

# National Prison Rape Elimination Commission Membership

---

## CHAIR

Honorable Reggie B. Walton, J.D.  
Justice, United States District Court for the District of Columbia

## MEMBERS

James Evan Aiken  
Correctional Consultant

Pat Nolan  
President  
Justice Fellowship

Jamie Fellner  
Associate Counsel  
Human Rights Watch

Gustavus Adolphus Puryear IV, J.D.  
Executive Vice President and General  
Counsel  
Corrections Corporation of America

Nicole Stelle Garnett, J.D.  
Associate Professor of Law  
University of Notre Dame Law School  
Visiting Scholar  
Northwestern University

Brenda V. Smith, J.D.  
Associate Professor of Law  
Washington College of Law  
American University

John A. Kaneb  
Chairman, President & C.E.O.  
H.P. Hood, Inc.

Cindy Struckman-Johnson, Ph.D.  
Professor of Psychology  
University of South Dakota

# National Prison Rape Elimination Commission

## The Commissioners' Biographies

### **CHAIRMAN REGGIE B. WALTON**

The Honorable Reggie B. Walton was appointed by President George W. Bush to the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in October 2001.

In June 2004, President Bush appointed Judge Walton a member and Chairman of the National Prison Rape Elimination Commission (NPREC). The NPREC was created by the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003, 42 U.S.C. § 15601, *et seq.*, to carry out a comprehensive legal and factual study of the penalogical, physical, mental, medical, social, and economic impacts of prison rape in the United States on Federal, State, and local governments and on communities and social institutions, and to promulgate and recommend national standards for enhancing the detection, prevention, reduction, and punishment of prison rape.

Before serving in these capacities, Judge Walton was appointed by President Ronald Reagan as Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, where he served as Deputy Presiding Judge of the Criminal Division. Judge Walton then voluntarily left this judgeship when called upon by President George H.W. Bush to become Associate Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy in the Executive Office of the President. Later, Judge Walton served as Senior White House Advisor for Crime. President George H.W. Bush thereafter reappointed Judge Walton to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, where the judge served as Presiding Judge of the Family Division and Presiding Judge of the Domestic Violence Unit.

Judge Walton earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from West Virginia State College in 1971 and his Juris Doctor from The American University, Washington College of Law, in 1974.

### **COMMISSIONER JAMES E. AIKEN**

Mr. James Aiken, President of James E. Aiken & Associates, Inc., has more than 33 years of experience in correctional administration, facility operations and management, inspection and assessment of facility performance, and technical-assistance consulting. His international clients have resided in Canada, Costa Rica, the Dutch Kingdom, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Mr. Aiken has served every level of government, providing a wide range of expertise in correctional leadership and organizational development. His technical expertise includes the management of prison disturbances, system productivity, cost containment, prison security systems, managing violent youthful offenders in adult

prisons, gang management, assessment of prison security/operational performance, and prison staffing analysis. He routinely consults with attorneys and testifies as an expert witness in death penalty and civil cases. Mr. Aiken has qualified as an expert witness on future-dangerousness and prison-condition issues in various federal district courts, as well as the courts of Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia.

Mr. Aiken earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina, and his Masters of Arts in Criminal Justice from the University of South Carolina in Columbia, South Carolina.

### **COMMISSIONER JAMIE FELLNER**

Ms. Jamie Fellner, Esquire, is Director of the United States Program, Human Rights Watch. The United States Program is primarily concerned with human-rights violations in the United States.

In this capacity, Ms. Fellner directs a staff of researchers and advocates involved with national problems such as excessively-high criminal sentences; over-incarceration; adverse prison conditions, including treatment of mentally-ill offenders, prison rape, and super-maximum security confinement; ex-offender re-entry problems; mistreatment of immigrants; and human-rights abuses resulting from anti-terrorism policies. Ms. Fellner brings to her work extensive, national and international, human-rights advocacy and research experience.

Before becoming director of the United States Program in 2001, Ms. Fellner served as the organization's associate counsel, a researcher, and an advocate for the organization's Americas Division. In that division, Ms. Fellner concentrated on human-rights abuses in Colombia. Additionally, Ms. Fellner has worked with several foundations that have operated Latin American social-justice programs.

Ms. Fellner earned her Bachelor's degree from Smith College, her Juris Doctor from the University of California at Berkeley, and completed doctoral studies in Latin American history at Stanford University. She has also practiced law and litigated cases in the District of Columbia.

### **COMMISSIONER NICOLE STELLE GARNETT**

Professor Nicole Stelle Garnett is a faculty member at the University of Notre Dame Law School. She joined the faculty in 1999 and her primary research interests include property law, land-use law, and education reform. Professor Garnett is a Fellow of Notre Dame's Institute for Educational Initiatives.

