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# Luis C. Torres

Google Scholar | ResearchGate

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Last updated: January 2025

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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

## EDUCATION

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- 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), and Lee A. Slocum  
(chair/advisor)
- 2017**                        **M.A. Criminal Justice**  
Rutgers University - Newark
- 2015**                        **B.A. Criminal Justice**  
Rutgers University - New Brunswick

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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

## PUBLICATIONS († = student co-author)

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### *Peer-reviewed articles*

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

- 2024**      **Torres, L.C.**, Lyne, E.M.<sup>†</sup>, and Appleby, A.M.<sup>†</sup> 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., and **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.** and 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., and 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

Williams, J.H. and **Torres, L.C.** Tipping Point: Exploring the Linear and Non-linear Effects of Time to Adjudication on Guilty Pleas and Case Dismissals. *Under Review*.

Rengifo, A.F., Rouzbahani, D., and **Torres, L.C.** Talk is cheap? The rhetoric of judicial authority in bail hearings.

**Torres, L.C.** and Jones, S.D.<sup>†</sup> Disadvantage, Resistance, and Punishment in a Virtual Pretrial Courtroom.

Mohler, M.<sup>†</sup>, **Torres, L.C.**, Ward, J.T., Brey, J.<sup>†</sup>, and Vîlcică, E.R. Reconfigured Police-Prosecutor Relationships in the Era of the Progressive Prosecution Movement.

Rengifo, A.F., Stemen, D., **Torres, L.C.** Politicians, Prosecutors and Police Chiefs: The Ecology of Criminal Justice Oversight.

Motzer, A.C.<sup>†</sup> and **Torres, L.C.** The Application of Dual System and Decision Fatigue Framework to Initial Hearing Decision-Making.

### Book chapters

**2024**      Pope, L.G. and **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., and Compton, M.T. (Eds.). American Psychiatric Association Publishing.

**2024**      **Torres, L.C.** and 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., and Compton, M.T. (Eds.). American Psychiatric Association Publishing.

### Technical reports

- 2022** Early, A.M., Huebner, B.M., Omori, M., Stemen, D., **Torres, L.C.**, and 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.**, and 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., and 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., and **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, CO.
- 2024** **Torres, L.C.** Pretrial Justice: Bail, Reform, and Research. Invited presentation at the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Georgia Southern University. Statesboro, GA.
- 2023** Thompson, K.J., Williams, J.H., and **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, PA.
- 2023** **Torres, L.C.** Defense Counsel Type: Efficiency, Courtroom Processes, and Judicial Decision-making. Paper presented at *American Society of Criminology* annual meeting. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2023** **Torres, L.C.** and Jones, S.D. Disadvantage, Resistance, and Punishment. Paper presented at *Law and Society Association* annual meeting. San Juan, PR.
- 2022** **Torres, L.C.**, Lyne, E.M., and 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, GA.
- 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, IL.
- 2021** **Torres, L.C.**, Vaughn, P., and Williams, J.H. Dissent and Detention: How Judges Appraise Risk Assessments in New Jersey. Paper presented at *Law and Society Association* annual meeting. Chicago, IL.

**2019**      **Torres, L.C.** Impact of Decision Fatigue on Judges in Bail Proceedings. Paper presented at *American Society of Criminology* annual meeting. San Francisco, CA.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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**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), and 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. DOJ-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**

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### ***Undergraduate courses***

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- 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**

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### ***Departmental committees***

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- 2024 -**            Theory Comprehensive Examination  
**2024 -**            Faculty Search

### ***Doctoral dissertation committees***

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- 2024 -**            Gabrielle J. Spence  
**2024 -**            Ciara Sheerin

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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American Society of Criminology  
Law and Society Association

## **AD HOC REVIEWER**

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*Criminal Justice and Behavior  
Justice Quarterly*