

Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology Volume 116 presents

# DOJ INDEPENDENCE: Historical Precedent and Contemporary Challenges

MARCH 12, 2026, 12:00-4:30PM THORNE AUDITORIUM

## Keynote Speaker: 12:15-1:15

### Jill Wine-Banks *"A Legacy of Accountability"*

Jill Wine-Banks began her law career as the first woman to serve as an organized crime prosecutor at the U.S. Department of Justice. She then served as Assistant Watergate Special Prosecutor before later becoming the first woman to serve as General Counsel of the U.S. Army and the first woman to serve as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the American Bar Association. Jill Wine-Banks is now an MSNBC Legal Analyst and co-hosts two top-rated legal podcasts.



## Perspectives from Government Officials 1:30-2:45

Moderated by Professor Deborah Tuerkheimer, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law



**Stephen R. McAllister**  
Professor from Practice, former  
Dean, University of Kansas School of Law,  
U.S. Attorney for the District of Kansas,  
2018-2021, Served as Solicitor General of  
Kansas



**Barbara McQuade**  
Professor from Practice, University of  
Michigan Law School  
U.S. Attorney for Eastern District of  
Michigan, 2010-2017



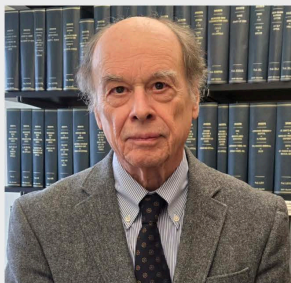
**Scott R. Lassar**  
Senior Counsel, Sidley Austin LLP,  
U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of  
Illinois in Chicago, 1997-2001



**Ed Siskel**  
Former White House Counsel under  
President Biden

## Scholarly Insights 3:00-4:15

Moderated by Professor Stephanie Holmes Didwania, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law



**Barry Sullivan**  
Raymond and Mary Simon Chair in  
Constitutional Law, George Anastaplo Professor  
of Constitutional Law and History, Loyola  
University Chicago School of Law



**Steven J. Kochevar**  
Data Science Institute Law Fellow and  
Lecturer in Law, University of  
Chicago Law School