# Midwestern Criminal Justice Association 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting



#### Into a New Decade: Bridging Theory, Research, and Policy in Criminal Justice

Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup> Zoom Virtual Meeting

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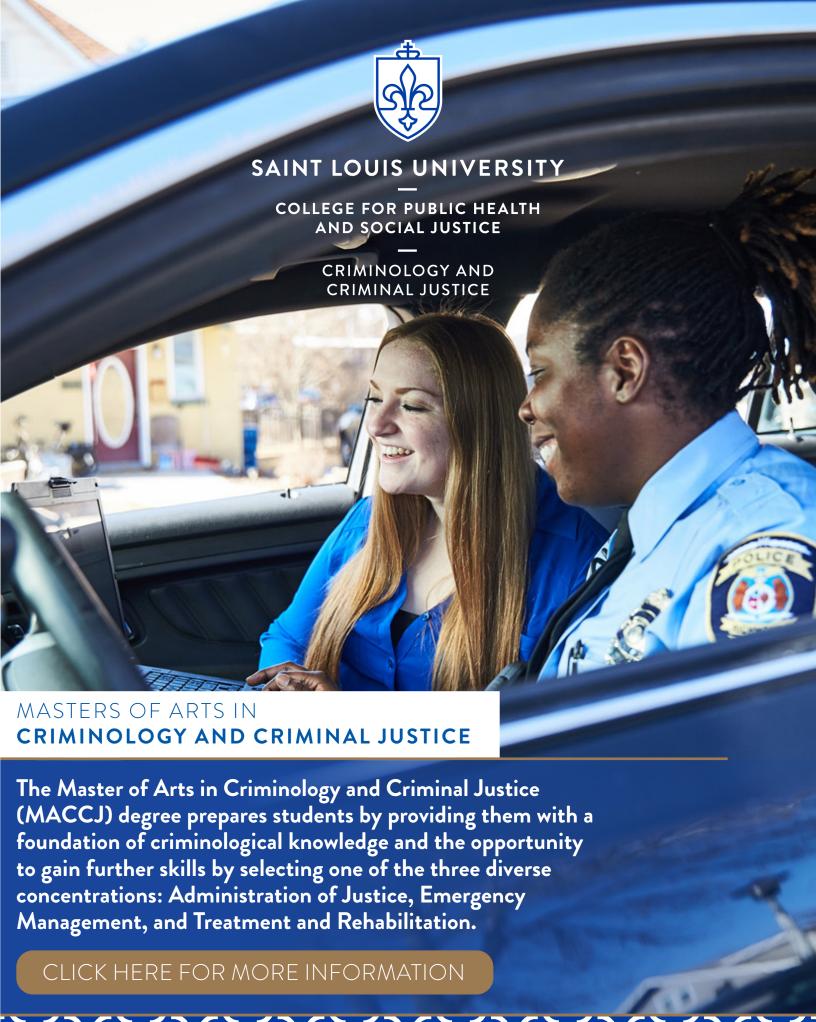








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# The Journal of Crime & Justice

Call for Papers

The Journal of Crime & Justice, the official journal of the Midwestern Criminal Justice Association, is a peer-reviewed journal featuring original scholarly work in the areas of crime and criminal justice. Published five times a year, JC&J welcomes quantitative and qualitative articles as well as theoretical commentaries. Special topic issues are also welcomed.

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Jay Kennedy, Thomas Holt & Betty Cheng, Michigan State University: "Automotive Cybersecurity: Assessing a New Platform for Cybercrime and Malicious Hacking."

#### **Past Topic Issues:**

Adam Bossler, Georgia Southern University & Tamar Berenblum, Hebrew University: "New Directions in Cybercrime Research"

Rick Moule & Bryanna Fox, University of South Florida: "Contemporary Issues in American Policing"

Marvin Krohn & James (Buddy) Howell: "Gangs in a Developmental Perspective"

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Robert M. Worley, Lamar University:

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## School of Criminal Justice

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## INTO A NEW DECADE: BRIDGING THEORY, RESEARCH, AND POLICY IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting

2020 Virtual Annual Meeting

Thursday, September 24th

www.mcja.org

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# Welcome to the Virtual Midwestern Criminal Justice Association Annual Meeting for 2020

MCJA Members, Panel Participants, and Attendees:

I certainly wish that I were welcoming you all to Chicago for the Midwestern Criminal Justice Association's 43<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting. Unfortunately, seeing you all in Chicago is not possible this year. That realization and subsequently planning our virtual meeting have reminded me just how much I look forward to the annual meeting each year. I am sure that many of you are feeling the same way. That said, I think you will enjoy the streamlined program that we have put together. Our theme this year is "Into a New Decade: Bridging Theory, Research, and Policy in Criminal Justice."

