

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE- MEMBER BIOS**  
**NOVEMBER 10, 2021**

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**Samantha Angelone** is currently the Director of Advancement at a small, diverse school located in Philadelphia. Samantha is very passionate about raising funds for her school to help provide the best education possible for our future leaders. Born and raised in Philadelphia, Samantha put aside her goals to raise her children, waiting until they were grown before pursuing her bachelor's degree in Marketing, graduating in 2020. She is currently working towards her Master's in Marketing with a minor in Social Media and expects to graduate in May 2022. Samantha strongly believes in second chances and has a strong understanding of the negative effects of being labeled a criminal and what that can do to you. She would like to work to make it possible for individuals to have a second chance and to show the world that one bad decision does not define a person.

**Noah Barth--** Noah is the Prison Monitoring Director of the Pennsylvania Prison Society, America's oldest human rights organization. At the Prison Society he oversees the work of over 300 trained volunteer monitors who go into prisons across the state to meet with individuals and help address their concerns. Noah previously worked for five years managing college-in-prison programs, helping students inside obtain bachelor's degrees. He has also worked in alternatives-to-incarceration and public health capacity building. Noah holds a BA in Sociology and an MS in International Development from Tulane University. Noah believes that Philadelphia is a wonderful place, but it suffers from pronounced disparities in resource access and opportunities to thrive, divided largely along racial lines. These patterns are both reflected in and reinforced by our criminal-legal system. He is excited to join his fellow Committee members to grow the consensus that we can improve public safety while simultaneously reducing the scale and severity of the prison system.

**Dr. Charlotte Brickhouse** is an Executive Director in the school district of Philadelphia with over 20 years of service and dedication to children of this great city. In her current role she works with administrators, school teams and internal and external stakeholders to improve the special education programs and services for students with disabilities. She has led a number of large district initiatives and developed the first special education instructional framework. During her tenure Dr. Brickhouse has served in various leadership roles including special education director, case manager, and a special education discipline coordinator. Dr. Brickhouse is a staunch advocate for students and youth with disabilities and has appealed to lawmakers on Capitol Hill for years regarding issues related to special education. She is a board member for the Pennsylvania Council of Exceptional Children, and a steering committee member for the Networks for Training and Development. Additionally, Dr. Brickhouse is also a member of the district's Equity Coalition and served on the Hispanic Heritage committee. Dr. Brickhouse holds a doctorate degree in Educational Leadership and Management from Drexel University in the Urban Special

Education Leaders of Tomorrow Program (USELT). She has also earned two master's degrees in Instructional Leadership from Cabrini University and Special Education from Arcadia University. Dr. Brickhouse is elated to join the Community Advisory Committee to continue her work to ensure that equity and equality is afforded to all citizens of Philadelphia. As a member of the CAC, it is her desire to become an advocate that will offer creative, innovative, and sustainable solutions that will destroy systemic barriers, and create bridges of justice, hope and opportunities to better the lives of Philadelphians.

**Arthur S. Brown, Jr.** served as Adjunct Minister at the Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, Wash. DC, served on the ministerial staff of the Third Street Church of God, Wash. DC, as the Social Worker/Director of its Urban Outreach Program for the Homeless for 13 ½ years and was employed as Chaplain of the Gospel Rescue Mission's Samaritan Program, Wash. DC. He was employed as the Director of Homeless Affairs at the United Planning Organization, Wash. DC and Social Service and Parent Involvement Coordinator of Capital Heal Start in Wash, DC. He has served as Community Organizer for Organizing Neighborhood Equity (ONEDC) in Wash., DC. He has served as Board Member/Mentor Coordinator of the Jobs Partnership Greater Washington and Convener of the Coalition of Housing and Homeless Organizations, Wash., DC. He has served on the steering committees of the following organizations, The National Association of Black Social Workers, The Greater Washington Allies for Racial Reconciliation, and The Organization of Service Providers and Consumers, Wash. DC. He holds a BS degree from The Pennsylvania State University and a MSW degree from The University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy and Practice. He holds certificates in the art of Restorative Justice Circles and Healing Communities Prison Ministries Re-Entry Initiative, Phila., Pa. Currently he serves as Chair of the Ending Mass Incarceration Team of the local Philadelphia POWER Live Free Faith Based Coalition and Chair of the Social Justice and Human Rights Committee of the Philadelphia Alliance of Black Social Workers.

