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In 2012, the National Association of Sentencing Commissions (NASC) established the *Richard P. Kern Memorial Award*. The recipient of this award also serves as the Keynote Speaker for the annual NASC Conference.

The 2023 Conference will be hosted by the Nevada Department of Sentencing Policy in Stateline, Nevada, August 7th to 9th.

The award recognizes an individual who has contributed greatly to the development of sentencing policy and research. To nominate an individual, please complete the attached nomination form and email to TheNASCSecretary@gmail.com by May 30, 2023.

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**About Richard P. Kern**

This award is named after Richard P. Kern, the Director of the Virginia Criminal Sentencing Commission. Dr. Kern served as the Director from the Commission’s creation in 1994 until his passing in 2011, after a 14-year battle with cancer. He was a great friend to NASC, and his presence and contributions are greatly missed.

During his career, Dr. Kern served as the Director of the Virginia Criminal Justice Research Center and as the Research Director of the Governor’s Commission on Parole Abolition and Sentence reform. He served as a member of the NASC Executive Committee. He was a tremendous advocate for sentencing guidelines, sentencing reform, and data-driven decision making. He left a lasting legacy in Virginia and in the national sentencing community.

**About NASC**

The mission of the National Association of Sentencing Commissions is to facilitate the exchange and sharing of information, ideas, data, expertise, and experiences and to educate individuals on issues related to sentencing policies, sentencing guidelines, and sentencing commissions.

Membership to NASC is open to any individual who works or serves on a sentencing commission or similar government body charged with sentencing policy responsibilities. Membership may also include representatives of other government agencies directly involved in the development of state or federal policy and any other academic, public, or private employee, student or other individuals interested in sentencing. Currently, the NASC membership includes representation from roughly two dozen states with formally established sentencing commissions or policy councils and states considering the creation of a sentencing commission.

**Previous Awardees**

2022 Kelly Lyn Mitchell, Executive Director, Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice, University of Minnesota

2019 Mark H. Bergstrom, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing

2018 Douglas A. Berman, Professor, The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.

2017 David Boerner, Professor Emeritus, Seattle University School of Law.

2016 Steven L. Chanenson, Professor, Villanova University School of Law / Faculty Director of The David F. and Constance B. Girard-diCarlo Center for Ethics, Integrity and Compliance.

2015 Hon. Patti Saris, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts and Chair of the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

2014 Richard S. Frase, Professor, University of Minnesota.

2013 Kevin Reitz, Professor, University of Minnesota.

I am nominating the following individual for the 2023 Richard P. Kern Memorial Award. Send nomination form to NASC Executive Committee Secretary at TheNASCSecretary@gmail.com by May 30, 2023.

**Submitted by:**

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| Name: |  |
| Title: |  |
| Organization: |  |
| Phone: |  |
| Email: |  |
| Signature: |  Date: |

**Nomination:**

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| --- | --- |
| Name: |  |
| Title: |  |
| Organization: |  |
| Address: |  |
| Phone: |  |
| Email: |  |

Contributions to the development of sentencing policy and research: