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Emily Bazelon

Staff writer at The New York Times Magazine, the Truman Capote Fellow for Creative Writing and Law, and a lecturer at Yale Law School

Charged: The New Movement to Transform American Prosecution and End Mass Incarceration

Interviewer: Maria Hawilo

Distinguished Professor in Residence, Loyola University Chicago School of Law

Thursday, September 26, 2019, 7:00 PM

Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201

Presented by Family Action Network (FAN),

in partnership with Evanston Township High School D202, Foundation 65, Injustice Watch, the James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy, North Shore Country Day School, VillageMD, and the YWCA Evanston/North Shore.

This event is #freeandopentothepublic and will be recorded. Suitable for youth 12+. familyactionnetwork.net

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: EMILY BAZELON

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Thursday, September 26, 2019, 7:00 PM, <u>Charged: The New Movement to Transform American Prosecution</u> <u>and End Mass Incarceration</u>, Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201. Interviewer: Maria Hawilo, JD.

Faith in the American criminal justice system has long been contingent on the idea that there is a fair contest between two equal adversaries, the prosecution and the defense. But this system has lost its equilibrium, and with it, its power to protect the innocent. Prosecutors today enjoy unprecedented power in the courtroom. Much of the time, it is prosecutors more than judges who control the outcome of a case. They answer to almost no one and make most of the key decisions, from choosing the charge to setting bail to determining the plea bargain. They often decide who goes free and who goes to prison, even who lives and who dies.

The system wasn't designed for this kind of unchecked power, and in *Charged: The New Movement to Transform American Prosecution and End Mass Incarceration,* Emily Bazelon reveals how it is the underreported cause of enormous injustice—and the missing piece in the mass incarceration puzzle. Ms. Bazelon shows how prosecution in America is at a crossroads and details both the damage prosecutors can do and the second chances they can extend if they choose to. She follows a wave of reform-minded D.A.s, elected in some of our biggest cities as well as in rural areas in every region of the country, who are determined to improve the system.

Ms. Bazelon is a staff writer at *The New York Times Magazine* and the **Truman Capote Fellow for Creative Writing and Law** and a lecturer at **Yale Law School**. Her previous book is the national bestseller **Sticks and Stones: Defeating the Culture of Bullying and Rediscovering the Power of Character and Empathy.** Before joining the *Times Magazine*, Ms. Bazelon was a writer and editor at *Slate*, where she co-founded the women's section "DoubleX." She is a graduate of **Yale College** and Yale Law School.

Ms. Bazelon will be interviewed by Maria Hawilo, JD, Distinguished Professor in Residence, Loyola University Chicago School of Law. Prof. Hawilo formerly served as Clinical Assistant Professor of Law in the Bluhm Legal Clinic at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law. Since becoming a lawyer in 2003, she has defended indigent clients in various state and federal systems facing serious criminal charges, and extensive prison sentences, up to and including lifetime imprisonment. Her teaching and research interests focus on the juvenile justice system, and its vast overreach and disparate impact on African-American and Latinx youth. She received a BS in biopsychology and neuroscience, *cum laude*, from the University of Michigan, and a J.D., *magna cum laude*, from the University of Michigan Law School.

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