**Stephen T Davis, MHS, PhD-** With over 19 years' experience in the developmental disabilities field, Stephen T. Davis earned his undergraduate degree from Trenton State College in 1993. A Graduate of the Lincoln University Master of Human Services program, Stephen has completed his Doctoral studies at Walden University and has served the developmental disabilities population at various roles throughout the tristate area with organizations such RHD, Allegheny Valley School, Enable Inc., and Shorehaven Incorporated. As winner of the 2015 Impact Award, Stephen has been a presenter at the American Public Health Association's National Conference in 2016 and 2017, The Philadelphia Regional Conference on Developmental Disabilities in 2016 the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in 2017, and the Charting the Life course National Symposium in March of 2018. Currently, Stephen serves as the Program Director for Person Link and has publications in the Spring 2017 Issue of the Social Innovations Journal and the 2018 Edition of the Sage Encyclopedia on Intellectual and Developmental Disorders. Dr. Davis has been committed to supporting the needs of people who experience intellectual

and developmental distinctions and Autism (IDD/A) in the Philadelphia region for over 10 years with a specific focus on people with IDD/A who are also involved with the criminal legal system.

**Tyler DeRubio** is a public policy professional with expertise in policy analysis and Medicaid finance and is passionate about using public policy to humanize the criminal justice system and advance decarceration. Tyler is currently a Senior Consultant at Sellers Dorsey, a consulting firm that provides Medicaid policy expertise to state and local governments throughout the country. Previously, Tyler has worked as a senior policy analyst with PolicyLab at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and as a senior budget analyst in the New York City Mayor's Office, where he worked on correctional health issues. He has published several policy briefs, policy toolkits, and op-eds. Tyler received a Master's in Public Affairs from Princeton University and a bachelor's degree in economics from SUNY Geneseo.

**Joshua Goodin-** Joshua was raised in South Philadelphia and was educated in the Philadelphia School District. After graduating from Furness High School, he attended West Chester University of PA., then later transferred to Geneva College at the Center for Urban Theological Studies where he obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Services. He is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity at the United Lutheran Seminary, also serving as a Community Liaison at Turning Points for Children and Senior Pastor of St. Paul Chapel Baptist Church. Joshua's love for the city is one of the motivating factors of why he was interested in joining this committee, understanding that as a community member one of his responsibilities is playing an active role in the reform process. One of the best ways to reform a system is through individuals who have been impacted and have a desire to see change in the system. Joshua believes that if we are to be the city of brotherly love and sisterly affection, we must have systems in place that benefit all people regardless of race, gender, religion, and socioeconomic status. A father, leader, and concerned community member.

**Joyce Granger-** Joyce is the co-founder of S.W.A.G., the social justice arm of Why Not Prosper, and a proud Philadelphia resident. She is a vaccine captain and visits women in prison every week to educate the ladies on the importance of vaccination. She is a graduate from the Mural Arts Social Justice Program and participated in the ICAN and Youth Sentencing Project programs with the Youth Sentencing and Reentry Project. Joyce encourages and motivates others to move forward and not let the past define their future. She has shared her story and experiences at St. Joseph's University, Penn State and Southworth University. Joyce has received awards and certificates in CPS and food service. In addition to co-founding S.W.A.G., she works part time at Why Not Prosper as a House Monitor.

**Connie Grier-** Connie Grier is the Founder of The RESPECT Alliance an organization focused on effective mentoring, parental engagement at home and school, and social justice issues. She works with youth, adults, families, schools, and organizations in the areas of justice, self-efficacy, dismantling mass incarceration pathways, equity, and advocacy. Connie is a public

school educator with 28 years of classroom and school administration experience. She has served as an Adjunct Professor of Education, Criminal Justice and Women's Studies for Temple University, and currently serves as an Adjunct Professor in Social Work and Criminal Justice for Alvernia University. Connie received her BS from Temple University, and her MS degrees in Educational Administration and Curriculum and Instruction from Arcadia University. Connie has for the last 8 years served directly in correctional facilities and on four organizational boards for youth and adults in the areas of education, empowerment, and redemption. She advocates for justice and educates society on the realities of mass incarceration and the criminal justice system, the school to prison pipeline, and reentry. Her hashtag, #JusticeAlways, is not only a reminder that we should always seek justice, but that there are many pathways and voices required for its attainment.

**Marcus Hall-** Marcus returned home to Philadelphia after serving as Deputy Director of Community Engagement for the New York City Department of Education. Upon returning to Philadelphia, Marcus started teaching elementary science for Mastery Charter, eventually moving into the adult education space. Marcus serves as an instructor for Community Learning Center where he has successfully assisted over 100 learners in reaching the academic requirement for transitioning into vocational skills training programs. Marcus also serves as the academic instructor for JEVS Looking Forward program that works specifically with participants directly impacted by the criminal justice system. In 2019, Marcus was selected to join the COABE Literacy Behind and Beyond the Walls Committee and was also one of the two inaugural fellows for the Philadelphia Reentry Coalition Re-Entry Month Initiative organized by the Office of Criminal Justice for Philadelphia. Marcus earned his B.A. from Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA, Elementary Education Certificate from the University of Pennsylvania and has an MBA in data analytics from Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia, PA, and Marcus has published articles for the Philadelphia Inquirer and the Philadelphia Public School Notebook.

**Eileen Horgan-** Eileen Horgan is the Supervising Criminal Advocacy Attorney at the Women Against Abuse Legal Center in Philadelphia where she has worked for over eight years. She practices family law with a focus on providing trauma-informed legal representation to domestic violence victims in Protection from Abuse (PFA) and child custody matters. She also trains community members and organizations on the dynamics of working with domestic violence victims. In addition, she oversees the criminal advocacy program which provides in-court support to domestic violence victims involved in the criminal justice system. Eileen graduated from Rutgers-Camden School of Law in 2010. In her spare time, she serves on the board of CASA of Philadelphia.

**Anthony Johnson-** Anthony Johnson is a Philadelphia native and a dedicated educator with over 20 years of experience. He is an instructor in the fields of Political Science, African American, American and European History, Human Services, and GED/HISET preparation. In addition to his work at Graduate! Philadelphia as a College Advisor assisting adults in returning

to school to earn a college degree, Anthony is an Adjunct Professor at Lancaster Bible College, Alvernia University and Thomas Jefferson University. He is the C.E.O. of Dream Field Academy, a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization that provides mentoring, academic enrichment, employment opportunities and GED preparation to youth, adults and returning citizens. He's also a Fencing instructor. He has experience working with agencies and the judicial system by providing academic services to returning and currently incarcerated through RISE: Mayor's Office of Reintegration Services, the STAR Program: Supervision to Aid Re-Entry, and the Philadelphia Department of Prisons.

He is the author of 7 books including: "The Bunker" and "A War on All Fronts Revisited: 2005-2019 (2020) and has written more than 25 articles published in newspapers (Philadelphia Inquirer: Letters to the Editor, Metro), magazines (TIME) in America and Europe. He has also written two bills addressing mass incarceration and child poverty entitled: "The for Profit-Prison Inmate Education and Rehabilitation Program" and "Feed the Children." Anthony received his B.A. in Political Science from Cheyney University, his M.A. in Central Eastern European Studies from La Salle University and has earned a certificate in American Government from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. He is planning to return to school to complete a Ph.D. in History in 2020. In 2012 and 2018, Anthony ran for state representative for the Juniata Park/Fultonville section of Philadelphia (180th District).

**Brittney Keith-** Brittney Keith is from West Philadelphia. She has always felt that we must work as a community and establish a sense of unity in order to get anything done in our communities. She was raised in Philadelphia and attended her primary school years in Philadelphia. Brittney received a Bachelor of Science in Social Work from Temple University. She has always been in community work in some type of way. She has been a Youth Advocate Worker, a Forensic Intensive Recovery Case Manager, and a Child Welfare Worker. She currently works for the Philadelphia Public School system. She has been afforded the many opportunities to work with children, youth, adults, families etc. throughout our city, some of the very people that are affected the most by the problem of criminal justice.

**Ulicia Lawrence-Oladeinde-** Ulicia is a second-generation South Philadelphian and the Director of Community Education at Temple University's Office of Community Affairs. Mrs. Lawrence-Oladeinde coordinates the Pan African Studies Community Education Program (PASCEP) a 40-year-old community engagement program purposed to share information and Temple University resources. She is a compassionate administrator-servant leader, trainer, educator, and career coach, who has committed more than 35 years of her career to facilitating the personal and professional success of community organizations and adult learners. A nontraditional and first-generation college student, Ulicia holds degrees from Temple University College of Education, B.A.in Applied Communication and, M. Ed.in Adult and Organizational Development. Her educational pursuit began at Community College of Philadelphia, earning an A.A.S in Business Management. She is most proud of her artistic

abilities in sewing, plus arts and crafts which have always been the staple of her entrepreneurship. She owns a family business with her two daughters for more than 30 years. For the last 15 years, Ulicia has worked with the state and local prison systems educational division to provide access to high school equivalency (GED) and advanced education toward college credits. After graduating from the Urban League of Philadelphia Leadership Academy, Ulicia's focus became providing exposure to entrepreneurship skills for young men in the community.

