Step Up Arizona

David's Hope & Arizona and the Arizona Mental Health & Criminal Justice Coalition

June 9 & 10, 2016

Phoenix, AZ

Learning Objectives and Goals

ENDING THE CRMINALIZATION OF MENTAL ILLNESS

JUDGE STEVEN LEIFMAN
Chair, Task Force on Substance Abuse and Mental Health Issues in the Court
Supreme Court of Florida

Speaker: Judge Steve Leifman
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**Speaker's Title: Chair, Task Force on Substance Abuse and Mental
Health Issues in the Court - Supreme Court of Florida**

Date of Presentation: June 9&10, 2016

Title of Presentation: Ending the Criminalization of Mental Illness

Summary

It is estimated that more than two million arrests in the United States each
year involve people with Serious Mental Illnesses (SMI). As a result,
untrained and unprepared stakeholders in the criminal justice system have
been forced to navigate an increasingly scarce system of care for people with
mental illnesses. Jails have become places where a disproportionate number
of people with SMI spend significant amounts of time; their ties to the
community severed, their treatment needs unmet, and their illnesses made
worse. Judge Leifman will discuss his journey into the mental health system,
the legal and medical history that led to America's mental health crisis and
the essential elements necessary to create an effective system of care that
ultimately will transform the mental health and criminal justice systems and
make jail the last option for people with serious mental illnesses, not the
first.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Participants will learn:

➢ How and why the "deinstitutionalization" of psychiatric facilities led
to the criminalization of mental illness.

➢ How the justice system is responding.

➢ New and effective strategies that are being developed and employed
to transform the mental health and criminal justice systems.

OUTLINE