

Title: Driving While Black in New Jersey

Date/Time Monday, November 7, 2016

2:30-4:00 pm

Speaker: Joseph B. ("Jay") Kadane, Leonard J. Savage University Professor of Statistics and Social Sciences, Emeritus, at Carnegie Mellon University

Discussant TBA

Sponsors: WSS Human Rights Statistics Program, ASA Statistics Without Borders, AAAS [Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program](#)

Abstract: Were the New Jersey State Police disproportionately stopping cars driven by African-Americans on the southern end of the New Jersey turnpike? This lecture recounts the experiences of the speaker as a statistical expert witness in a case brought by the New Jersey Public Defenders. Some of the technical issues were:

- What proportion of stops made by the State Police were of cars driven by African Americans ?
- Compared to what? What proportion of the traffic on the road in question were driven by African-Americans?
- What proportion of the traffic can legally be stopped?
- How to handle missing data
- Perhaps African-American drivers are more likely to speed, and hence more likely to be stopped?
- The story includes how the case came out, and the aftermath.

Location: Pew Research Center, 1615 L Street, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20036

Directions:

- To be placed on the attendance list, please **RSVP to** Michael P. Cohen mpcohen@juno.com at least two business days in advance of the seminar.
- **Metro Accessible:** Accessible for either the Farragut North (**Red Line**) and/or Farragut West (**Orange, Silver, & Blue Lines**) stations. Take the Orange, Silver, or Blue line to Farragut West and exit at the 17th St. end of the platform. Walk down 17th Street, cross K Street and continue to L Street. Cross and turn right. 1615 L Street is halfway down the block on the left. On the Red Line, use the Farragut North station and exit on the L Street side.
- **Parking:** Parking is available adjacent to the building on a first come, first served basis, at \$18 daily after 9 am. Also, there is additional parking directly across the street. At

nearby SP Plus Parking, 1157 de Sales Row between 18th and 19th, the rate is \$11 for unlimited time.

- Check in with the security desk in the lobby and take the elevator to the 7th floor where you will be directed to the main conference room. The Pew Research Center's main telephone number is (202) 419-4300.

Brief Bio: Professor Kadane served as chair of the ASA Committee on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights from 2012 to 2016. A Fellow of ASA and IMS, he also served as Applications and Coordinating Editor of *JASA*, 1983-85. His most recent books are *Principles of Uncertainty* (2011) and *Pragmatics of Uncertainty* (2016), both available in hardback and free on the web. He has also edited and written most of *Statistics in the Law* (2008). He has extensive experience as an expert witness in court, and has served as a court-appointed neutral expert in Federal court. He received his B.A. (cum laude) in Mathematics from Harvard College in 1962, and his Ph.D. in Statistics from Stanford University in 1966.