



**Gennaro F. Vito**  
**35<sup>th</sup> ACJS President**  
**1997-1998**

Gennaro F. Vito was born and raised in the state of New York, and upon graduation from high school, he attended the State University of New York at Cortland. Upon graduation with a B.A. in History in 1972, he then attended the State University of New York at Fredonia, where he continued his academic pursuits in history, earning his M.A. in 1974. Becoming interested in the study of Sociology-Criminology, he then entered another M.A. program at Ohio State University, graduating again in 1976. He then entered the public administration program at Ohio State, and graduated with his M.P.A. in 1977, before continuing on with his Ph.D., earning this degree the following year in 1978.

In the fall of 1978, Vito accepted his first academic appointment as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at California State University in Long Beach, California. He remained there for two years, then accepted a similar position at Temple University in 1980. In 1983, Vito once again moved, this time to the Department of Justice Administration at the University of Louisville, in Louisville, Kentucky, where he has been ever since. While there, he has risen through the ranks, becoming a full Professor in 1989, served as the Acting Chair (1994-1997), Graduate Program Coordinator (1998-2009), and he currently serves as the Vice Chair, a position in which he continues to coordinate the graduate program. Vito also serves as a professor in the Administrative Officer's Course at the Southern Police Institute.

Vito became involved in both the Southern Criminal Justice Association (SCJA) and the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences early in his career. In regards to SCJA he served as a member of the Executive Board (1986-1988) and became the editor of their official journal, *American Journal of Criminal Justice* (1987-1991). In the Academy he first joined the History of Criminal Justice Committee (1980-1982) because of his interest and background in history. He was later elected as a Trustee-at-Large in 1987, appointed as an Associate Editor of *Justice Quarterly* (1997-1998), and was then elected to serve as the 35<sup>th</sup> President of ACJS for the 1997-1998 term.

While President, Vito oversaw the movement of the ACJS national office to Washington, D.C.

Since his time as ACJS President, Vito has been very active in teaching and research. He has served as the principal or co-principal investigator in over 40 research grant projects, he is the author of over 65 professional referred journal articles, as well as 40 technical research reports. Vito is also the co-author of nine textbooks including *Criminology: Theory, Research, and Policy* 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (Jones & Bartlett, 2012) and *Organizational Behavior and Management in Law Enforcement* 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (Prentice Hall, 2012).

Vito is a well-recognized educator and scholar, having been awarded the Educator of the Year Award from the Southern Criminal Justice Association (1990). The University of Louisville has also awarded him the Dean's Outstanding Performance Award for Research in the former College of Urban and Public Affairs (1990), the same award for the College of Arts and Sciences (2002), the President's Award for Outstanding Scholarship (2002), and the Distinguished University Scholar Award (2008).

Within the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences he has been awarded the Outstanding Mentor Award (2010), the Bruce Smith, Sr., Award (2012), and he was made an Academy Fellow in 1992.