



CENTRE FOR COMPARATIVE AND PUBLIC LAW  
AT THE FACULTY OF LAW, THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

&

CENTRE FOR CRIMINOLOGY  
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

## SEMINAR

# Sex Offender Registries: The U.S., Europe & Interpol

**Professor James B. Jacobs**

*Warren E. Burger Professor of Law, NYU School of Law and  
Director, Center For Research in Crime and Justice*

**Friday, 20 January 2012, 1:00 - 2:00 pm**

**Room LG104, LG1 Floor, KK Leung Building, The University of Hong Kong**

\*\*\*\*\*

IT developments have made it possible to collect, store, retrieve and disseminate individual criminal history information in ways that would not have been possible, even imagined, a generation ago. While these developments have obvious law enforcement (and social protection) advantages, they also conflict with policies to restrict the accessibility of criminal history information in order to avoid stigmatizing ex offenders and promoting rehabilitation. Nowhere is the pressure on confidentiality stronger than when dealing with sex offenders, especially pedophiles. Over the last twenty years there have been continuous, albeit strikingly different, efforts in the U.S. and Europe to expand access to convicted sex offenders' identities. What have we learned from these efforts? What future initiatives can we expect? What are the implications for criminal record policy generally?

**James B. Jacobs** is Warren E. Burger Professor of Law at NYU School of Law & Director of the law school's Center For Research in Crime and Justice. He has been on the NYU law faculty since 1982, regularly teaching criminal law, criminal procedure, juvenile justice, federal criminal law and many specialized seminars on such topics as the war on drugs, the regulation of weaponry, drunk driving, privatization of criminal justice, labor racketeering and, most recently, criminal record issues. Professor Jacobs is the author of 17 books, most recently of *Breaking the Devil's Pact: The Battle to Free the Teamsters Union From the Mob* (2011). Over the last several years he has been writing extensively on jurisprudential and policy issues involving criminal records.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Please email Flora Leung at [fkleung@hku.hk](mailto:fkleung@hku.hk) to reserve a place.**