ARE WE SAFER? Costs, Benefits, and Alternatives to 20 Years of Aggressive Street Policing

Inaugural panel of the Herbert Kurz Chair in Constitutional Law and Civil Liberties at CUNY Brooklyn College

April 18, 2013, 12:30-2PM, Woody Tanger Auditorium
CUNY Brooklyn College, 2900 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, 11210
(Tanger Auditorium is in the clock tower building on campus)

John DeCarlo is an Associate Professor in the Criminal Justice Department of the University of New Haven. DeCarlo, is the former chief of police in Branford, Conn. During his time there, he was known for instituting a more “evidence based” and “community-oriented” approach to policing. For this, FBI Director Robert Mueller called him “an inspiration to others.” DeCarlo’s major fields of research include the use of force by police officers and the weapons focus effect. In 2009, he authored a chapter on Amadou Diallo in African Americans and Criminal Justice: An Encyclopedia (Greenwood Press: New York).

Michael Powell, a New Yorker born and raised, is the Gotham columnist for Metro section of The New York Times, where he has written often on the city's stop-and-frisk policies and the police surveillance of Muslim communities including at NYC area universities. He has written profiles of Barack Obama, Rudy Giuliani, evolutionary biologist Richard Dawkins and an assortment of aging film critics, cantankerous judges and a Supreme Court Justice. He shared in the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for the New York Times’ coverage of Client # 9, aka Elliot Spitzer. In a decade at The Washington Post, he wrote on national politics for the Style Section and served as New York bureau chief, an assignment he began on Sept. 2nd, 2001.

Alex S. Vitale is Associate Professor of Sociology at Brooklyn College, where he teaches criminology and sociology of law. His research deals with the politics of urban policing. He is the author of City of Disorder: How the Quality of Life Campaign Transformed New York Politics (NYU Press) and has been published in Urban Affairs, Policing and Society, Criminology and Public Policy, Mobilization, and Current Sociology. His comments on policing regularly appear in the news including the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and NPR.

Franklin E. Zimring is the William G. Simon Professor of Law and Wolfen Distinguished Scholar at the UC Berkeley. He is a frequent consultant for the FBI, the Police Foundation, the Department of Justice, and New York City, including its police department. A member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Zimring is on the editorial boards of numerous journals, including Punishment and Society, Homicide Studies, and the Journal of Criminal Justice. He is the author of The Great American Crime Decline and The City that Became Safe: New York’s Lessons for Urban Crime and Its Control (both with Oxford Univ. Press).

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