Though we selected our theme shortly after last year's meeting, it seems more and more relevant every day as we have progressed through 2020. There are a number of issues currently occurring that we as a group can (and many of you do) contribute our voices to in an effort to inform and advance theory, research, and policy. We have several panels for you today that we believe drive at the heart of linking these three areas.

We are grateful to have Saint Louis University, College of Public Health and Social Justice; University of Cincinnati, School of Criminal Justice; Peregrine Global Services; and Routledge: Taylor & Francis Group as sponsors for our panels this year. The first panel focuses on criminal justice organizations and operational responses to COVID-19 and contextualizes the data we may be reviewing in the future. Our second panel pays tribute to a long-time member of MCJA who contributed in many ways over the years. We honor Dr. Michael Leiber's memory with the presentation of his final research and discussion of his influence through collaboration and mentorship. The Presidential Roundtable — Bridging Policy to Practice includes three discussants with extensive experience building researcher/practitioner partnerships and seeing their efforts implemented as policy or procedural change. Finally, our keynote address is provided by Dr. Beth M. Huebner from the University of Missouri–St. Louis. Dr. Huebner provides a timely discussion of a model for jail decarceration.

Even in this streamlined format, our annual meeting would not have been possible without the support and dedication of many people. Thank you to our sponsors and advertisers who remained committed to supporting MCJA in this format. Sponsor information is available through our website (mcja.org) and throughout this program. We also thank the staff of the Hilton Garden Inn Chicago Downtown/Magnificent Mile for their flexibility in reaching an equitable resolution which will keep us at their location through 2023. Thank you to our Immediate Past President, Kiesha Warren-Gordon and Past President, Jason Spraitz for your help and counsel over the past year. It has been incredibly helpful in maintaining our progress this year. Thank you to our current President, Breanne Pleggenkuhle; your leadership and ability to handle every curveball

thrown at you this year has strengthened the foundation of MCJA. Thank you too for taking over responsibility for the MCJA website. Thank you to our Second Vice President, Dena Carson, who has continued to maintain relationships with all our sponsors and academic programs throughout the Midwest. Thank you to Andrew (AJ) Myer, our Treasurer, knowing that you have the answer to our financial questions has always been reassuring. Thank you to Matt Ritchie, our Secretary, for your continued efforts and voice addressing the difficult issues we have faced this year.

Thank you to George Burruss and his editorial staff with the *Journal of Crime and Justice* for taking over the journal this past year. Now that they have settled into their roles, I look forward to their plans for the future of the journal. Thank you to Melissa Burek who represents us as the ACJS Region 3 Trustee. Thank you to Victoria Beck for organizing and supervising our undergraduate and graduate student paper competitions and thank you to all those reviewers that dedicated their time to selecting the best papers.

Finally, thank you to all of you who continue to support MCJA. We appreciate your understanding through this year, and we hope that you all enjoy this year's program. We look forward to seeing you all in Chicago Thursday, September 23–24, 2021. If you have any comments or concerns as we begin planning next year's meeting, please let me or another Executive Board member know.

Respectfully,

Matthew Matusiak, Ph.D.

First Vice President and Program Chair

Department of Criminal Justice

University of Central Florida

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"I originally decided to purse my doctoral education at the University of Nebraska at Omaha due to the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice's reputation as one of the top programs in the country. However, once I arrived, I realized there were even more personal and professional opportunities than I initially thought. During my time at UNO, I worked on several federally-funded grants sponsored by the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the National Institute of Justice (NIJ). Perhaps the most rewarding experience was helping apply for and start up the National Counterterrorism, Innovation, Technology, and Education Center (NCITE), which is the new DHS Center of Excellence housed at UNO. Looking back, UNO set me up for success by providing collaborative opportunities and hands-on experiences."

Michael Logan, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
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# Midwestern Criminal Justice Association 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting

## INTO A NEW DECADE: BRIDGING THEORY, RESEARCH, AND POLICY IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

#### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2020 Virtual Annual Meeting

Thursday, September 24th

www.mcja.org

#### **Midwestern Criminal Justice Association**

#### 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting

Thursday, September 24th

## INTO A NEW DECADE: BRIDGING THEORY, RESEARCH, AND POLICY IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

| Thursday, September 24th |   |  |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| 11:00 - 12:15            | General Business Meeting  |  |
| 1:00 - 2:00              | Panel: Criminal Justice Responses to COVID-19   |  |
|                          | Sponsored by Saint Louis University,<br>College of Public Health and Social Justice   |  |
| 2:15 - 3:15              | Panel: Tribute to Dr. Michael Leiber: Research on Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Court   |  |
|                          | Sponsored by University of Cincinnati,<br>School of Criminal Justice  |  |
| 3:30 - 4:30              | Presidential Roundtable: Bridging Policy to<br>Practice   |  |
|                          | Sponsored by Peregrine Global Services  |  |
| 5:00 - 6:30              | Keynote Address: Dr. Beth M. Huebner  |  |
|                          | A Model for Jail Decarceration: New Directions for<br>Transforming Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships<br>Sponsored by Routledge: Taylor & Francis Group |  |
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#### **A Proud History**

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#### Edwin H. Sutherland

Sociologist Edwin H. Sutherland defined the notion of white-collar crime. He is widely regarded as one of the most influential criminologists of the 20th century, and his work continues to shape many areas of the field.



#### Jerome Hall

Law professor Jerome Hall was an early advocate for the use of scientific methods to understand the practice of law. Author of "Theft, Law, and Society," he is known for his groundbreaking empirical analysis of law.

#### **A Productive Faculty**

Our current faculty continue the interdisciplinary study of crime and justice

Miriam Northcutt Bohmert (Michigan State University)

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## FULFILLING the PROMISE



#### Thursday, September 24th

# General Business Meeting & Award Ceremony

11:00 am – 12:15 pm Zoom Virtual Meeting

#### PANEL 01

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Zoom Virtual Meeting

# **THEMATIC PANEL:**Criminal Justice Responses to COVID-19

CHAIR Matthew Matusiak University of Central Florida

#### **Ryan Mills**

Kansas City Police Department

#### **Randa Matusiak**

Volusia County Department of Public Protection

#### Joseph Schafer

Saint Louis University

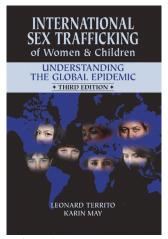
#### Michael Kyle

Missouri State University

#### **David White**

Ferris State University

The spread and response to COVID-19 has prompted substantial changes in government, the criminal justice system, and administration of policies. Our panelists present a variety of experiences and perspectives as it relates to COVID-19. Major Ryan Mills supervises one of Kansas City PD's six patrol divisions and discusses the challenges faced by a major city police department. Dr. Randa Matusiak presents a slightly broader perspective from her role as a researcher in county government focused on several components of public protection. Finally, Dr. Joseph Schafer, Dr. Michael Kyle, and Dr. David White highlight their experiences conducting a research project during a global pandemic.



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#### PANEL 02

2:15 pm – 3:15 pm Zoom Virtual Meeting

#### THEMATIC PANEL:

CHAIR Jennifer Peck University of Central Florida

#### Tribute to Dr. Michael Leiber: Research on Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Court

Following his unexpected passing in early 2020, Dr. Michael J. Leiber will be remembered not only for his impact as a respected colleague, collaborator, mentor, and friend, but above all, for his distinguished scholarship and career in the field of juvenile justice. Dr. Leiber's involvement in MCJA was wide-ranging and spanned over three decades. He was President of the association in 2003, Editor of MCJA's official publication (*The Journal of Crime and Justice*) from 2010-2019, recipient of the Tom Castellano Award in 2013 for dedicated service to MCJA, and presented papers each year at the annual meetings. We honor his legacy in this panel with three presentations, two of which are his final manuscripts accepted for publication this year, and the third is a manuscript that will be included in a forthcoming *JC&J* special issue dedicated to his work. MCJA is grateful for Dr. Leiber's contributions, guidance, and mentorship throughout the years.

## WHAT CONTEXT MATTERS AND AT WHAT LEVEL? A TEST OF RACIAL/ETHNIC THREAT, SYMBOLIC THREAT, AND STRUCTURAL INEQUALITY PERSPECTIVES IN JUVENILE COURT DECISION-MAKING

#### **Michael Leiber**

University of South Florida

#### **Ellen Donnelly**

University of Delaware

#### Yunmei Lu

University at Buffalo, SUNY

Do traditional theories of conflict influence juvenile court decision-making and explain racial/ethnic disparities? Racial/ethnic threat, symbolic threat, and structural inequality perspectives purport social controls increase when groups differ in race, ethnicity, or class. Scholarship tends to test one perspective at a time and use county as a unit of analysis. Taking a comparative approach, this study evaluates whether contextual indicators of these three theories, measured at the county- and zip code-levels, contribute to Black-White and Latino-White disparities in court decisions. Multilevel models reveal weak and partial support for each perspective. More effects appear at the zip code-level, indicating conflict may occur within rather than across courts. Macro-level theories must then be reconsidered to describe modern-day juvenile court proceedings.

