

David Mitre Becerril

(Pronunciation: Me·tre Beh·se·reel)

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Academic position

Assistant Professor

2023 - present

School of Public Policy, University of Connecticut

Education

PhD in Criminology

2023

University of Pennsylvania

MS in Public Policy and Management (Highest Distinction)

2019

Carnegie Mellon University

BA in Political Science

2013

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

BA in Economics (Thesis award)

2013

Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México

Research interests

Urban crime, Place-based interventions, Neighborhood investments, Public health, Causal inference

Journal articles (peer-reviewed)

Chalfin, A., **Mitre-Becerril, D.** & Williams, M. C. (2024). Does Proactive Policing Really Increase Major Crime? A Replication Study of Sullivan and O’Keeffe (2017). *Journal of Comments and Replications in Economics*, Vol.3 (2024-6). <https://doi.org/10.18718/81781.36>

- Media coverage: [Omnia](#)

MacDonald, J. M., Knorre, A., **Mitre-Becerril, D.**, & Chalfin, A. (2024). Place-based approaches to reducing violent crime hot spots: A review of the evidence on public health approaches. *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, 101984. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.avb.2024.101984>

Mitre-Becerril, D. & MacDonald, J. (2024) "Does Urban Development Influence Crime? Evidence from Philadelphia's New Zoning Regulations" *Journal of Urban Economics*. Volume 142, July 2024. 103667. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jue.2024.103667>

Chalfin, A., Del Pozo, B. & **Mitre-Becerril, D.** (2023) "Overdose Prevention Centers, Crime, and Disorder in New York City" *JAMA Network Open* 6(11): e2342228. <http://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2023.42228>

- Media coverage: [New York Times](#), [Vice News](#), [New York Daily News](#), [Gothamist](#), [JAMA podcasts](#)

Mitre-Becerril, D., Tahamont, S., Lerner, S. & Chalfin, A. (2022) "Can Deterrence Persist? Long-Term Evidence from a Randomized Experiment in Street Lighting" *Criminology & Public Policy* 00, 1-27, <https://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9133.12599>

- Media coverage: [CNN](#), [The Atlantic](#)

Mitre-Becerril, D. & Chalfin A. (2021). "Testing Public Policy at the Frontier: The Effect of the \$15 Minimum Wage on Public Safety in Seattle" *Criminology & Public Policy* 20(2): 291-328, <https://doi.org/10.1111/1745-9133.12539>

- Media coverage: [American Society of Criminology Press Release](#), [EurekAlert](#)

Research papers under review

"The Role of Ambient Light in Shaping Public Safety: Evidence from Daylight Saving Time"

"Do Place-based Capital Investment Policies Influence Public Safety? Evidence from the Opportunity Zones Program"

- First prize, American Society of Criminology 2022 Gene Carte Student Paper Award

The Impact of the Atlanta Beltline on Crime: A Quasi-Experimental Analysis of Urban Park Development and Neighborhood Safety (with Dylan Spencer)

"Does LED street lighting reduce crime? Evidence from a staggered large-scale retrofitting program"

Research in progress* and working papers

"NIMBY Concerns, Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Local Crime"* (with Aaron Chalfin, Brandon Del Pozo, and Jonathan Cantor)

"Effects of Mental Health Treatment Services on Neighborhood Safety and Health"* (with Bokyoung Kim)

"Banks Against Crime: The Impact of Home Mortgages on Neighborhood Crime"

"The Long-term Effects of Structural Discrimination on Public Safety: The 1930s Redlining Maps"

Presentations (past and upcoming*)

American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting*	2025
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Moving Beyond Implications: Research into Policy, Social Equity Leadership Conference	2024
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American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Fall Research Conference

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Fall Research Conference, American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Criminology Consortium Annual Meeting	2023
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American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Criminology Consortium Annual Meeting	2022
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North American Meeting of the Urban Economics Association, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Fall Research Conference, PSU/UMD/UPENN Virtual Conference

