

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The *American Criminal Law Review*, in partnership with the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (“NACDL”), is proud to present the Volume 58 Symposium Issue, *Prison Brake: Rethinking the Sentencing Status Quo*.

Over the past half-century, there has never been broader agreement that the American criminal legal system is broken. Today, leaders from across the ideological spectrum acknowledge that the United States over-prosecutes, over-charges, and over-incarcerates. In this climate, advocates for reform have seen modest success. But the movement for more transformational change continues. As part of that movement, this Symposium and Issue seek to foster a deeper discussion to rethink the sentencing status quo in America. Through presentations and Articles addressing topics from innovative constitutional sentencing arguments, to establishing and implementing Second Look sentencing regimes, to prison abolition, we hope to equip leaders, scholars, practitioners, and activists alike with the strategies and scholarship to spur fundamental change for a more just and more humane criminal sentencing system.

The editorial board and staff of Volume 58 would like to extend our sincere thanks to all of our Authors, panelists, and guests who joined us for the virtual Symposium in October 2020. We are also grateful for the generous support of our colleagues and friends from NACDL, especially President Christopher W. Adams, Executive Director Norman L. Reimer, and Associate Executive Director for Policy Kyle W. O’Dowd. We are further indebted to our Faculty Advisor, Professor Shon Hopwood, as well as Professor Douglas A. Berman of The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law for their guidance and direction in planning this Symposium. We would also like to thank Joshua L. Mogil, Senior Symposium Editor, and Abbe R. Dembowitz, Editor-in-Chief, of Volume 57, for their leadership in the initial organization of this event. Finally, and most importantly, we would like to congratulate and thank Teressa Hamsher, Senior Symposium Editor of Volume 58, for her *extraordinary* efforts—under the most challenging of circumstances in the middle of a global pandemic—to make this Symposium and Issue possible.

We hope that you enjoy this Symposium Issue of the *American Criminal Law Review*. Thank you for reading!

Sincerely,

Jordan L. Hughes
Editor-in-Chief, Volume 58
American Criminal Law Review

