

# Gang Databases & Social Media

## *A primer on discovery and suppression issues*

While police across the country have touted gang and social media databases as innovative and vital public safety tools, defense attorneys, community members and clients have raised concerns that these tools are infringements on liberty, due process, and have done little more than digitize structural racism. From how gangs are defined, how members are validated, and who becomes part of the database, the complexities of these police discovery and monitoring tools routinely come up in courts across the Commonwealth and they have grave implications for the outcome of cases. Increased reliance on these digitized databases warrants new and updated discovery and suppression motion practice.

Join our experts as we look into what these databases are, how they are used, and how defense attorneys can address the due process and racial profiling issues raised.

### Agenda

- Gang Databases and Social Media: The Nuts and Bolts of Criminal Cases
- Examples of Databases
- Issues of Structural Racism, Racial Profiling, and Due Process
- Discovery and Suppression Considerations for Challenging the Databases

### Speakers



**JOSHUA RAISLER COHN** has been a public defender at the Committee for Public Counsel Services since graduating from Northeastern University Law School in 2010. Currently in the Criminal Defense Training Unit, he is also a member of the Race Equity Training Team. While representing individual clients, Josh's litigation strategy looks to attack structures in the law (and in society) that perpetuate systemic oppression. Josh is on the Board of Directors at the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild and has been Adjunct Faculty at Boston University School of Law.



**VICTORIA KELLEHER** is a criminal defense attorney in Boston. She is a member of the Federal Criminal Justice Act (CJA) Panel, Murder Panel, Superior Court Panel, Sexually Dangerous Persons Panel, and Appellate Panel. She is a Supervising Attorney with Suffolk Lawyers for Justice. She is the Immediate Past President of the Massachusetts Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (MACDL). She is a current MACDL board member and CJA board member. She is a graduate of Northeastern University School of Law and a former staff attorney with the Committee for Public Counsel Services. Prior to law school, she worked in the fields of mental health, AIDS and addiction.

### Dates & Location

Register at [www.mcle.org](http://www.mcle.org)

#### LIVE WEBCAST

Tuesday, April 26, 2022  
2:00 pm–3:00 pm  
Program Number: 2220152WBC

#### REBROADCAST

Wednesday, May 11, 2022  
9:00 am–10:00 am  
Program Number: 2220152RBC

#### REBROADCAST

Thursday, May 19, 2022  
12:00 noon–1:00 pm  
Program Number: 2220152RB1

#### ON DEMAND WEBCAST

View after Thursday, May 19, 2022  
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