

NAME OF EVENT: **What Next for Court Reform?**

DATE | TIME | LOCATION: April 8, 2021 | 4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. EST | Online

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

The debate over whether and how to restructure both the Supreme Court and the lower federal courts has intensified in the past year, particularly after Amy Coney Barrett's Senate confirmation took place just one week before the 2020 presidential election. For some in the progressive community, the Biden administration's formation of a commission to study the issue is not a sufficiently urgent response. A legislative response is forthcoming in the House of Representatives, where bills to add seats to the Supreme Court and set term limits for the Justices will be introduced, and pressure is ratcheting up from the grassroots, but court reform will still be a difficult issue to advance in the U.S. Senate. How can progressives move this agenda forward in the current political climate?

SPEAKERS' NAMES AND BIOS:

Jennifer Bendery, Senior Politics Reporter, HuffPost, *Moderator*

Hon. Mondaire Jones, 17th Congressional District of New York

Chris Kang, Chief Counsel, Demand Justice

Leah Litman, Assistant Professor of Law, University of Michigan Law School

Nancy Zirkin, Strategic Consultant; Former Executive Vice President of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights

AGENDA OF PROGRAM:

5 minutes introduction

60 minutes speaker presentations and moderated conversation

25 minutes Q&A

MATERIALS FOR CALL:

Erwin Chemerinksy, [*It's Time to Reform the Supreme Court-Here are Five Ways to Do It*](#), BILLMOYERS.COM (July 15, 2014).

Sabeel Rahman, [*The US Supreme Court Has Become A Threat to Democracy. Here's How We Fix It*](#), GUARDIAN (Sept. 24, 2020).

Daniel Epps and Ganesh Sitaraman, [*How to Save the Supreme Court*](#), VOX (Oct. 10, 2018).

Ian Millhiser, [*Let's Think About Court-Packing*](#), DEMOCRACY J. (Winter 2019).

Alan Morrison, [*Term Limits for Justices are the Best Way to Fix this Supreme Court Mess*](#), HILL (Oct. 5, 2018).

NY TIMES OPINION (Multiple Authors), [*How to Fix the Supreme Court*](#) (Oct. 27, 2020).

Jed Handelsman Shugerman, [*Balanced Checks*](#), SLATE (June 20, 2012).

PROPOSALS, PROCESS & POLITICS, POST-2020 ELECTION

Alicia Bannon, [*An Overlooked Idea for Fixing the Supreme Court*](#), BRENNAN CENTER (Mar. 12, 2021).

John Bowden, [*Rubio Introduces Amendment to Block Court Packing*](#), THE HILL (Jan. 25, 2021).

Daniel Hemel, [*Can Structural Changes Fix the Supreme Court?*](#), 35 J. OF ECON. PERSPECTIVES 119 (2021).

Michael Klarman, [*The Democrats' Last Chance to Save Democracy*](#), THE ATLANTIC (Feb. 22, 2021).

Dahlia Lithwick & Mark Joseph Stern, [*Democrats Won the Senate. Can They Fix the Courts Now?*](#), SLATE (Jan. 8, 2021).

Russell Miller, [*We Don't Need to Reform the Supreme Court*](#), JUST SECURITY (Feb. 12, 2021).

David Pozen, [*Hardball and/as Anti-Hardball*](#), LAWFARE (Oct. 11, 2018).

Jacqueline Thomsen, [*Federal Judiciary Eyes Expansion of California Courts in Recommending More Judges*](#), NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL (Mar. 16, 2021).

Russel Wheeler, [*What Should We Expect From Biden's Commission on Supreme Court Reform?*](#), BROOKINGS (Feb. 25, 2021).