

NORTH CAROLINA CRIMINAL JUSTICE ASSOCIATION

2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 7-9, 2019



HOMWOOD SUITES AT CRABTREE VALLEY
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

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Did you know that NCCJA has a new webpage (www.nccja.org), new Facebook page (www.facebook.com/NCCJA), and a new Twitter account (@NCCJA)? Be sure to check them out!

North Carolina Criminal Justice Association

2019 Annual Conference

February 7-9, 2019

Homewood Suites at Crabtree Valley

Raleigh, North Carolina

Thursday, February 7, 2019

8am Registration opens (table outside of Winston/Barclay rooms)

8-9am Continental breakfast (in lobby)



8-9am Opening Board Meeting (*board members only*)

9-9:45am Welcome remarks (Winston/Barclay rooms)

10-11:15am **PANEL 1—**
POLICING: Stressors and Challenges of the Contemporary Officer

Chair: Lisa Briggs (Western Carolina University)

Papers:

“Exploring Factors Related to Job Stress and Psychological Distress of Police Officers”
by Madison Hale and Tasha Youstin (Western Carolina University)

In the course of their everyday duties, police officers encounter many stressful and potentially distressing events. Though some departments may encourage officers to seek help for dealing with their related job stress, it is unclear how

often officers acknowledge their psychological distress, or seek formal or informal help and support. This study uses responses from a survey of police officers to assess the extent to which officers experience job related stress, psychological distress, and seek help for their distress.

“Mental Wellness Support Programs in Law Enforcement”
by Heidi Bonner, East Carolina University

The forms of mental health support available to law enforcement officers through their agencies varies widely, and little is known about the utilization of such programs. Using data from a national stratified random sample, this research provides preliminary information on the prevalence of various mental health support programs across the country, and perceptions of effectiveness.

“Moonlighting and Negative Police Officer Outcomes”
by Andy Hensen (Western Carolina University)

Concerns regarding secondary employment or moonlighting by police officers in the United States have revolved around the nature of work performed and opportunities for deviance. Less attention has been paid to the relationship between secondary employment and police officers’ negative on-duty behaviors. This presentation is based on a study of the relationships between secondary employment and vehicle pursuits and collisions, citizen complaints, and deadly force. Data were collected with a survey of patrol officers in a large police department. The presentation will conclude with the policy implications for policing research and practice.

“It’s a Dirty Job, but Somebody Must Do It: Compounding Factors in the Recovery of Human Remains in Landfills”
by Lisa Briggs, Mackenzie Avery, and Taylor Angley (Western Carolina University)

A difficult task for investigators is the recovery of human remains in landfills. This paper will briefly present some of the unique circumstances to these searches, as well as explain why the use of cadaver K9s in such conditions is compromised by many factors including bio hazards, safety risks, structural barriers, and similarities in gasses from decomposing landfill waste and decomposing human remains. Determining the volatile chemical signature emanating from a burial site has projected ramifications on human remains detection, canine training and deployment, and overall procedures in the investigation of such crimes.

11:30am-12:45pm

PANEL 2—

VICTIMIZATION: Harms Associated with Stigma, Witness Intimidation, Homelessness, and Hate

Chair: Scott Walfield (East Carolina University)

Papers:

“Perceived Stigmatization of Emotional Issues Following Student Victimization”

by Daijah Johnson and Tasha Youstin (Western Carolina University)

The discussion of mental health issues is becoming more open in America. Yet, some people may still find shame, embarrassment, or other stigmatization when faced with mental health issues following victimization. This study utilizes a sample of college students to examine perceptions of stigma associated with victimization and subsequent mental health consequences.

“The Problem of Witness Intimidation in Intimate Partner Violence”

by Heidi Bonner, East Carolina University

Witness intimidation in cases of intimate partner violence (IPV) is a significant problem. Offenders use complex interpersonal processes to keep violent relationships intact, and some research suggests that as many as 80 percent of cases that reach court involve victims that recant or refuse to testify. Successful prosecution is also hampered by the legal constraints imposed by the 2004 *Crawford v. Washington* decision, which renders most hearsay testimony to law enforcement officers inadmissible. As a result, the majority of accusers in IPV cases must be present in court. This research examines the forms of witness intimidation among a sample of victims in one jurisdiction.

“Criminal Justice System and Societal Responses to Victims of the Homeless Population”

by Nichole Martinez (Fayetteville State University)

Homeless individuals are one of many victim populations that experience or are exposed to many physical, emotional/psychological, and social strains that ultimately lead to negative health complications or even death in more severe cases. This paper uses research to create an analysis of the types of criminal victimization and criminalization of the homeless population as easy targets. This paper will also address criminal justice system and societal responses to the criminal victimization of homeless populations. Additionally, this paper will provide an analysis of proposed legislation and existing organizations as well as how they address the issue.

“Religious Motivated Hate Crimes: Reporting to Law Enforcement and Case Outcomes”
by Scott Walfield (East Carolina University)

Relative to non-bias motivated crimes, hate crimes have much graver consequences for victims and their community. Despite the large increase in religious hate crimes over the past decade relative to all other hate crime, little is known about these types of crimes and the factors associated with both reporting to law enforcement and case outcomes. Utilizing the National Crime Victimization Survey and National Incident-Based Reporting System datasets, this study examines the relationship between victim, offender, and incident characteristics on reporting to law enforcement and case outcomes. Most religious hate crimes are not reported (41.3 %) in part due to perceptions of law enforcement’s perceived response. Of the violent incidents that are reported, the vast majority do not result in the arrest of an offender (22.2 %). Whereas only a small number of variables related to the seriousness of the offense are associated with both reporting and arrest, these exhibited large effect sizes.



Send your thoughts on the 2019 conference to Dr. Matthew Robinson at robinsnmb@appstate.edu

12:45-2:15pm

Lunch break (on your own)



2:15-3pm

**PANEL 3—
PREVENTION: Affirmative Consent Policies on Campus**

Chair: Tasha Youstin (Western Carolina University)

Papers:

“Let’s Talk About Sex, Baby: How Sexual Assertiveness and Communication Comfort Impacts Students’ Perceptions of Affirmative Consent Policy Effectiveness”

by Tasha Youstin and Samantha Griffin (Western Carolina University)

Affirmative Consent policies are being adopted by universities throughout the US in an effort to combat sexual assault on campus. While these policies may be a step in the right direction, there is little information available to assess whether or not these policies are having the intended effect of decreasing sexual assaults. One relevant factor that has received little attention is the role of communication and ease of discussing sexual behavior and/or assault with others. This study uses data from a campus wide student survey to determine the role communication plays in the perceived effectiveness of affirmative consent policies.

“Student Concerns about Affirmative Consent Policies on Campus”

by Samantha Griffin and Tasha Youstin (Western Carolina University)

Affirmative Consent policies are quickly being adopted at universities across the United States. Though aimed at student sexual interactions, the opinions and concerns of students regarding these policies have been overlooked in the adoption process. This research study involved interviewing undergraduate students at a medium sized rural university in North Carolina to determine how students view these policies regarding positive and negative potential impacts. The research experience will also be discussed.



Looking for things to do in the evenings after the conference? Find ideas here:

<https://www.visitraleigh.com/>

Also, check out the specific events listed in this program!

3:15-4:15 pm

PLENARY 1—

THE NORTH CAROLINA SENTENCING COMMISSION

by Art Beeler (retired Federal Bureau of Prisons Warden, Adjunct Professor, Duke Law and North Carolina Central University)

This presentation will provide the members an overview of the North Carolina Policy and Sentencing Commission. It will demonstrate the history of the commission and provide for major responsibilities of the commission. The presentation will provide for the differences between the NC Policy and Sentencing Commission and the Federal Sentencing Commission. Discussions of the Supreme Court Cases of *Aprendi* and *Bonner* will be had to show how NC uses charging documents rather than relevant conduct. This presentation will also provide information regarding the major subcommittees of the sentencing commission to include the Justice Reinvestment Subcommittee, the Adult and Juvenile Populations Committees, the DWI Subcommittee and the Research Subcommittee.

4:30 pm

Conference adjourned for day; Explore Raleigh!

Free dinner and drinks (for hotel guests only, next to lobby)



Did you know there are now more than 40 breweries in and around Raleigh?

Check them out here: <https://www.visitraleigh.com/foodie/drinks/breweries/>

Friday, February 8, 2019

8am Registration opens (table outside of Winston/Barclay rooms)

8-9am Continental breakfast (in lobby)



9-10am

PANEL 4—
PERCEPTIONS OF JUSTICE: Views of Police and Juvenile
Offenders

Chair: Matthew Robinson (Appalachian State University)

Papers:

“Public Perceptions of Police in the Era of Trump: The Immigration Effect”
by Lori Brown (Meredith College) and Kris Macomber (Meredith College)

In the past two years, federal policing and immigration policies have become highly controversial. In our study of approximately 700 North Carolina residents, participants were asked about their perceptions of local, state, and federal police. We also asked if their views have changed since Trump was elected. Our results indicate that public trust in local and state police remains strong; however, there has been a clear decline in trust in the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in the past two years. Nearly half of the respondents opposed local police assisting with searches to find undocumented immigrants. Given the current political climate in the US, it is important to understand shifts in public trust of law enforcement.