## RACE/ETHNICITY AND THE EFFECTS OF PRIOR CASE OUTCOMES ON CURRENT DISPOSITIONS: CONTINUITY AND CHANGE IN THE DISPOSITIONAL CAREERS OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS

#### **Michael Leiber**

University of South Florida

#### **Bryanna Fox**

University of South Florida

#### **Melanie Escue**

University of South Florida

#### Julie Krupa

Michigan State University

This study draws upon the labeling perspective to examine whether there are patterns of continuity and/or change in the severity of juvenile court dispositions, and if these patterns vary by race/ethnicity. Using data on youth referred five times to the Pennsylvania Department of Juvenile Justice between 2000 and 2010 (n=9089), we examine the presence of latent trajectories of sanction severity across referrals, and whether youth with statistically matched criminal/disposition histories, but of different race/ethnicities, receive disparate future dispositions. Results suggest that juvenile dispositional trajectories are more complex than previously reported, largely in alignment with labeling theory

#### John Cochran

University of South Florida

predictions (i.e. escalation in sanction severity). However, trajectories representing stability and de-escalation in sanction severity were also identified. Further, certain youth, predominately of minority status, received more severe dispositions over time, despite having similar histories as White youth, supportive of "sticky labels." Implications for theory and the juvenile justice system are discussed.

#### THE EFFECTS OF AGE, RACE, AND OFFENSE TYPE ON RECEIVING A "YOUTH DISCOUNT" IN JUVENILE COURT

#### Sara Bryson

East Carolina University

#### **Jennifer Peck**

University of Central Florida

Previous research has documented that younger juveniles may be more likely to receive lenient court outcomes compared to older youth (i.e., "youth discount"), and that Black juveniles receive more severe court outcomes than their White counterparts. However, less research has investigated the joint effects of a juvenile's age, race, and the handling of status offenders in juvenile court. Using data on all individual referrals in a southern state from 2010-2016, the current study extends prior research by 1) examining the individual effects of age, race, and being charged with a status offense on the likelihood of receiving various court outcomes, 2) assessing the extent to which a "youth discount" is present in conjunction with a juvenile's race, 3) investigating if there are interactions between age, race, and offense type (status or delinquent) in court processing. Findings relate to understanding juvenile justice decision-making based primarily on age, but also the potential influence of race and offense type.

#### PANEL 03

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm Zoom Virtual Meeting

## PRESIDENTIAL ROUNDTABLE:

#### **Bridging Policy to Practice**

#### **MODERATOR**

Breanne Pleggenkuhle Southern Illinois University

#### Natalie Kroovand Hipple Indiana University

Bloomington

#### **David Olson**

Loyola University Chicago

#### **Kristen Martin**

A key function of criminology and criminal justice research is to promote good policy and procedures. This often requires a good working relationship between researchers, practitioners, and institutions. However, this can also be difficult to navigate, from gaining access to seeing research results implemented as policy or procedural change. This roundtable will address experiences in working with practitioners and translating those efforts into policy.



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## Keynote Address Dr. Beth M. Huebner

5:15 pm – 6:30 pm Zoom Virtual Meeting

A Model for Jail Decarceration: New Directions for Transforming Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships

#### POSTER SESSION

Thursday, September 24th, 2020 MCJA Website

#### POSTER: EXAMINING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND RACISM IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

#### **Ymelda Viramontes**

Northeastern Illinois University

Intimate partner violence (IPV) – psychological, physical, or sexual abuse within intimate relationships – is both prevalent and impactful for survivors, warranting a need for intervention. At the same time, scholars raise concerns about two key aspects of the criminal justice system's response to abusers: equity and efficacy. Regarding equity, research repeatedly finds systemic racial-ethnic bias in arrest, charging, and sentencing practices regarding IPV. Regarding efficacy, once IPV perpetrators of color are (disproportionately) incarcerated, research suggests that they, like their white counterparts, often exhibit high recidivism rates post-release. This poster presentation critically assesses these research literatures, concluding with research and policy recommendations.

#### POSTER: DISORDER AND CRIME IN CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOODS

#### Ryan Moran

Elmhurst University

The purpose of this study was to test "broken windows theory" in Chicago and determine which, if any, disorderly conditions are correlated to higher crime rates. Prior research has generally concluded that a correlation exists, with disagreement over the mechanisms of the relationship. Ten blocks were randomly observed from ten Chicago community areas using Google Street View to conduct a virtual systematic social observation. Perception based indicators were found to have stronger correlations with crime than actual disorder measures. These results help deepen our understanding of the disorder-crime relationship and can serve to evaluate whether disorder policing strategies are effective.

