

Catherine S. Kimbrell, PhD

Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy | George Mason University, Fairfax, VA
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Educational History

PhD, Criminology, Law and Society 2019

George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

Dissertation title: The Impact of Poverty on the Pretrial Process

MA, Criminal Justice 2011

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY

Advanced Certificate in Terrorism Studies

Thesis title: An Evaluation of Juvenile Victim-Offender Mediation Programs in the United States

BS, Justice Studies; German Language and Literature 2007

James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

Semester abroad: Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany

Work Experience

Research Assistant Professor 2021–Present

Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy (CEBCP), Department of Criminology, Law and Society, George Mason University - Fairfax, VA

- Lead multiple research projects for CEBCP, including data collection, management, analysis, and writing research reports for projects funded by Arnold Ventures and the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA).
- Supervise CEBCP Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs) with various research tasks related to different project work streams.
- Identify new areas of research in the field of evidence-based crime policy and assist with grant proposal development, including grant writing and submission.
- Managing Editor of *Translational Criminology* Magazine. Responsible for managing publication workflows and coordinating with editors, authors, and the publication team.
- Managing Editor of *Criminology & Public Policy* from 2021–November 2024.

Senior Associate 2019–2021

Public Safety Performance Project, The Pew Charitable Trusts - Washington, DC

- Provided data and research analysis for the jails team to influence evidence-based policy-making and stakeholder education.
- Lead data analyst for 2021 North Carolina court appearance campaign. Responsible for data collection, management, and analysis of court data.
- Managed jails team campaign selection for 2021 technical assistance work. Analyzed national criminal justice data on jails and other relevant criminal justice topics, and interviewed state leaders, academics, and advocates on the ground in multiple states.

- Provided technical assistance to the Michigan Joint Task Force on Jail and Pretrial Incarceration, including data and research analysis support. Wrote, conducted, and analyzed survey data from 20 jails in Michigan on the topic of bail and pretrial.

Project Coordinator

2018– 2019

Department of Criminology, Law and Society, George Mason University - Fairfax, VA

- Served as editorial team project coordinator for a series of four Campbell Collaboration systematic reviews of counter-terrorism related issues funded by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).
- Responsible for managing author teams and peer reviewers, organizing meetings, liaising with sponsors for project updates, and managing publication timelines for all systematic reviews.

Graduate Research Assistant

2013–2018

Department of Criminology, Law and Society, George Mason University - Fairfax, VA

- Managed research project funded by the Pretrial Justice Institute (PJI) on the topic of money bail experiences and perceptions. Responsible for data collection (surveys and qualitative interviews), management, and analysis of four jail and pretrial supervision research sites. Responsible for supervising Undergraduate Research Assistant working on project.
- Assisted in coding and writing meta-analyses and systematic reviews on juvenile justice interventions for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative project. Assisted in the conceptualization, framing, and writing of two federally funded OJJDP grants for meta-analyses on trauma-informed interventions for at-risk and justice-involved youth and restorative justice programs.
- Responsible for various research tasks for the Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) simulation tool project, including developing the Specialized Court Tool of the RNR Program Tool for Adults. Conducted technical assistance training for the RNR simulation tool.

German Chancellor Fellow for Prospective Leaders

2011–2012

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation - Bonn, Germany

- Fellowship awarded to 10 Americans with an interest in international issues and demonstrated leadership potential in their respective fields, in collaboration with the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Funded for 16 months to conduct qualitative research on Victim-Offender Mediation (VOM) programs for juveniles and adolescents, based out of the Institute for Criminology at the University of Tuebingen.
- Completed observations at four VOM programs, conducted qualitative interviews with staff and VOM participants, and compiled a final research report.

Graduate Research Assistant

2009–2011

Extremist Crime Database, John Jay College of Criminal Justice - New York, NY

- Conducted systematic searches and collected information on extremist crime cases through open source materials. Systematically coded extremist violent and financial cases using Access software after a thorough analysis of each case.

Research Assistant 2008–2009
Sub-Regional Resource Facility for the Arab States, United Nations Development Programme - Beirut, Lebanon

- Research assistant for the Gender Policy Advisor. Collected research and resources for the newly launched Gender Portal for the Arab States in the areas of Gender and Governance, Crisis Prevention and Recovery, and Poverty.

Senior Research Associate 2007–2008
Forrester Research - Cambridge, MA

- Responsible for project management of written research for team of 10 analysts. Helped set and manage timelines for multiple research projects.
- Conducted interviews, collected data, designed graphics, helped develop presentations, and edited documents used in published research.

Academic Teaching Experience

Faculty Term Leader Fall 2024 & Spring 2025
 George Mason University, Department of Criminology, Law and Society
 CRIM 491 & CRIM 492: Criminology, Law and Society Honor's Course

Adjunct Faculty Fall 2022
 George Mason University, Department of Criminology, Law and Society
 CRIM 595: Special Topics - Restorative Justice

Graduate Lecturer Spring 2017
 George Mason University, Department of Criminology, Law and Society
 CRIM 315: Research Methods and Analysis in Criminology

Guest Lecturer Spring 2012
 University of Tuebingen, Institute for Criminology
 American Justice Studies

Academic Honors

Summer Research Fellowship, George Mason University 2018
 Awarded \$7,000 by the Provost Office for dissertation research.