**Sharon Mackrey-** Sharon has worked in the non-profit sector for over 15 years. She started her career in insurance working in customer service. From there she began her academic journey by attending Community College of Philadelphia for an Associates Degree in Behavioral Health and Social Services. She eventually completed her undergraduate studies with Alvernia University and received a Bachelor of Arts in Addictions and Mental Health Treatment. Finally she completed her graduate studies with Strayer University and receive a Master of Science degree in Public Administration. Her tenure has been working as an advocate for tenants and the homeless to level the playing field towards housing stability. She started out as a case manager and now is a Program Director with the Tenants Union Representative Network (TURN). Her passion to help those who do not have a voice has allowed her to empower them by showing how to navigate for themselves by understanding their rights when it comes to fair housing. Sharon is now a part of another non-profit group that focuses on working with youth 12-18 years old from Philadelphia's most high-risk neighborhoods. The group provides a safe haven for young people to engage, create fellowship, discover and learn. They encourage our youth to find their voice and creative talents, thus empowering them to become positive forces within their respective communities and within their own lives.

**Malik Neal-** Malik Neal is the co-founder and director of the Philadelphia Bail Fund, a non-profit organization that prevents the pre-trial jailing of low-income Philadelphians by posting bail and advocating for systemic reform. In his capacity as a volunteer, Malik served for three years as director of the Pennsylvania Prison Society's Philadelphia Official Visitors program, where he oversaw a network of citizens tasked with addressing the concerns of individuals incarcerated and monitoring conditions in the Philadelphia jails. Currently, Malik serves on the boards of Pennsylvania Prison Society, where he sits on the policy committee, and La Salle Academy. He is also a member of the District Attorney's 17<sup>th</sup> Police District Youth Aid Panel, a community diversion program for juveniles charged with a first-time, nonviolent offense. Malik's work in criminal justice is driven and shaped by his own personal experience. Members of his immediate family – in addition to being victims of crime – are and have been incarcerated. Malik was born and raised in the Point Breeze section of Philadelphia and still calls it home.

**Margaret E. Robertson:** Margaret is a Philadelphian by choice. Her family migrated here from South Carolina during the last decade of the Great Migration. During her early years,

she was nourished by her great aunt's weekly current events discussions of *Jet* magazine articles and national politics as she sat in her kitchen drinking Pepsi and eating Ritz crackers. On Sunday, she watched WWII documentaries with her father as he recounted his war experiences in Italy and North Africa. Her very practical mother taught her how to use words to protect herself. When she moved, she attended her last five years of public education in Philadelphia schools, then went to colleges in Pittsburgh, and returned for her graduate and professional education in Philadelphia. At Penn, her favorite class was the Legal Clinic. She has worked primarily in Maryland and Philadelphia in education and law. Her passion is lifting the barriers that separate the weak from power in their own lives.

Child advocacy and literacy organizations were her volunteer choices until 2009. That was the year that the criminal justice system affected Margaret personally. As a result, she began to focus on work in social justice with the first Participatory Defense Hub in Norristown. In Philadelphia, she worked with the Coalition Against Mass Incarceration, The Center for Returning Citizens, and the ACLU Court Bail Program. When Participatory Defense Hubs began to form in Philadelphia, she joined the Youth Hub and helped to form the Germantown Hub.

Margaret has seen that when social justice policy is discussed and conceived, the voices most likely to be muted are those communities, families, and individuals most affected by the decisions. The voices most likely to be amplified are those of professionals and politicians. If she is able to raise the volume on the voices of the least regarded until the sound and consideration are equalized, she will feel successful. Margaret hope to share what she has learned and will learn from other members and our partner agencies as we fulfill our commitments.