#### POSTER: A BIVARIATE EXAMINATION OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SELF-CONTROL AND SCHOOL EXCLUSION ACROSS RACIAL AND ETHNIC GROUPS

#### Katherine Waggoner Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

#### **Dena Carson**

Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis Disciplinary school exclusion is applied to millions of students each year, with students of color impacted disproportionately by such policies. This poster uses Gottfredson and Hirschi's *General Theory of Crime* as guide to explore differences in school exclusion across Black, Hispanic, and White youth. Using data from the National Evaluation of the Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) program, this poster will explore the relationship between self-control and school exclusion across different racial and ethnic groups.

#### POSTER: POLICE PERCEPTIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY TO ENGAGE IN PRE- AND POST-OVERDOSE INTERVENTION

#### Laurie Becker

Roger Williams University

With increasing fatal opioid overdoses, police departments realized crime control methods were not working to decrease overdoses. In response, many departments began to shift toward a service-centered model of policing, involving overdose outreach visits to encourage treatment to individuals either at-risk of overdosing or having recently overdosed. While these programs are increasing, there is little research regarding how police perceive their role in these programs. Through a survey of officers from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut, this study examines whether police believe it is their responsibility to intervene pre- and post-overdose as well as the significant predictors of these beliefs.



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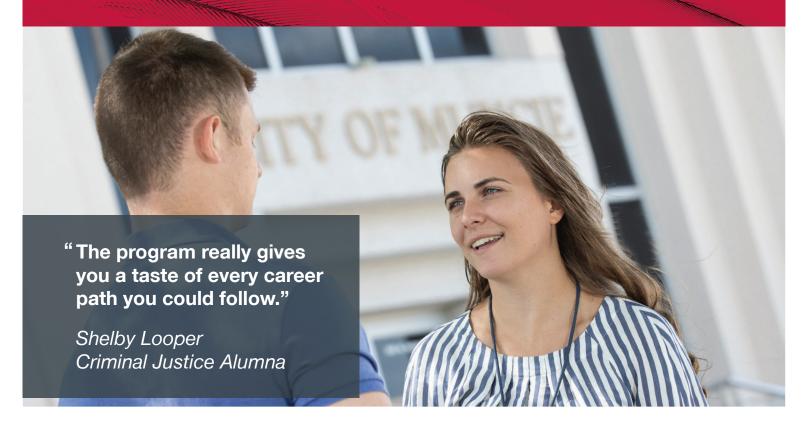






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Shelby Looper (above, right) is Director, Victim Advocate Program for the Muncie Police Department and recipient of a 2018 U.S. Department of Justice Tomorrow's Leaders Award.



#### 2020 MCJA Participant Directory

**Laurie Becker** 

Roger Williams University

Panel: Poster

Sara Bryson

East Carolina University

Panel: 2

**Dena Carson** 

Indiana University Purdue

University Indianapolis

Panel: Poster

John Cochran

University of South Florida

Panel: 2

**Ellen Donnelly** 

 ${\it University~of~Delaware}$ 

Panel: 2

**Melanie Escue** 

University of South Florida

Panel: 2

**Bryanna Fox** 

University of South Florida

Panel: 2

**Natalie Kroovand Hipple** 

Indiana University Bloomington

Panel: 3

**Beth Huebner** 

University of Missouri,

St. Louis Keynote

Julie Krupa

Michigan State University

Panel: 2

Michael Kyle

Missouri State University

Panel: 1

Yunmei Lu

University at Buffalo, SUNY

Panel: 2

**Kristen Martin** 

Panel: 3

**Matthew Matusiak** 

University of Central Florida

Panel: 1

**Randa Matusiak** 

Volusia County, Department of Public Protection

Panel: 1

**Ryan Mills** 

Kansas City

Police Department

Panel: 1

Ryan Moran

Elmhurst University

Panel: Poster

**David Olson** 

Loyola University Chicago

Panel: 3

Jennifer Peck

University of Central Florida

Panel: 2

**Breanne Pleggenkuhle** 

Southern Illinois University

Panel: 3

Joseph Schafer

Saint Louis University

Panel: 1

**Ymelda Viramontes** 

Northeastern Illinois University

Panel: Poster

**Katherine Waggoner** 

Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

Panel: Poster

**David White** 

Ferris State University

Panel: 1