Philip M. Dearborn Fellowship, Economic Club of Washington, DC 2017
 Selected to be the annual recipient of the Philip M. Dearborn Fellowship and awarded \$10,000 for dissertation research.

John Jay International Conference Scholarship, John Jay College of Criminal Justice 2010
 Received \$1,000 award to attend the International Conference in Marrakech, Morocco and present on a panel on Various Issues in Youth Abuse and Rights.

Graduate Scholarship, John Jay College of Criminal Justice 2009–2010
 Selected by Scholarship Committee to receive \$2,000 award for academic achievement awarded to one graduate student per academic year.

Publications

Journal Articles (Peer Reviewed)

1. Wilson, D. B., Abt, T., **Kimbrell, C.**, & Johnson, W. Reducing community violence: A systematic meta-review of what works. *Campbell Systematic Reviews*. Submitted July 2025.
2. Abt, T., Wilson, D. B., **Kimbrell, C. S.**, Hahn, R. & Johnson, W. (2024). [Crime, place, policy, and politics](#). *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, 79, 101991.
3. Wilson, D. B., Abt, T., **Kimbrell, C. S.**, & Johnson, W. (2024). [Protocol: Reducing community violence: A meta-review of what works](#). *Campbell Systematic Reviews*, 20(2), e1409.
4. **Kimbrell, C. S.**, Wilson, D. B., & Olaghere, A. (2023). [Restorative justice programs and practices in juvenile justice: An updated systematic review and meta-analysis for effectiveness](#). *Criminology & Public Policy*, 22(1), 161-195.
5. Olaghere, A., Wilson, D. B., & **Kimbrell, C.** (2023). [Inclusive critical appraisal of qualitative and quantitative findings in evidence synthesis](#). *Research Synthesis Methods*, 14(6), 847-852.
6. Olaghere, A., Wilson, D. B., & **Kimbrell, C. S.** (2021). [Trauma-focused interventions for justice involved youth: A meta-analysis](#). *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 48(9), 1261-1277.
7. Wilson, D.B., Olaghere, A., & **Kimbrell C. S.** (2019). [Implementing the juvenile drug court model: A meta-aggregation of process evaluation findings](#). *Journal of Research on Crime and Delinquency*, 56(4), 605–645.

Published Research Reports

1. Wilson, D. B., Olaghere, A., & **Kimbrell, C. S.** (2017, July). [Effectiveness of Restorative Justice Programs](#). OJJDP-Funded Research in Brief. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. (NCJ 250995).
2. Wilson, D. B., Olaghere, A., & **Kimbrell, C. S.** (2017, June). [Effectiveness of Restorative Justice Principles in Juvenile Justice: A Meta-Analysis](#). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. (NCJ 250872).
3. Wilson, D.B. Olaghere, A., & **Kimbrell, C. S.** (2016, January). [Developing Juvenile Drug Court Practices on Process Standards: A Systematic Review and Qualitative Synthesis](#). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. (Document No. 250441).

Technical Reports

1. Koper, C., **Kimbrell, C.**, & Baas, G. (2025). *Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) community survey 2024 Norfolk, Virginia. Report to the U.S. Attorney's Office of the Eastern District of Virginia*. Fairfax, VA: Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy, George Mason University.
2. Lum, C., Koper, C.S., **Kimbrell, C.S.**, Goodier, M., Khatchatourian, H., Baas, G., Lee, W.-G., & Lee, H. (2024). *Improving Investigations, Clearances, and Victim Satisfaction in Robbery and Burglary Cases*. Final Report to the National Institute of Justice. Fairfax, VA: Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy, George Mason University.

3. Wilson, D. B., Olaghere, A., & **Kimbrell, C. S.** (2018, June). *Trauma-Focused Interventions for Justice-Involved and At-Risk Youth: A Meta-Analysis*. Final technical report to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP).
4. **Kimbrell, C. S.**, & Wilson, D. B. (2016, September). *Money Bond Processes Experiences and Perceptions*. Final technical report to the Pretrial Justice Institute.
5. Wilson, D. B., Olaghere, A., **Kimbrell, C. S.**, & Gill, C. (2015, February). *Meta-analysis Effect Size Estimates for Juvenile Diversion (Counsel and Release)*. Final technical report for the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative.
6. Wilson, D. B., Olaghere, A., **Kimbrell, C. S.**, & Gill, C. (2015, January). *Meta-analysis effect size estimates for drug substitution programs*. Final technical report for the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative.
7. Wilson, D. B., Olaghere, A., **Kimbrell, C. S.**, & Gill, C. (2014, December). *Meta-analysis Effect Size Estimates for Self-control Interventions for Young Children*. Final technical report for the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative.

