PARTICIPANTS

Adam Christianson is sheriff of Stanislaus County. First elected in 2006, he is now serving a third term. He joined the Stanislaus Sheriff’s Department in 1996, after serving in the Ceres and Modesto Police Departments. He has had a variety of assignments, including patrol, bailiff, field training officer, hi-tech crimes detective, sergeant, and lieutenant. He began his public safety career as a paramedic in Stanislaus County. He is a member of many organizations, including the California Peace Officers Association, the California State Sheriff’s Association, and the Stanislaus County Law Enforcement Executives Association. He holds a BA in criminal justice management from Union Institute and University and a paramedicine certificate from San Joaquin Delta College. He has also completed a number of public safety training programs, including the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Course and the POST Executive Development Course.

Magnus Lofstrom is a senior fellow at PPIC. His areas of expertise include public safety, immigration, entrepreneurship, and education. His recent work examines crime trends in California, public safety realignment and recidivism, and California’s jail capacity and construction needs. He is also a research fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA), Germany; a community scholar at the Julian Samora Research Institute at Michigan State University; and a research associate at the Center for Comparative Immigration Studies at the University of California, San Diego. He serves on the editorial board of Industrial Relations and was a member of California controller John Chiang’s Council of Economic Advisors. Prior to joining PPIC, he was an assistant professor of economics at the University of Texas at Dallas. He received his PhD in economics from the University of California, San Diego.

Kellie Longo-Albarrán is the government affairs associate at the PPIC Sacramento Center. She collaborates with PPIC staff in research, communications, and the president’s office to connect PPIC’s work with policymakers. Before she joined PPIC, she was a field representative and caseworker for Congresswoman Doris Matsui. She has also worked as a program director at Resources for Independence Central Valley (RICV). She holds an MS in rehabilitation counseling and a BA in sociology and nonprofit administration from California State University, Fresno.

Linda Penner is chair of the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC). She serves as the governor’s liaison on realignment issues with county sheriffs, district attorneys, chief probation officers, and public defenders statewide. Before Governor Brown appointed her BSCC chair in 2013, she was chief probation officer of Fresno County. She oversaw the Fresno County Probation Department, which supervises more than 20,000 juvenile and adult offenders. Previously, she held multiple positions in the department, including probation division director, services manager, probation officer, and group counselor. She was first appointed to the BSCC by Governor Brown in 2012, and served on the BSCC’s predecessor, the Corrections Standards Authority Board, from 2007 to 2012. She chaired the Fresno County Community Corrections Partnership for two years and served on the State Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. She has also served as president of the Chief Probation Officers of California.

Lee Seale is chief probation officer of Sacramento County. Before he joined Sacramento County in 2013, he served in the Schwarzenegger and Brown administrations as a director in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. He has also worked as a special assistant in the Office of the Inspector General. He began his career as a criminal prosecutor in the California Department of Justice, during which time he also served as a consultant with the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training in the areas of search and seizure law and interrogation law. He holds a JD from the School of Law at the University of California, Davis.

Julie Small is a news reporter and anchor for KQED Public Radio in San Francisco. Before joining KQED, she was the state capitol reporter for Southern California Public Radio, where she reported extensively on state prisons. Her 2010 investigative series on prison medical care won a regional Edward R. Murrow Award and a Golden Mic Award from the RTNDA of Southern California. In 2007 the Sacramento Press Club recognized her ongoing coverage of prison overcrowding with an award for Excellence in the Reporting on California State Government. She began her journalism career as the deputy foreign editor for Marketplace. She holds a master’s degree in journalism from the Annenberg School of Communication at the University of Southern California.