Adam Gelb
Director
Public Safety Performance Project
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Adam Gelb directs Pew’s public safety performance project, which helps states advance policies and practices in adult and juvenile sentencing and corrections that protect public safety, hold offenders accountable and control corrections costs. As the project lead, Gelb oversees Pew’s assistance to states seeking a greater public safety return on their corrections spending. He also supervises a vigorous research portfolio that highlights strategies for reducing recidivism while cutting costs. Gelb speaks frequently with the media about national trends and state innovations, and regularly advises policy makers on implementation of practical, cost-effective policies.

Gelb has been involved in crime control and prevention issues for the past 30 years as a journalist, congressional aide and senior state government official. He began his career as a reporter at the Atlanta Journal-Constitution and staffed the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee during negotiations and final passage of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. From 1995 to 2000, as policy director for the lieutenant governor of Maryland, Gelb was instrumental in developing several nationally recognized anti-crime initiatives. He served as executive director of the Georgia Sentencing Commission from 2001 to 2003. Before joining Pew, he was vice president for programs at the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse. Gelb graduated from the University of Virginia and holds a master’s degree from Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government.
Ronal W. Serpas, Ph.D.
Co-Chair, Law Enforcement Leaders
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Ronal W. Serpas is a co-chair for the Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration and a professor of practice at the Loyola University’s Criminal Justice Department in New Orleans. Serpas recently retired from a 34-year career in American law enforcement. The last 13 years of his law enforcement career he served as the police superintendent in New Orleans, police chief in Nashville and chief of the Washington State Patrol. Serpas is a past vice president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the current chair of the IACP Community Policing Committee and a founding co-chair of the IACP Research Advisory Committee. He serves as an executive fellow to the Police Foundation, a national advisory board member to Cure Violence and a national advisory board member to the National Police Research Platform. Serpas has published several articles on law enforcement and police leadership. He received his Ph.D. from the University of New Orleans.

Representative Gregory Snowden
Speaker Pro Tempore
Mississippi House of Representatives
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Greg Snowden has served as the speaker pro tempore of the Mississippi House of Representatives since 2012. Snowden began serving his fifth consecutive term as a member of the Mississippi Legislature on Jan. 5, 2016, for District 83 which encompasses northern Lauderdale County. Snowden’s duties as speaker pro tempore include chairing the House Management Committee, serving on the Joint Legislative Budget Committee and the House Rules Committee. He also is the chairman of the Mississippi House Republican Caucus, and is the past chair of the Mississippi Republican Elected Officials Association. Recognized nationally for his leadership, Snowden serves on the Executive Committee of the Southern Legislative Conference and on the Leadership Council of the Council of State Governments. Snowden formerly served on the Executive Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures.

In 2013, Snowden was the principal author of HB 1231, establishing a Criminal Justice and Corrections Task Force, the findings of which ultimately led in 2014 to the passage of H.B. 585, hailed by Chief Justice Bill Waller as “the greatest reform in the criminal justice system in this and the past century.” In early 2016, Governor Phil Bryant appointed Snowden as Mississippi’s commissioner of the Balanced Budget Commission. Representative Snowden also serves on the Mississippi Bicentennial Celebration Commission. In 2016, SuperTalk Mississippi and Y'all Politics named Snowden as one of the Top 50 Most Influential Mississippians in the areas of elective/appointed government service, lobbying and government relations and business, media and culture.