Other Works Published

1. **Kimbrell, C.S.**, Wilson, D.B., & Olaghere, A. (2024, July). *How effective are restorative justice programs and practices for youth? A summary of a systematic review and meta-analysis*. Taeter-Opfer-Ausgleich (TOA) Magazin. Servicebuero fuer Taeter-Opfer-Ausgleich und Konfliktschlichtung. 53-56.
2. **Kimbrell, C. S.**, Demuth, S., Copp, J., & Scott-Hayward, C. S. (2018). *A Call for a Pretrial Research Network*. *The Criminologist*, 43(5): 20 - 21.

Grant Awards

Co-Principal Investigator	\$839,520
<u>Funder:</u> Arnold Ventures	
<u>Title:</u> <i>Improving Clearance Rates and Victim Satisfaction for High-Volume Crimes through Follow-Ups: A Randomized Controlled Trial.</i>	
<u>Dates:</u> December, 2024–January, 2027	
Co-Principal Investigator	\$296,000
<u>Funder:</u> Bureau of Justice Assistance.	
<u>Title:</u> <i>Enhancing Safety and Security at Northern Virginia Airports and Associated Metro Stations. Bureau of Justice Assistance.</i>	
<u>Dates:</u> August 2024– January 2027	
Co-Principal Investigator	\$149,999
<u>Funder:</u> U.S. Attorney’s Office (Eastern District of Virginia) from the Bureau of Justice Assistance.	
<u>Title:</u> <i>Research & Evaluation Partnership with the U.S. Attorney’s Office (Eastern District of Virginia) for Project Safe Neighborhoods.</i>	
<u>Dates:</u> January 2023–December 2025	
Co-Principal Investigator	\$91,733
<u>Funder:</u> Arnold Ventures through University of Maryland.	
<u>Title:</u> <i>Reducing community violence: A meta-review of what works.</i>	
<u>Dates:</u> December, 2022–June, 2024	

Presentations

Papers Presented

1. **Kimbrell, C. S.**, Wilson, D. B., Abt, T., & Johnson, William. (2024, November). *Community violence reduction strategies: An overview of what works*. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.
2. Wilson, D. B., **Kimbrell, C. S.**, & Johnson, William. (2023, November). *Community violence reduction strategies: An overview of what works*. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA.
3. **Kimbrell, C. S.**, Wilson, D. B., & Olaghere, A. (2022, November). *Restorative Justice Programs and Practices in Juvenile Justice: Results from an updated meta-analysis and systematic review*. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA.
4. **Kimbrell, C. S.** & Wilson, D. B. (2019, November). *Poverty and Pretrial Justice: An Analysis of Pretrial Administrative Data from One Jurisdiction*. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.
5. **Kimbrell, C. S.** & Wilson, D. B. (2019, May). *The Impact of Poverty on the Pretrial Process: An Analysis of Administrative Data*. Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.
6. Wilson, D. B., **Kimbrell, C. S.**, & Olaghere, A. (2018, November). *Trauma-Informed Interventions for Justice-Involved Youth: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis*. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA.
7. **Kimbrell, C. S.** & Wilson, D. B. (2017, November). *A Qualitative Analysis of Money Bail Process Experiences and Perceptions*. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA.
8. **Kimbrell, C. S.** & Wilson, D. B. (2016, November). *Money Bail Process Experiences and Perceptions*. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, New Orleans, LA.
9. **Kimbrell, C. S.**, Wilson, D. B., & Olaghere, A. (2016, March). *What Have We Learned from Juvenile Drug Court Implementation and Processes? Findings From a Systematic Review for the OJJDP Juvenile Drug Court Study*. Annual Meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Denver, CO.
10. **Kimbrell, C. S.**, Wilson, D. B., & Olaghere, A. (2015, November). *Juvenile Drug Court Implementation and Process Findings: A Systematic Review for the OJJDP Juvenile Drug Court Study*. Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Washington, DC.
11. **Kimbrell, C. S.**, Taxman, F. S., & Caudy, M. (2014, November). *Unraveling the Rehabilitative Ideal: How are 38 Programs Doing?* Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.
12. **Kimbrell, C. S.**, Taxman, F. S., & Rudes, D. (2014, May). *Rehabilitation: The Ideal vs. the Context*. Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN.
13. **Kimbrell, C. S.** (2010, June). *Case Study: Child Soldier Reintegration and the Impact of Restorative Justice Approaches in Sierra Leone*. John Jay College of Criminal Justice International Conference. Marrakech, Morocco.

Roundtable

1. **Kimbrell, C. S.**, Demuth, S., Copp, J., & Scott-Hayward, C. S. (2018, November). *Developing a Pretrial Research Network within the Criminology Community*. Annual Conference of the American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, GA.

Service

- Co-organizer of the Pretrial Justice Working Group, initiated at the American Society of Criminology in November 2018.
- Criminology, Law and Society Student Association (CLSSA), George Mason University. Elected Vice President by graduate student body for 2016–2017 academic year.

Professional Memberships

- American Society of Criminology

Skills

- Trained in data analysis and research software packages (Stata, SPSS, Atlas.ti), Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Powerpoint), survey management (Qualtrics, SurveyMonkey, EpiData), and data visualization (Tableau)
- Fluent in German