American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting, Criminology Consortium Annual Meeting, Transatlantic Workshop on the Economics of Crime, Annual Southern PhD Economics Conference, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Student Research Seminar, Penn Grad Talks, PSU/UMD/UPENN Virtual Conference	2021
Criminology Consortium Annual Meeting, American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting	2020
Latin America Social and Public Policy Conference	2018

Awards, Grants, and Fellowships

Bureau of Justice Assistance - CT Division of Criminal Justice, (\$228,930, Co-PI, sub-award) - “Hartford Community Court Program Evaluation” w/Mohamad Alkadry and Spencer Cooper	2024
Arnold Ventures, “Review of Causal Research in Criminology” w/Aaron Chalfin (\$38,688, Co-PI)	2024
CLAS Alan R Bennett Public Health Policy Research, University of Connecticut (\$26,925, PI) - “Effects of Mental Health and Substance Use Treatment Services on Neighborhood Safety and Health”, w/Bokyoung Kim	2024
CLAS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives, University of Connecticut (\$5,000, PI) - “The Enduring Impacts of Structural Discrimination on Neighborhood Deterioration”	2023
GAPSA Research Student Grant Award, University of Pennsylvania	2023
School of Arts and Sciences Travel Subvention Award, University of Pennsylvania	2023
First prize Gene Carte Student Paper Award, American Society of Criminology	2022
Equity & Inclusion Student Fellowship, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management	2021
School of Arts and Sciences Travel Subvention Award, University of Pennsylvania	2021
SASGOV Professional Society Membership Grant, UPenn SAS Graduate Student Government	2021
SAS Graduate Student Government, University of Pennsylvania	2021
Technology Grant, UPenn Office of the Provost and Graduate and Professional Student Assembly	2020
XXVII National Tlacaélel Award for Economic Consulting (Undergraduate Thesis Award)	2013

Professional service

Reviewer:

- Criminology: Criminal Justice Review, Journal of Crime and Justice, Journal of Quantitative Criminology, Justice Quarterly
- Economics: Applied Economics Letters, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization

- Other fields: Environment & Behavior, Journal of Urban Health, Urban Affairs Review, World Development Perspectives

Ad hoc reviewer: Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Reviewer 2024 Program Committee for the Crime, Justice, and Drugs policy area. American Society of Criminology Review Committee for the 2025 Gene Carte Award.

Discussant: North American Meeting of the Urban Economics Association, Workshop on the Economics of Crime for Junior Scholars, Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management Fall Research Conference

Teaching Experience

Instructor:

PP 5397 Data Analytics with R for Policy & Management (new course), UConn	2024-2025
PP 5314 Causal Inference for Program Evaluation, UConn	2024-2025
PP 5376 Applied Quantitative Methods, UConn	2023-2024
Summer Workshop Series on Microsoft Excel, UConn	2024

Teaching Assistant:

CRIM 603: Research Methods/Crime Analysis, University of Pennsylvania	2021-2022
CRIM 602: Criminal Justice Data Analytics, University of Pennsylvania	2020

Trainer for new TAs:

TA Training Program, Center for Teaching & Learning, University of Pennsylvania	2021/2022
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Non-academic professional experience

Heinz College Systems Synthesis Project 2019

Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing, *Pittsburgh, PA*

- Reviewed PA Sentence Risk Assessment Instrument, proposing accuracy and fairness improvements.

Graduate student project with Bayer Corporation 2017

Carnegie Mellon University, *Pittsburgh, PA*

Summer internship 2017

Protokol Telecom, *Oaxaca, Mexico*

Head of Analysis of Governmental Information Department 2016 - 2017

National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), *Mexico City*

Head of Economic Research Department 2013 - 2016

National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC), *Mexico City*

Research Assistant 2012 - 2013

National Institute of Ecology and Climate Change (INECC), *Mexico City*

Skills & Languages

Spanish (native), English (fluent), R, Python, Stata, ArcGis, Qgis, Latex