
Luis C. Torres

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2024 -** **Assistant Professor**
Department of Criminal Justice
Temple University
- 2022 - 2024** **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**
Department of Criminal Justice
Temple University

EDUCATION

- 2022** **Ph.D. Criminology and Criminal Justice**
University of Missouri - St. Louis (UMSL)
*An Examination of the Effects of Workgroup Characteristics on
Criminal Case Processing and Case Outcomes*
Dissertation committee: Marisa Omori, Beth M. Huebner, Andres F.
Rengifo (Rutgers University - Newark), & Lee A. Slocum
(chair/advisor)
- 2017** **M.A. Criminal Justice**
Rutgers University - Newark
- 2015** **B.A. Criminal Justice**
Rutgers University - New Brunswick

RESEARCH INTERESTS

criminal courts, pretrial process, court decision-making, courtroom workgroups, research methods

PUBLICATIONS

† = student co-author

Peer-reviewed articles

- 2025** Omori, M., Early, A.M., & **Torres, L.C.** A Theoretical and Empirical Critique of Racial Innocence in Sentencing. *Law & Society Review*.
- 2025** **Torres, L.C.**, Vaughn, P., & Williams, J.H. Dissent and Detention: How Judges Appraise Risk Assessments in New Jersey. *Criminal Justice Policy Review*.

- 2024** **Torres, L.C.**, Lyne, E.M.[†], & Appleby, A.M.[†] On The (Zoom) Record: The Role of Videoconferencing in Detention Hearing Proceedings. *Journal of Crime and Justice*.
- 2023** Webster, E., Huebner, B.M., Early, A.M., & **Torres, L.C.** ‘Court Can Happen Anywhere’: Courtroom Workgroup Members' Perceptions of the Challenges and Opportunities of a Transformed Workplace. *Criminal Justice and Behavior*.
- 2022** **Torres, L.C.** & Williams, J.H. Tired Judges? An Examination of the Effect of Decision Fatigue in Bail Proceedings. *Criminal Justice and Behavior*.
- 2022** Slocum, L.A., **Torres, L.C.**, Huebner, B.M., Larson, E., Baumgartner, J, Schaefer, S., & Preiss, E. Enforcement of Low-Level Warrants in the City of St. Louis: Officer Decision Making and Implications for Policy and Practice. *Policing: A Journal of Policy and Practice*.

Manuscripts in preparation

- Rengifo, A.F., **Torres, L.C.**, & Rouzbahani, A.F. Talk is cheap? Dimensions of Judicial Authority in Pretrial Hearings. *Under Review*.
- Williams, J.H. & **Torres, L.C.** Tipping Point: Exploring the Linear and Non-linear Effects of Time to Adjudication on Guilty Pleas and Case Dismissals. *Under Review*.
- Torres, L.C.** & Jones, S.D.[†] Defense Counsel Type, Defendant Interventions, and Punishment in a Virtual Pretrial Courtroom. *Under Review*.
- Mohler, M.[†], **Torres, L.C.**, Ward, J.T., Brey, J.[†], & Vilcić, E.R. Reconfiguring Police-Prosecutor Relationships in the Era of the Progressive Prosecution.
- Torres, L.C.** & Motzer, A.C.[†] The Application of Dual System Framework to Initial Hearing Decision-Making.
- Rengifo, A.F., Stemen, D., & **Torres, L.C.** Politicians, Prosecutors and Police Chiefs: The Ecology of Criminal Justice Oversight.
- Thompson, K.J., Williams, J.H., & **Torres, L.C.** Localizing Mass Incarceration: Prosecutorial Discretion and State-County Autonomy.

Book chapters

- 2024** Pope, L.G. & **Torres, L.C.** “Common Themes and Tensions: How Misdemeanor Systems Manage Behavior of People with Serious Mental Illnesses” in *Entangled: How People With Serious Mental Illness Get Caught in Misdemeanor Systems*. Pope, L.G., Watson, A.C., Wood, J.D., & Compton, M.T. (Eds.). American Psychiatric Association Publishing.
- 2024** **Torres, L.C.** & Wood, J.D. “Decision-Making Contexts of Misdemeanor Charges in Four Large Cities” in *Entangled: How People With Serious Mental*

Illness Get Caught in Misdemeanor Systems. Pope, L.G., Watson, A.C., Wood, J.D., & Compton, M.T. (Eds.). American Psychiatric Association Publishing.

Technical reports

- 2022** Early, A.M., Huebner, B.M., Omori, M., Stemen, D., **Torres, L.C.**, & Webster, E. Exploring Plea Bargaining Outcomes in Milwaukee and St. Louis. Report prepared for the Institute for State and Local Governance Research Consortium and MacArthur Foundation.
- 2020** Slocum, L.A., **Torres, L.C.**, & Huebner, B.M. Warrant Arrests in the City of St. Louis, 2002 – 2019. Report prepared for the Data Collaborative for Justice - The Research Network for Misdemeanor Justice.
- 2020** Slocum, L.A., Schaefer, B., **Torres, L.C.**, Huebner, B.M., & Hughes, T. Warrant enforcement in Louisville Metro and the City of St. Louis from 2006 – 2019: A Cross-site Analysis. Report prepared for the Data Collaborative for Justice - The Research Network for Misdemeanor Justice.