**Rachel Santiago** is an Advocate, Coordinator, Advisor, Administrator, and Organizer. Rachel Santiago believes in righting the wrong and providing resources and informational education to impacted individuals, Families, and communities stuck in the Judicial system. She empathizes on being a powerful support to her community. She is an active Peer Parent Advocate who helps others navigate the child welfare system and provides input on efforts to obtain justice reform. She's a member/CoFounder of Dignity Act Now Collective, the head of Trauma & Healing, and an acting family intervention prevention support agent. She is also an advisor for the Women ReEntry Pilot Program at Mural Arts of Philadelphia and for the Incarcerated Women's Working Group for A.C.L.U. (American Civil Liberties Union), C.L.S. (Community Legal Services). She believes in dvocating for impacted individual to obtain second chances in today's society. She speaks out about injustices, poor conditions and treatments, and has crofted policies for legislation. Rachel was an impacted individual, who came home to navigate the court system and the child welfare system to obtain reunification with her children. She has advocated for better medical care for those still incarcerated at State Road. Her education consists of providing services to individuals with drug and alcohol dependencies and providing medical services to the elderly. She joined the CAC to further

her desires to assist and provide service to our community. Collaboration with other individuals who share the same compassion for how our community is supported and uplifted is important to her.

**Abdur Scott** - Abdur Scott currently holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications with a Public Relations emphasis from Washington Adventist University. Abdur has devoted his professional career to advocacy and support to individuals in the judicial system. In the last three years, he has committed his work to providing a platform for Returning Citizens. Abdur is currently a Case Manager for the SOAR Program at Philadelphia OIC and works with individuals 25 and over who have recently been released from incarceration or currently under supervision of the judicial system. Abdur has over eight years' experience working with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Organizing and Safety and Health Departments, as well as 5 years of experience in grant writing, mentoring youth, and adult advocacy. Abdur's versatile background enables participants to have strength-based conversations and linkages to resources that can better support them while successfully obtaining short-term/ personal goals within the program.

**Vandeth Sek** was born and raised in West Philadelphia to refugee parents sponsored to the US to escape the Killing Fields of Cambodia. Like many immigrants growing up in Philadelphia in the 90s, Vandeth lived in poverty and endured daily racial discrimination early in life, thus prompting him to join the neighborhood gang. After finding himself in and out of juvenile detention centers throughout his adolescent years and later graduating to adult prison, Vandeth took advantage of an opportunity to attend college after earning his GED from prison. Vandeth graduated with a dual bachelor's in Political Science and Social Science and went to graduate school for a master's in urban planning, both from the University of Hawaii. Vandeth spent the last decade of his career working for multiple members of congress, drafting policies as it relates to Criminal Justice, amongst other legislation. Vandeth spends his free time volunteering with multiple youths mentoring programs throughout Philadelphia.

**Reverend Dr. Michelle Anne Simmons**- Reverend Dr. Michelle Anne Simmons, a single mother of two children, has overcome many challenges throughout her life. She has received numerous awards for her leadership, advocacy, heroism, and humanitarianism that have afforded her opportunities to travel the world and share her experiences and minister to others. Rev. Simmons currently holds a D. Min. and an M.S. in Clinical and Counseling Psychology, as well as a B.S. in Human Services from Chestnut Hill College. She is also a Certified Allied Addictions Practitioner and a Human Services Board Certified Practitioner. In 2001, Rev. Simmons founded *Why Not Prosper, Inc.*, a grass-roots 501C3 organization located in the Germantown section of Philadelphia, PA. The organization's mission is to help women in the prison system to discover their own strength and to empower them to become responsible, economically self-sufficient, and contributing members of the community. Since its founding, the organization has assisted hundreds of women with their transition from



prison to community. As a formerly-incarcerated woman, she has a deep understanding of the needs of women in the prison system. Her organization now provides pre-release mentoring to incarcerated women at Philadelphia Department of Prisons, and the State Correctional Institutions at Muncy and Cambridge Springs. On average, 100 to 150 women attend the workshops that prepare women for their release from prison. Rev. Simmons also founded the *Why Not Prosper House*—a 6-to-12-month residential program for women that are homeless or need more time to stabilize following prison that serves 45 to 60 women annually.

