



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
 1436 Duke Street • Alexandria, VA 22314  
 www.populationassociation.org • www.popcenters.org • 301-565-6710 x 1006



POPULATION ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

**President**  
**Dr. Sonalde Desai**  
 University of Maryland

**Vice President**  
**Dr. Jennifer Van Hook**  
 Pennsylvania State University

**President-Elect**  
**Dr. Lisa Berkman**  
 Harvard University

**Vice President-Elect**  
**Dr. James Raymo**  
 Princeton University

**Secretary-Treasurer**  
**Dr. Michelle Frisco**  
 Pennsylvania State University

**Past President**  
**Dr. Robert Hummer**  
 University of North Carolina-  
 Chapel Hill

**Board of Directors**  
**Dr. Jennifer Barber**  
 Indiana University

**Dr. Tyson Brown**  
 Duke University

**Dr. Deborah Carr**  
 Boston University

**Dr. Elizabeth Cooksey**  
 Ohio State University

**Dr. Jennifer Johnson-Hanks**  
 University of California, Berkeley

**Dr. Hedwig Lee**  
 Washington University in St. Louis

**Dr. M. Giovanna Merli**  
 Duke University

**Dr. Jennifer Karas Montez**  
 Syracuse University

**Dr. Emilio Parrado**  
 University of Pennsylvania

**Dr. Rogelio Saenz**  
 University of Texas at San Antonio

**Dr. Christine Schwartz**  
 University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Dr. Florencia Torche**  
 Stanford University

ASSOCIATION OF POPULATION CENTERS

**President**  
**Dr. Sara Curran**  
 University of Washington

**Vice President**  
**Dr. William Dow**  
 University of California, Berkeley

**Treasurer**  
**Dr. Jennifer Karas Montez**  
 Syracuse University

**Secretary**  
**Dr. Jennifer Glick**  
 Pennsylvania State University

October 7, 2022

Dr. Nancy La Vigne,  
 Director  
 National Institute of Justice  
 810 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
 Washington, DC 20531

Dear Dr. La Vigne,

On behalf of the organizations we lead, the [Population Association of America \(PAA\)](#) and [Association of Population Centers \(APC\)](#), we want to congratulate you on your recent appointment as the Director of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ).

PAA and APC are two affiliated organizations representing over 3,000 behavioral and social scientists, including demographers, sociologists, economists, and epidemiologists, and over 40 federally funded population research centers nationwide. Population scientists study the individual, societal, and environmental consequences of population change. Their expertise covers a wide range of topics including mortality, morbidity, fertility, adolescent health, aging, population forecasting, immigration, and human-environmental interactions. Population scientists compete for discretionary funding provided by Federal scientific agencies, including the National Institutes of Health and National Science Foundation, to support their research and research training activities. NIJ is also an important source of funding for population scientists who are conducting research on topics such as prisoner reentry, the social and environmental dynamics of health and crime, and the effects of incarceration across the lifespan. Our researchers are particularly expert in understanding and evaluating diversity, equity, and inclusion outcomes with sophisticated data and models.

Our organizations were encouraged to learn that you are committed to building the NIJ evaluation budget. Further, we were pleased to hear that you have made working with researchers from diverse disciplines a top priority. To that end, we look forward to facilitating opportunities for the NIJ to engage with our organizations and tap the expertise of population scientists. Please do not hesitate to contact us if the PAA and APC can ever be of assistance to you and the agency.

Once again, congratulations on your new position. We are looking forward to working with you and being of assistance.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sonalde Desai  
 President  
 Population Association of America

Dr. Sara R. Curran  
 President  
 Association of Population Centers