences' & Reentry

FEATURING:

Reverend Raymond Greene, Executive Director, The Freedom BLOC Michael Randle, Executive Vice President, Operations, The Oriana House, Summit County

Perry Clark, Founder, President, Truly Reaching You (TRY) Ministries Robin Turner, Criminal Justice Organizer, Ohio Organizing Collaborative Walter Mathis, Community Organizer, Akron Organizing Collaborative

Meet the organizations, grass-roots leaders, and formerly incarcerated Ohioans working to eliminate unjust Collateral Sanctions and reform the criminal justice system. Learn about their legal support services, mental health & addiction services, training and employment placement, education programs, community reinvestment initiatives, and policy reform efforts.

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