

**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](mailto: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 17<sup>th</sup> St. end of the platform. Walk down 17<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, the rate is \$11 for unlimited time.

- Check in with the security desk in the lobby and take the elevator to the 7<sup>th</sup> 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.