

About us

The Vera Institute of Justice demonstrates to policy-makers and citizens, regardless of their party affiliation or political orientation, that changing our justice system is better for American society, and for our shared future. Vera advances creative solutions by working directly with public leaders to reform our public institutions: our police departments, our courts, the immigration system, and our jails and prisons. We drive practical, concrete, and far-reaching change. Our goal is a justice system that holds substantially fewer people in jail, prioritizes restoration and socialization over retribution, and delivers access, safety, and fairness to the diverse communities that make up America.

For more information, visit www.vera.org.



@verainstitute

#VeraGala

Program

Introduction

TANYA ACKER, Master of Ceremonies
Hot Bench, CBS Television Distribution

Welcome

NICHOLAS R. TURNER
President, Vera Institute of Justice

Presentation

MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO
Former Speaker of the New York City Council and Senior Advisor,
Latino Victory Fund

Award presented by **LUIS MIRANDA**, with a special video
presentation by **LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA**

Video

Safeguarding Justice

Remarks

JUSTIN ROSLONEK
College Student, The New Jersey Scholarship and
Transformative Education in Prisons Consortium (NJ-STEP)

Introduction by **KAREN PATTON SEYMOUR**
Trustee, Vera Institute of Justice
Executive Vice President and General Counsel,
Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

Dinner

Presentation

MARK SHELTON
General Counsel, Barclays International, Barclays PLC

Award Presented by **THOMAS C. BAXTER JR.**
Of Counsel, Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

Presentation

GOOGLE
Award Accepted By **DAVID DRUMMOND**
Senior Vice President of Corporate Development, Alphabet

Award presented by **VERNON E. JORDAN**

Remarks

JOHN F. SAVARESE
Chair, Board of Trustees, Vera Institute of Justice
Partner, Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz

Dessert reception

Special performance by the World Famous Harlem Gospel Choir

Gala Committee

CO-CHAIRS

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MacAndrews & Forbes Inc.

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KAREN PATTON SEYMOUR*

Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

NICHOLAS TURNER

President,
Vera Institute of Justice

ALAN VINEGRAD*

Covington

*Trustee, Vera Institute of Justice

Honoring

GOOGLE

Award accepted by

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MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO

Former Speaker of the New York City Council and
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Our work



Played a leadership role in the Independent Commission on New York City Criminal Justice and Incarceration Reform, which recommended the closure of Rikers Island jail. We are now working to make this closure a reality.



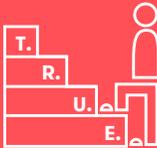
Worked with 66 colleges and 100 prisons in 27 states to develop high-quality college-in-prison programming.



Launched a network of more than a dozen cities and counties to provide universal legal representation for immigrants facing detention and deportation.



Partnered with six public housing authorities across the country to develop reentry programs and/or improve admissions policies for formerly incarcerated people.



Piloted an innovative housing unit for incarcerated young adults in Connecticut that focuses on family partnership, peer support, accountability, and career readiness.



Helped Oklahoma City develop safe and effective alternatives to jail, reducing their local jail population by over 40%.

Safe- guarding Justice

April 23, 2018