The criminalization of sex work has led to a paradigm in which governmental involvement in the commercial sex industry is overwhelmingly the purview of law enforcement agencies, correctional institutions, and the criminal justice system as a whole. Increasingly, however, a range of non-profit service providers have worked tirelessly to carve out a space for themselves as a vital link between sex workers and the mainstream institutions that, for better or worse, have a great deal of power over their lives. In this panel, researchers, non-profit workers, and legal advocates examine the official governmental systems and institutions that interact with the sex trade, discuss the current funding environment for system responses, and envision alternatives.

**Moderator:**
Crystal Jackson, Sociology Professor at John Jay College
Crystal’s research interests are in gender & sexuality, sex work, social justice, inequalities, and feminism. She is currently exploring the movement among sex workers to establish as a legitimate and united entity, despite the fact the topic is considered taboo. Her previous work examines the political economy of commercial sex.

**Panelists:**
Mitchell Mora, Streetwise & Safe
Mitchell Mora is a youth leader, “know your rights” educator, and researcher with Streetwise and Safe, an organization focused on LGBTQ youth of color’s experiences of policing.

Kate Mogulescu, Legal Aid Society
In 2011, while representing clients charged with prostitution offenses, Mogulescu developed The Legal Aid Society’s Trafficking Victims Legal Defense & Advocacy Project. It was the first-anti-trafficking project to be implemented by a public defender organization. She regularly trains public defenders, prosecutors, and other criminal justice practitioners on preventative measures to avoid the criminalization of this vulnerable population and on best practices to identify victims of sex trafficking.

Sienna Baskin, Sex Work Project
Sienna Baskin, Esq. is a Managing Director of the Sex Workers Project. Ms. Baskin trains and supervises legal staff in providing direct legal representation, public education and outreach. She promotes reform of laws and policies affecting sex workers and survivors of trafficking, and oversees the production of SWP’s human rights documentation reports.

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