

Occasional Series on Reentry Research
Financial Consequences of a Criminal Conviction

February 9, 2007

Alan Rosenthal is a criminal defense and civil rights attorney with over 30 years of experience. A graduate of Syracuse University College of Law, he has litigated cases involving police misconduct and violations of civil rights in both jails and prisons. He is currently the Director of Justice Strategies, the research, training and policy initiative of the Center for Community Alternatives.

As the Director of Justice Strategies, Mr. Rosenthal has supervised and provided mitigation services in capital cases for the past five years. He has lectured and presented training for lawyers on a variety of topics such as sentencing, legal reform, and reintegrative justice; he undertook a study of race and the local criminal justice system for the local branch of the NAACP and the Alliance Network; and he has drafted legislation in a variety of areas. He also authored the CCA publication *Sentencing for Dollars*, a tool for criminal defense lawyers to use when reviewing the financial consequences of a criminal conviction, and a working paper, *Unlocking the Potential of Reentry and Reintegration*.

Mr. Rosenthal has served his community both through his public interest litigation as well as his service on the Boards of Directors of diverse organizations. He serves on the New York State Bar Association Special Committee on Collateral Consequences of Criminal Convictions and is co-author of the report and recommendations of the Special Committee, entitled "Re-Entry and Reintegration: The Road to Public Safety."

Scott Cade was appointed New York State (NYS) Office of Temporary Disability Assistance Deputy Commissioner and Director of the New York State Division of Child Support Enforcement (DCSE) in August 2005, before which time he managed the NYS DCSE office in New York City.

Mr. Cade began his public service career as a legislative assistant in the New York State Office of Federal Affairs in Washington, DC where he focused on federal agriculture, education and environmental policy. In 1996, he became Federal Liaison at the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (formerly the Department of Social Services) in Albany. In this capacity, he was responsible for pursuing New York State's legislative interests in Washington relating to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Food Stamps, Child Support, LIHEAP and Social Security Insurance.

Mr. Cade is the Regional Representative to the National Council of Child Support Directors Executive Committee and recently became a member of the Advisory Panel for the National Quality Improvement Center on Non-Resident Fathers.

Mr. Cade is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University and Albany Law School and has been a member of the New York State Bar since 2002.

(continued)

Senator Velmanette Montgomery represents the 18th Senatorial District which covers the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Bedford-Stuyvesant, Boerum Hill, Clinton Hill, Fort Greene, Gowanus/Wyckoff, Ocean Hill-Brownsville, Park Slope, Red Hook and Sunset Park. As the Ranking Minority member on the Senate's Social Services, Children and Families Committee, Senator Montgomery is recognized for co-sponsoring the law creating the Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, as well as the law giving mothers the right to breast feed their babies in any location. In the area of health care, the Senator co-sponsored the law prohibiting the ritual practice of female genital mutilation, helped frame the 2002 Women's Health and Wellness Law, and led efforts to pass a proposal to legalize needle exchange programs as a means to deter the spread of AIDS by intravenous drug users to their partners and children.

Given the charge to help improve New York State's criminal justice system, Senator Montgomery was appointed Co-Chair of the NYS Senate Democratic Task Force on Criminal Justice Reform. The Senator and other Task Force members heard testimony from criminal justice advocates from across the state, which has served as a basis for legislative proposals to reform the Rockefeller Drug Laws, implement transitional services for prisoners returning to their home communities, end the use of special housing units to discipline prisoners for minor infractions, and other criminal justice reform measures.

Senator Montgomery received her Masters Degree in Education from New York University, and studied at the University of Accra in Ghana. She was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from St. Joseph's College in 1991.

Ray Tebout was born in the South Bronx in 1974. His early years consisted of migrating over much of America with his family in a converted school bus. Home schooled by his mother, Mr. Tebout excelled scholastically, but had little exposure to the socialization skills that come from a traditional school environment.

By 13, Mr. Tebout had moved back to the Bronx where he was increasingly exposed to drugs and crime through his new street peers and a substance abusing father. Family living arrangements ranged from abandoned cars to housing projects. As an older teenager, Mr. Tebout experienced criminal activity, homelessness, lived in shelters and group homes, and was shot in the street.

Mr. Tebout spent 11 years incarcerated in the New York State prison system. During this time, he gained insight into criminal justice issues and the dynamics of street crime and substance abuse, along with an understanding of attitudes and behaviors which lead to incarceration and high recidivism rates. He taught classes and facilitated workshops in life management skills, substance abuse, and conflict resolution.

Mr. Tebout is currently working as a counselor at the Fortune Society where he assists clients with attaining the skills and tools necessary to live a law abiding life. His goals for the future include continuing his education, owning a restaurant, and offering life skills guidance through his inspirational/motivational speaking business Mindframe Enterprises.