

BAIL REFORM AND THE MEDIA

A virtual Discussion among Journalists on the Influence of Media Coverage

MODERATOR

Susan Shah – Managing Director of Racial Justice at Trinity Church Wall Street



Susan Shah is an experienced lawyer, public health professional, and policymaker in the areas of criminal justice, immigration, and public health. She serves as the Managing Director for the Racial Justice initiative with Trinity Church Wall Street Philanthropies. In this role, she oversees the philanthropic strategy, execution, and partnerships for the initiative to end cycles of mass incarceration in New York. She was previously at the Vera Institute of Justice for over a decade and held various leadership roles, including overseeing all programs nationwide. Early in her career, Susan led immigrant health programs and practiced immigration law. Susan has taught at John Jay College and has advised the U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of New York, and the DOJ Civil Rights Division on language access in policing. Susan earned her BA in journalism from Drake University, an MPH from Tufts

University, and a JD from Northeastern University School of Law. She lives in Windsor Terrace with her partner and two daughters.

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PANELISTS



Matt Katz – WNYC/Gothamist

Matt Katz reports on public safety, focusing on decarceration and the equitable enforcement of laws for WNYC and Gothamist.

He has investigated abuse in ICE detention and covered former N.J. Gov. Chris Christie, sharing a Peabody Award for coverage of Bridgegate and writing a book, "American Governor: Chris Christie's Bridge to Redemption." He guest hosts WNYC shows including "The Brian Lehrer Show" and "On The Media." Once upon a time, he wrote a syndicated dating column.

Craig McCarthy – The New York Post

Craig McCarthy is currently the Deputy Police Bureau Chief for the New York Post, where he's worked since 2019. He doggedly covers the New York City Police Department, breaking numerous stories about alleged police misconduct, and analyzes crime data for articles to explain recent trends.

He previously worked at NJ Advance Media (The Star-Ledger and NJ.com) where he led a team of six others in the data collection and co-led the reporting effort for the award-winning project, The Force Report, which analyzed five years of police use-of-force in New Jersey.



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***Joshua Solomon – Albany Times
Union***

Joshua Solomon is a reporter with the Capitol Bureau team for the Albany Times Union.

He is born and raised in Queens and spent time reporting in rural western Massachusetts and suburban Florida.

Ashley Southall – The New York Times

Ashley Southall is the metro police bureau chief of the New York Times, where she reports and guides coverage of public safety and the NYPD.

She joined The Times in 2008 as a clerk in the newspaper's Washington bureau, and she covered breaking news on the central newsdesk in New York before joining Metro in 2016.

Ms. Southall is an alumna of Howard University.



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Josefa Velasquez – The City

Josefa is a senior reporter at THE CITY, a non-profit news outlet covering the five boroughs, covering inequality. She recently served as THE CITY's political reporter covering the state Capitol, which she has done for various organizations for the last decade. She's previously worked at The Associated Press, Politico New York, the New York Law Journal and as a money-in-politics reporter for a start-up called Sludge.

A native of Santiago, Chile, Josefa grew up on Long Island and graduated from SUNY Albany.