**Tara Tripp** is lifelong Philadelphian, who graduated from Temple University in 1993 with a bachelor's degree in Political Science. She went on to St. Joseph's University to pursue a master's degree in Criminology and graduated in 1995. That same year, she began working for Center City Crime Victim's Services where she learned the various skills required for an advocacy career in criminal justice. In 1997, I was offered a position within the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania working with the Philadelphia Juvenile Court System. After seven years with the Juvenile Court, I transferred into the Philadelphia Adult Probation & Parole Department where she worked for two years. In 2004, she joined Temple University's Department of Criminal Justice as a non-tenure track faculty member. During my almost 20-year career here at Temple, it has been my goal to engage students on not only academic responses to crime but to provide them with meaningful experiences that go beyond the classroom. For the past six years, she has taught for the Temple University Inside Out Prison Exchange Program at Riverside Correctional Facility for women. In 2016, I led a study abroad course on Human Trafficking in Rome Italy. Tara has also participated in many Criminal Justice student led programs on Temple's main campus that covered topics such as understanding the impact of gun violence to bridging the gap between the community and law enforcement. Currently, she is a member of the University Faculty Senate as well as a member of the Faculty of Color Committee(university) and Diversity Committee within my department. Tara's interest in the Committee Advisory Commission is based solely on her desire to give back to the people. She hopes to gain a better understanding of the nexus between the community, justice-based outcomes, and meaningful criminal justice reform.

**Devin Uqdah- *bio forthcoming***

**Devren Washington** - Devren Washington is a community organizer dedicated to building power in marginalized communities by bringing equity and inclusion to the people who need it most. He uses his experience as a founding member of the Philadelphia Community Bail Fund and organizer with Black Lives Matter Philadelphia to organize directly impacted communities around issues pertaining to decarceration, technology, surveillance, and internet access. Devren has also led the relaunch of Philadelphia's Digital Justice Coalition to permanently engage organizers of disparate issues around key principles of digital justice, with a goal of codifying key protections into local law, policy, and regulations.

**Shymeka Wright- *bio forthcoming***

**Brittany Weston-** Brittany Weston is currently a criminal defense and debtor defense attorney located in Philadelphia. Her passion for criminal justice is long-standing. She graduated from Temple University in May 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts, Cum Laude, in both political science and criminal justice. Upon graduation, Brittany moved to Charlotte, North Carolina where she attended Charlotte School of Law. During her time in law school, Brittany focused on helping people in the criminal justice system by completing the Criminal Justice Clinic. While in law school, Brittany also founded the school's ACLU chapter. During the 2014 election season, Brittany was the Volunteer Coordinator for the campaign to elect Yolanda Trotman as District Court Judge in Charlotte-Mecklenburg County. She also worked as a student-intern at the Law Offices of Yolanda Trotman, drafting briefs and legal documents to support the criminal defense cases handled by Attorney Trotman. Brittany graduated law school early, in December 2014, and received her Juris Doctorate, Cum Laude. While working at a law firm in West Chester, Brittany also took an adjunct teaching position at Temple University in the criminal justice department where she taught Nature of Crime for the Spring 2016 semester. In June 2016, Brittany stepped out on her own and opened her own solo legal practice. To date, Brittany continues to practice as a criminal defense attorney and also represents debtor defendants in cases involving personal loan companies and credit card companies.

**Lenard Whitaker,** born and raised in the city of Philadelphia. He grew up in the Germantown area, then moved to West Oak Lane, where he currently resides. Lenard attended both catholic and public schools in the city. Lenard graduated from Germantown High in 2001. During his senior year, he was arrested and charged with a crime, ruining his plans of going to college. After struggling to find a job due to his criminal record, he was finally hired at KFC, in Upper Darby, where he worked for 6yrs. In 2007, he began working for a sanitation company in Telford, Pa where he still currently employed. In 2008, he decided to not let his past get in the way of getting a college degree, and went back to school. In 2010, he graduated from Peirce College with an associate degree in paralegal studies. In 2012, he did his first internship at the District Attorney's Office, and then followed up with an internship in 2014, and 2016 at Managing Directors Office. Today, he currently a student at Villanova University, where he is working on B.A. majoring in Public Administration, with a minor in Political Science. Over the years, he has volunteered with several reform programs such as, MENTOR, Youth-Aid Panel, and he currently serves on the Philadelphia Justice Project (PJP), Villanova chapter.

Lenard is committed to helping those affected by the criminal justice system, and he wants to have a hand in changing it. He was always told that, when you see something wrong, try to fix it. And this is the reason for him joining the Community Advisory Committee. He wants to have a voice in reforming the criminal justice system.