“Juror Perceptions of Juvenile Offenders Who Were Maltreated as Children”
by Samantha Reis (Appalachian State University)

This study examines mock jurors’ perceptions of juvenile offenders who were maltreated as children, by manipulating type of crime (assault on a classmate or breaking and entering with vandalism), type of abuse (physical, sexual, or no abuse), the race of offender (black or white) and the sex of offender (male or

female). The purpose is to see if these variables will influence the punitiveness of sentencing, as well as, influence juror's perceptions on the offender's intent, responsibility, and blameworthiness for the crime.

“Perceptions of Capital Punishment of Police Officers and Lawyers in North Carolina”
by Matthew Robinson (Appalachian State University)

This presentation will focus on results from two different studies examining perceptions of capital punishment by criminal justice professionals in the state of North Carolina. The first study probed the opinions of law enforcement officers and the second study focused on lawyers in the state. Basic findings are shared and implications for justice are discussed.

10:15-11am

PANEL 5—
THE FUTURE: Law Enforcement and Prevention in the 21st Century

Chair: Darl H. Champion (Methodist University)

Papers:

“Future Practices, Processes, and Technologies in North Carolina Law Enforcement: Implications, Challenges, and Concerns”
by Darl H. Champion (Methodist University)

In the summer of 2018, members of the North Carolina Police Executives Association (NCPEA) were surveyed for the purpose of identifying current policing trends in North Carolina and NCPEA members' expectations for the future of policing in North Carolina. This presentation will look at expectations for future practices, processes, and new technologies in North Carolina policing as identified by NCPEA members. Implications, challenges, and issues will be addressed. The presentation will conclude with a call for law enforcement and academic institutions to collaborate in the development of a joint futuring initiative to identify future trends in North Carolina policing.

“Policing Our Future”
by Shacobie McPherson, Taylea Morsell, Serentiy Sanders, and Yvonne Malone
(North Carolina A&T State University)

Incarceration is not a foreign term; in many cases it is misused and ineffective. Policy targeted to increase the likelihood of impoverished youth entering the system is evermore present. Incarceration of youth dismantles family and forces

its victims to live as animals in captivity. This captivation, especially that of juveniles, makes prison complexes ineffective; the system encourages one to rebel rather than comply or serve as an effective deterrent to others. There are alternatives to solitude such as trinity rehabilitation, probation, halfway houses, community service, and boot camps that can ultimately decrease recidivism rates. These alternatives allow youth to develop intellectually whilst focusing on the core of the issue. This offers a second chance at a life and an opportunity to learn from mistakes.

11:15am-12:15 pm **PLENARY 2—**
THE NORTH CAROLINA JUSTICE ACADEMY
by Trevor Allen (Director of the Academy)



Mr. Trevor Allen was raised in Wilmington, NC. He earned an undergraduate degree from Catawba College in 1992 and a Master’s Degree in Criminal Justice from Methodist University in 2017. He completed BLET and joined the Salisbury Police Department in 1993. Mr. Allen rose through the ranks to eventually become a Lieutenant. He is a former Specialized Instructor in SCAT, Physical Fitness, and RADAR.

After 15 years, he decided to try a new career. Having attended culinary school, he moved to Charleston, SC to help his family open a quick-casual restaurant. The restaurant gradually expanded to seven franchises; however, Allen realized he missed his first calling.

In 2012, Allen returned to law enforcement training and joined former NC Justice Academy Instructor/Coordinator Jon Blum at FORCE Concepts, Inc. This allowed him to travel around the United States delivering instruction and consulting services in the Use of Force arena. A year later, Allen joined the Criminal Justice Standards Division of NCDOJ and he was promoted to Deputy Director in 2014. In 2017, he was again promoted, this time to Director of the North Carolina Justice Academy.

