

### **FOR THE INCARCERATED PANELISTS**

- At what age did you start carrying a gun and why?
- Is there anything that would have helped you to make a different choice about carrying or using a weapon?
- When you were in your community, did you know that sentences had been increased for carrying weapons if you had a prior felony conviction?
  - If yes, how did you learn about this?
  - If no, would it have stopped you if you knew?
- After your arrest, how did your case get worked out?
  - Public Defender or private counsel
  - Plea bargaining or trial
  - What was most important to you in getting the case done?
- What do you want us to know about your experience participating in programs during your time in IDOC? Has this experience changed overtime? If so how?

### **FOR DOC STAFF PANELISTS**

- How does the department prepare you for implementing policy changes?
  - What tools are provided, and what has been needed and not provided?
- Sheridan, a treatment community, was part of the policy push towards rehabilitation.
  - How are we balancing rehabilitation and punishment in our prison system?
- Sentence credits, early release—you know the people incarcerated better than anyone.
  - What do you think is important in developing policies around early release?