

## Letter From the Editors

We are pleased to enter our fourth year of publication of the flagship journal of our profession, the *Journal of Forensic Social Work*. Over the last four years, we have been fortunate to publish the first peer-reviewed journal that specifically targets the work of forensic social workers and our allied partners. This scholarly outlet forms the foundation of our important scholarly and community-based work in promoting social justice while encouraging community dialogue and safety.

The majority of the manuscripts published over the last three years highlight the importance of interprofessional collaboration. While it is true that social workers constitute the majority of our readership and membership in the National Organization of Forensic Social Work, we rely heavily on our *partners in crime* in the fields of law, criminal justice, psychology, and medicine. Without these collaborative relationships our efforts to ensure safety for children and other vulnerable populations, advocate for effective and humane treatment for offenders, and to remediate racial and class disparities would be impossible. This volume highlights some of the most urgent issues we face in the criminal justice system—domestic and intimate partner violence, veterans in the criminal justice system, and the unfortunate but logical downstream consequence of mass incarceration—the crisis of prisoner re-entry.

As members of interprofessional teams, we have unique opportunities to infuse the justice system with important social work values and ethical considerations, including cultural competence. The importance of recognizing cultural differences and adapting conventional interventions to meet the needs of the diverse populations is the theme of NOFSW's 31st Annual Conference—21st Century Forensic Practice: Moving Beyond Cultural Competence. We hope you will join us at our conference held in New York City at Fordham University. The theme of the conference reflects our ongoing commitment to social justice and the inclusion of marginalized populations in the dialogue about best practices.



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