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Beyond Ferguson: The Uncertain Future of the Grand Jury

Golden Gate University School of Law

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Beyond Ferguson: The Uncertain Future of the Grand Jury

Thursday, March 26

San Francisco, CA (March 24, 2015) – [Golden Gate University School of Law](#) (GGU Law) will host an expert panel to explore the use of the criminal grand jury, the legal mechanism generating much controversy following the decision not to indict a Ferguson, MO police officer in November, 2014. This free lecture will briefly explain the history of the criminal grand jury, followed by a panel of legal powerhouses who will offer their in-depth analyses of the criminal grand jury's use and its future.

The panel includes:

- Brendon Woods, the Public Defender of Alameda County, California
- Melinda Haag, the United States Attorney for the Northern District of California
- Judge LaDorris Hazard Cordell (Ret.), the first African American woman to sit on the Superior Court of Northern California, currently serving as an Independent Police Auditor for the City of San Jose, California

This lecture will be held at GGU Law on 536 Mission Street, San Francisco, in room 2202 at 5:00 p.m. Professor and Dean Emeritus Peter Keane will begin with a short talk about the history of the criminal grand jury. He will then lead the panel of expert criminal lawyers in a discussion that will leverage their years of experience to explore the nature of the criminal grand jury and how its use has led to recent controversies across the country. Professor Keane is a criminal law expert, a former San Francisco Police Commissioner, and the author of, [“Why Cops Lie: An Open Forum on Justice and the War on Drugs.”](#)

Advance registration, and information on the panelists, is available at [Grand-Jury.eventbrite.com](#).

This talk is a part of GGU Law's annual Justice Jesse Carter Distinguished Lecture Series, which commemorates Justice Jesse Carter, a 1913 graduate of GGU Law and former Associate Justice on the Supreme Court of California. Justice Carter was renowned for his solo dissents in passionate defense of civil rights. The annual event honors his legacy of defending civil rights, a legacy documented in the book *The Great Dissents of the “Lone Dissenter.”*

About Golden Gate University School of Law (GGU Law)

[GGU Law](#) offers law programs that blend practical skills training with legal theory to prepare students to be critical thinkers, problem solvers and leaders, with the flexibility to respond to changes in the legal profession. Founded in 1901, GGU's Law School is accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA) and American Association of Law Schools (AALS).

About Golden Gate University

[GGU](#), a private nonprofit, has been helping adults achieve their professional goals by providing undergraduate and graduate education in accounting, law, taxation, business and related areas for more than 113 years. GGU is accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA) and the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

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