

**Name of Panel:**           **Death Penalty in the Shadow of COVID-19.**

**Date | Time | Location:**           October 20, 2020 | 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. CT | Online

**Brief Description:**

Join the ACS Dallas-Ft. Worth Lawyer Chapter for a discussion on the death penalty. Specifically, we will discuss whether the global pandemic has any impact on the death penalty, and whether practitioners should change their legal strategies in light of this new environment. Additionally, we are going to focus on several cases, including the case of Lezmond Mitchell, a Native American who was executed against his tribe's will. Lastly, we will discuss the current administration's court-packing strategy and how the court-packing affects the death penalty in the long term.

**Panelists' Names and Bios:**

- **Thea Posel**, Clinical Instructor, Capital Punishment Clinic, The University of Texas at Austin School of Law
- **Jessica Graf**, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Capital Habeas Unit, Federal Public Defender (NDTX)
- **Dereck VerHagen**, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Capital Habeas Unit, Federal Public Defender (NDTX).
- **Leo Yu**, Assistant City Attorney, City of Dallas; Chair, ACS Dallas-Fort Worth Lawyer Chapter (*Moderator*)

**Agenda of Panel:**                   12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. CT (1 hour of CLE)

- Introductions / Opening Remarks (5 min)
- Panel Discussion (40 min)
- Q&A (15 min)

**Materials for Panel:**

Ngozi Ndulue, [Enduring Injustice: The Persistence of Racial Discrimination in the US Death Penalty](#), Death Penalty Info Ctr (2020).

[The Death Penalty in America](#), AM. CONST. SOC'Y (last visited Sept. 22, 2020).

Alexis Hoag, [Valuing Black Lives: A Case for Ending the Death Penalty](#), 51 COLUM. L. REV. 985 (2020).

Catherine Grosso et al., [Death by Stereotype: Race, Ethnicity, and California's Failure to Implement Furman's Narrowing Requirement](#), 66 UCLA L. REV. 1394 (2020).

Hailey Fuchs, [Justice Dept. Executes Native American Man Convicted of Murder](#), The New York Times (August 26, 2020).

Russ Feingold & Keith Harper, [Lezmond Mitchell's Execution Would Be Another Broken Promise to Tribal Nations](#), ACS EXPERT FORUM (Aug. 25, 2020).

Matthew Fletcher, [The U.S. Shouldn't Get to Decide If a Navajo Man Dies](#), The Atlantic (August 21, 2020).

Keri Blakinger, [How Coronavirus is Disrupting the Death Penalty](#), The Marshall Project (March 23, 2020).

Brandon Garrett et al., [The American Death Penalty Decline](#), 107 J. OF CRIM. L. AND CRIMINOLOGY 561 (2017).