Before joining the faculty of Notre Dame, Professor Garnett served as a law clerk for Associate Justice Clarence Thomas of the United States Supreme Court in 1998 and 1999. She also clerked in the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit for the Honorable Morris S. Arnold in 1995 and 1996. Additionally, Professor Garnett was a staff attorney from 1996 to 1998 for the Institute for Justice, a non-profit, public-interest law firm in Washington, D.C.

Professor Garnett, a member of Phi Beta Kappa, earned her Bachelor of Arts with honors in 1992 from Stanford University. She also earned distinction in political science. Professor Garnett earned her Juris Doctor from Yale Law School in 1995.

### **COMMISSIONER JOHN A. KANEB**

Mr. John A. Kaneb is Chairman of the Board of Directors of HP Hood, L.L.C., and of the Gulf Oil Company. He is also President of The Catamount Companies and a partner in the World Champion Boston Red Sox baseball franchise.

In addition to his other duties, Mr. Kaneb is a Trustee of the University of Notre Dame. He is an Emeritus Trustee of the Massachusetts General Hospital and Emeritus Trustee and former Chairman of the Board of McLean Hospital. Mr. Kaneb has served numerous other boards, committees, and task forces, including the Board of Fellows of the Harvard Medical School.

Mr. Kaneb earned his Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Harvard College. He holds Honorary Doctor of Laws degrees from Saint Anselm College and the University of Notre Dame.

### **COMMISSIONER PAT NOLAN**

Mr. Pat Nolan is the President of Justice Fellowship, the public-policy arm of Chuck Colson's Prison Fellowship Ministries. Mr. Nolan authored *When Prisoners Return*, which describes the important role the Church can play in helping prisoners lead healthy, productive lives following their release.

Mr. Nolan brings a unique background to Justice Fellowship. He served for 15 years in the California State Assembly. For four of those years, he was the Assembly's Republican Leader. Mr. Nolan has been a leader on crime issues, particularly on behalf of victims' rights. He was one of the original sponsors of the Victims' Bill of Rights. Moreover, Parents of Murdered Children awarded Mr. Nolan its Victims' Advocate Award, and many groups, including the Amvets (on behalf of Vietnam veterans), have named Mr. Nolan "Legislator of the Year." Mr. Nolan and Justice Fellowship worked tirelessly for passage of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003.

Mr. Nolan earned his Bachelor of Arts in political science and his Juris Doctor from the University of Southern California.

#### **COMMISSIONER GUSTAVUS A. PURYEAR IV**

Gus Puryear, Esquire, is Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary of the Corrections Corporation of America, the world's largest owner and operator of private prisons and detention facilities. As General Counsel, Mr. Puryear is responsible for the Corrections Corporation's legal and regulatory affairs, including its litigation and risk management, contract management, labor and employment issues, corporate- governance matters, and federal securities laws compliance. Additionally, Mr. Puryear supervises the company's compliance and ethics program, as well as its quality-assurance program.

Before joining Corrections Corporation of America, Mr. Puryear served for three years as Legislative Director and Counsel for Senator Bill Frist, (R. Tenn.). He was also counsel to the United States Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs' special investigation into campaign-finance abuses during the 1996 federal elections.

Mr. Puryear graduated from Emory University with highest honors in 1990. He earned his Juris Doctor with honors from the University of North Carolina School of Law in 1993.

#### **COMMISSIONER BRENDA V. SMITH**

Professor Brenda V. Smith is an Associate Professor at the American University, Washington College of Law. There, Professor Smith teaches in the Community Economic Development Law Clinic. Professor Smith is also Project Director for the United States Department of Justice, National Institute of Corrections, Cooperative Agreement on Addressing Staff Sexual Misconduct with Offenders. Professor Smith is an expert on issues affecting women in prison, a topic about which she has widely published and spoken.

Before her appointment to the faculty of the Washington College of Law, Professor Smith was Senior Counsel for Economic Security at the National Women's Law Center. Professor Smith has also served as the Center's Director for the Women in Prison Project and its Child and Family Support Project.

She earned her Bachelor of Arts from Spelman College and her Juris Doctor from the Georgetown University Law Center.

**COMMISSIONER CINDY STRUCKMAN-JOHNSON**

Dr. Cindy Struckman-Johnson is a Professor of Psychology at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, South Dakota. For nearly 25 years, Professor Struckman-Johnson has taught courses dealing with a wide range of social issues, including social psychology, sex roles, sexuality, and prejudice.

Together with her partner, David Struckman-Johnson, a Professor of Computer Science, the Struckman-Johnsons have researched sexual coercion in prisons since 1994. They have been lauded for their work on sexual coercion in prisons with two national awards. To date, they have studied sexual-coercion rates in ten male and four female prison facilities.

Professor Struckman-Johnson earned her doctorate in social psychology from the University of Kentucky.