ACADEMIC AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2024** Omori, M., Early, A.M., & **Torres, L.C.** Prevailing over the penology of racial innocence: theoretical and methodological considerations of race in sentencing. Paper presented at *Law and Society Association* annual meeting. Denver, Colorado.
- 2024** **Torres, L.C.** Pretrial Justice: Bail, Reform, and Research. Invited presentation at the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Georgia Southern University. Statesboro, Georgia.
- 2023** Thompson, K.J., Williams, J.H., & **Torres, L.C.** Prosecutor Power in Context: The Role of Pretrial Detainment in the “Momentum of Mass Incarceration.” Paper presented at *American Society of Criminology* annual meeting. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 2023** **Torres, L.C.** Defense Counsel Type: Efficiency, Courtroom Processes, and Judicial Decision-making. Paper presented at *American Society of Criminology* annual meeting. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 2023** **Torres, L.C.** & Jones, S.D. Disadvantage, Resistance, and Punishment. Paper presented at *Law and Society Association* annual meeting. San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- 2022** Omori, M., Early, A.M., & **Torres, L.C.** Prevailing over the penology of racial innocence: Theoretical and methodological considerations of race in prosecution and sentencing. *American Society of Criminology* annual meeting. Atlanta, Georgia.

- 2022** Webster, E., Huebner, B.M., **Torres, L.C.**, Early, A.M., Stemen, D., & Omori, M. The COVID-19 impact on criminal courts and criminal courtroom workgroups. *American Society of Criminology* annual meeting. Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2022** **Torres, L.C.**, Lyne, E.M., & Appleby, A.M. On The (Zoom) Record: The Role of Videoconferencing in Detention Hearing Proceedings. Paper presented at *American Society of Criminology* annual meeting. Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2021** Huebner, B.M., Omori, M., Early, A.M., & **Torres, L.C.** Exploring Prosecutor Discretion in St. Louis County. *American Society of Criminology* annual meeting. Chicago, Illinois.
- 2021** **Torres, L.C.** The Effects of Workgroup Members Similarities and Defense Counsel Type on Case Processing and Case Outcomes. Paper presented at *American Society of Criminology* annual meeting. Chicago, Illinois.
- 2021** **Torres, L.C.**, Vaughn, P., & Williams, J.H. Dissent and Detention: How Judges Appraise Risk Assessments in New Jersey. Paper presented at *Law and Society Association* annual meeting. Chicago, Illinois.
- 2019** **Torres, L.C.** Impact of Decision Fatigue on Judges in Bail Proceedings. Paper presented at *American Society of Criminology* annual meeting. San Francisco, California.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2020 - 2022** **Graduate Research Assistant | UMSL**
- *Exploring Prosecutorial Discretion in the Plea-Bargaining Process in Milwaukee and St. Louis Counties*
PIs: Beth M. Huebner, Marisa Omori, Don Stemen (Loyola University - Chicago), & Elizabeth Webster (Loyola University - Chicago)
Roles: Develop interview protocols and data collection instruments, manage and analyze administrative data, and assist in report writing on a MacArthur Foundation-funded project examining prosecutorial discretion and criminal case processing.
 - *Research Network on Misdemeanor Justice*
PI: Lee A. Slocum
Roles: Assisted in managing data and report writing on an Arnold Foundation-funded project examining warrant enforcement in Louisville Metro and St. Louis City.
- 2015 - 2017** **Graduate Research Assistant | Rutgers University – Newark**
- *City of Newark Consent Decree*
PI: Todd R. Clear
Role: Interviewed jail detainees on a U.S. Department of Justice-funded project examining detainees' perceptions and experiences with arresting officer(s).

- PI: Andres F. Rengifo
Roles: Assisted in developing a research instrument to capture courtroom- and case-level information during criminal proceedings and data collection.
- PI: Ronald V. Clarke
Roles: Reviewed and analyzed data from the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Threatened Species. The project focus was to identify the human hunting threat posed to species.

2016 **Research Intern | Vera Institute of Justice | New York City, NY**
Questioning Bias: Validating a Bias Crime Assessment Tool in New Jersey and California
 PI: Laura Simich
 Roles: Transcribed and coded informant interviews, met with stakeholders, facilitated focus groups, and reviewed and analyzed data for a National Institute of Justice-funded project.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate courses

2022 - **Department of Criminal Justice | Temple University**
 - Criminal Courts and Criminal Justice (4x)

2017 - 2022 **Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice | UMSL**
 - Courts (3x)
 - Statistical Analysis in Criminology and Criminal Justice (4x)
 - Corporate, Organizational, and White-Collar Crime (TA) (1x)
 - Statistical Analysis in Criminology and Criminal Justice (TA) (2x)

SERVICE

Departmental committees

2024 - **Member | Theory Comprehensive Examination | Temple University**

2024 - **Member | Faculty Search | Temple University**

Doctoral dissertation committees

2024 - **Member | Gabrielle J. Spence | Temple University**
Seeing Double: Surveillance, Data Doubles, and Juvenile Diversion Pathway Decisions

2024 - **Member | Ciara K. Sheerin | Temple University**
Inheriting Injustice: Intergenerational Racial and Legal Socialization of Kin and Community

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Society of Criminology
Law and Society Association

AD HOC REVIEWER

Criminal Justice and Behavior
Justice Quarterly