

Wes Johnson worked in juvenile corrections and the field of drug treatment prior to receiving his Masters of Criminal Justice degree from the University of South Carolina in 1980. He taught criminal justice at South Carolina State University from 1980 to 1988. He received his PhD in Criminology and Criminal Justice from Florida State University in 1991. He served as a professor of criminal justice from 1991 to 2007 and as the Associate Dean of the College of Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University from 1996 to 2007. He has published over 40 scholarly articles, and has presented findings from his research regularly at regional, national, and international conferences for over 25 years. He served most recently as the President of the *Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences*, one of the two major professional academic research organizations in the field. His book, *The Criminalization of Mental Illness: Crisis or Opportunity for the Justice System*, released in 2008, has been well received. He currently serves as the Doctoral Program Director in the School of Criminal Justice at the University of Southern Mississippi.