



Welcome to the third edition of The Impact Report, [Public Interest Experts \(PIE\)](#)'s quarterly newsletter.

The Impact Report is a place for PIE to share updates and perspectives from our work, keeping our community informed and engaged. In our third edition, we're covering the next phase of our partnership with Worth Rises, an exciting honor for our Vice President, and an addition to the PIE team. We're also sharing highlights from public recognition of our work, including a recent presentation by Chairman Coleman Bazelon at the Sandy Spring Museum.

As these updates show, PIE is growing up fast. What started barely two years ago as a bold idea to bring commercial-quality expertise to public interest efforts is rapidly evolving into a trusted partner for the field and a driver of informed discourse on complex technical topics.

Holding a Prison Healthcare Provider Accountable

PIE continues its partnership with Worth Rises, this time focusing on holding healthcare providers to account for the services they provide incarcerated people. This builds on our work together aimed at [ending forced labor by incarcerated people](#), as well as a similar matter where Worth Rises partnered with PIE and The Brattle Group to compel Wellpath, a different healthcare provider for incarcerated individuals, to commit to improvements to their patient care following a bankruptcy and reorganization plan.

YesCare, a provider of health services to incarcerated facilities, is in bankruptcy. In addition to a record of providing inadequate services, YesCare is leaving nursing and other staff unpaid. PIE is working with Worth Rises and their coalition partners to examine YesCare's financials and identify funds taken from the company that should be available to pay these debts.

A Bigger PIE

PIE is young, but we're growing fast! In just our second full year, we have now pursued more than 20 different projects, and amassed more than 1,700 newsletter subscribers and over 1,000 LinkedIn followers.

Our team is growing too. PIE is proud to welcome [Dr. Alberto Vargas](#) as the newest member of our Board of Directors. Dr. Vargas is a Principal at Brattle, where he co-leads the Financial Services and Markets practice. His expertise applying statistical and financial tools spans the financial, healthcare, and energy sectors. Additionally, Dr. Vargas' public interest work has focused on the impact of slavery in the Americas—including contributions to PIE's research on the impact of slavery in Barbados.

Dr. Vargas earned his PhD in Economics from MIT, and his BS in Applied Mathematics from Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México. Prior to joining Brattle, he worked at international economics consulting firms in Washington, DC and London; and as an investment banking analyst in Mexico City.

Celebrating the Work of the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law

The Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law does vital work. With nearly [1 in 10 Americans](#) experiencing a mental health crisis in the past year, and the American Psychiatric Association planning a [significant overhaul](#) of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM), the Center's efforts to fight discrimination against and segregation of people who experience mental health challenges are timely and critical.

PIE was proud to sponsor and attend The Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law's Annual Awards Reception on September 16 — an inspiring celebration of leaders advancing the rights, dignity and full inclusion of people with mental health disabilities. Mental health and disability are topics that are too often poorly understood in the courts. Rigorous research and expert analysis, alongside people's lived experiences and personal perspectives, are critical to achieve justice, and the Bazelon Center helps to answer this call.

We were honored to support the Bazelon Center and to celebrate the advocates and leaders carrying this essential mission forward.

Michelle Cleary Joins the ABA CRSJ National Security and Civil Liberties Committee

Rapidly evolving surveillance technology, combined with threats from across the globe, have created a complex landscape with regard to national security and the rights of individuals. We are proud that the Vice President of our Board, Michelle Aufiero Cleary, has joined the ABA Section of Civil Rights and Social Justice's National Security and Civil Liberties Committee to help navigate this landscape. In this role she will contribute to the committee's vital work of ensuring that laws and policies justified on national security grounds comply with the Constitution, civil rights laws and human rights principles.



Speaking Out for the Public Interest

On our [LinkedIn page](#), PIE offers highlights of critical data and perspectives on timely legal issues. In each *Impact Report*, we'll share a roundup of what we're talking about, including:

- We shared highlights from [Coleman's presentation](#) at the Sandy Spring Museum, where he discussed PIE's research on the economic legacy of slavery in Barbados and the need for reparations. His presentation was featured on Montgomery Municipal Cable and is available here: [Quantifying of Harms from Transatlantic Slavery](#).
- In honor of July 4th, we [lauded the Supreme Court decision](#) upholding Birthright Citizenship.
- We highlighted [research from Worth Rises](#) and reflected on the prison labor and the vestiges of slavery.
- We shined a light on [emerging issues in redistricting](#), an issue which is likely to become even more deeply contested in the coming months.
- We reflected on excessive sentencing in two separate LinkedIn posts – [one](#) on an upcoming Supreme Court case and one on [cases at the state level](#) – as part of our ongoing focus on prisoners' rights.
- We discussed [the attacks](#) on public interest organizations across the country, and urged organizations to stand together in the face of these threats.

- The American Bar Association Section of Civil Rights and Social Justice awarded long-time friend and mentor to PIE, Anthony Romero, the 2026 [Thurgood Marshall Award](#). At the invitation of The Brattle Group, we celebrated Anthony's courage and tremendous body of work, and reflected on our proud partnership with the ACLU.

Support Our Work

This is just a slice of what PIE has achieved this quarter. Our work is powered almost exclusively by our supporter community – generous individuals committed to ensuring that our legal system makes decisions based on high-quality evidence and research – and we hope we can count you among them.

Please consider making a contribution to PIE [here](#). Your gift helps to make the promise of “justice for all” real.

-Coleman Bazelon, Michelle Cleary, Alberto Vargas and Laura Lubben-



Public Interest Experts, 14965 Triadelphia Road, Glenelg, MD, United States

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