12:30-2 pm

GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING AND AWARDS LUNCHEON
(included in price of conference registration for attendees)



**Know an outstanding professor, student, or professional in criminal justice?
Nominate him or her for one of our awards for next year's conference!**

www.nccja.org

2:15-3:15pm

PANEL 6—
BIAS: The Role of Extra-Legal Factors in Justice Processing

Chair: Heidi Bonner (East Carolina University)

Papers:

“A Phenomenological Analysis of Police Perceptions of African American Males and Masculinity”

by Jack S. Monell (Winston Salem State University)

The paper is an expansion of the principal investigators prior research: A Preliminary Examination of Hegemonic Masculinity: Definitional Transference of Black Masculinity Effecting Lethal Tactics against Black Males. In the initial study, an examination was conducted on the apparent biases towards African American males, resulting in lethal force. This paper will expand on the Principal Investigator's further exploration of police officer perceptions of African American males in the following states: North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. Additionally, the researcher will discuss how the media and popular culture presents African American males through various mediums.

“School Suspension and Intersectionality: A Look Into Disciplinary Differences Across Race and Gender in North Carolina Schools”

by Meaonka Hadden and Zahra Shekarkhar (Fayetteville State University)

This research project examines the rate of school suspensions across race and gender among students in North Carolina public schools. In recent decades, much attention has been given to disparities in school punishment. A number of studies have highlighted punishment disparities that exist across race and gender, but questions still remain. In an effort to contribute to this discussion, this study uses secondary data from the population of North Carolina public high schools to measure and compare suspension (indoor and outdoor) rates by race, gender, and other relevant characteristics for the 2013-2014 academic year. Bivariate and multivariate analyses were conducted on a sample of over 140,000 cases. Results indicate support for the three hypotheses: (a) blacks are more likely to receive outdoor suspension than whites, (b) males are more likely to receive outdoor suspension than females, and (c) black females are more likely to receive outdoor suspension than white males.

“Veil of Darkness and Disproportionate Impact in Policing Methodology: When Researchers Disagree”

by Heidi Bonner (East Carolina University)

Disproportionate impact (DI) in policing has long been a concern for researchers and practitioners alike, with much of the focus on traffic stops. While there are many methods used in research for determining DI in traffic stops, the veil of darkness approach has become one of the most popular frameworks. The precise analytical framework behind the veil of darkness approach, however, has become unclear over time. While there is some consensus on certain aspects, researchers utilizing the veil of darkness disagree on the appropriate sampling strategies and appropriate controls. The purpose of this research is to examine the different options proposed within the veil of darkness literature to demonstrate the effect that the chosen framework has on the conclusions. The implications for policing research and practice, as well as methodological recommendations, will be discussed.

3:30-4:15 pm

PANEL 7—
Crimes Ignored by Criminologists, The Example of “Food Crime”

Chair: Matthew Robinson (Appalachian State University)

Papers:

Big Foods: Big Benefits, Big Problems, or Both?

by Matthew Robinson (Appalachian State University) and Ashley Tauscher (Appalachian State University)

In this paper, the authors examine the “conventional food system,” illustrating the processes by which most food is produced and ultimately delivered to consumers. The authors identify key actors and agencies involved in the “food supply chain.” The bulk of the paper is comprised of an analysis of the economic costs and benefits of this system/chain. While the benefits are undeniable and enormous, the costs are easily demonstrable and significant. Housed in the context of the state-corporate crime literature, some of the negative outcomes closely resemble crimes. These “crimes” can be observed in the negative impacts suffered by consumers, such as illness, death, reductions in productivity, income inequality, environmental degradation, and more.

4:30 pm

Conference adjourned for day; Explore Raleigh!



Did you know? “Cirque du Soleil: Corteo” is playing in Raleigh from February 7-10! Find information here:

<https://www.visitraleigh.com/event/cirque-du-soleil%3a-corteo/61197/>

Saturday, February 9, 2019

8am Registration opens (table outside of Winston/Barclay rooms)

8-9am Continental breakfast (in lobby)



9:15-10am

PLENARY 3--
The State of the NCCJA: Strengths, Challenges, and the Future
by Matthew Robinson (Appalachian State University)

This presentation will examine the programs of the NCCJA from 2011 through 2019 in order to identify the status of the organization in terms of the number of people who attend the conference, the number of institutions represented, and the number of papers presented. The goal is to identify strengths, weaknesses, and challenges in order to strengthen the organization moving into the future.

10-11am Final Board Meeting (*board members only*)

Conference adjourned!



Did you know? Comedian Gilbert Gottfried is performing in Raleigh from February 8-10! Find information here:

<https://www.visitraleigh.com/event/gilbert-gottfried/63563/>
