

JULIA CASPERO

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EDUCATION

University Of Maryland

M.A., Criminology and Criminal Justice

College Park, MD

August 2024 – Present

University Of Maryland

B.A., Government and Politics

B.A., Criminology and Criminal Justice

College Park, MD

August 2018 – May 2022

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Prosecution of Mandatory Minimum Firearm Offenses

Research Assistant | Dr. Brian Johnson

College Park, MD

March 2025 – Present

Gathered mandatory minimum literature to address gaps in understanding.

Authored literature review synthesizing historical trends and key academic and policy perspectives on mandatory minimum sentencing.

Multi-Jurisdictional Prosecution Comparison Study

Research Assistant | Dr. Brian Johnson

College Park, MD

June 2025 – Present

Conducted data analyses for a multi-jurisdictional study on prosecutorial practices and racial disparities.

Drafted background information on political and socioeconomic frameworks across Maryland jurisdictions.

ICF

Research Analyst

Reston, VA

July 2022 – August 2024

Facilitated focus groups and interviewed over 100 victims of crime to learn about their experiences with state victim compensation programs.

Developed surveys in Qualtrics and SurveyMonkey to evaluate effectiveness of trainings for victim service organizations.

Cleaned and analyzed more than 50 datasets of federal grantee data in SPSS and Excel.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Courts and Sentencing

Corrections

Collateral Consequences

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Maryland State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy

College Park, MD

Policy Analyst

August 2024 – Present

Conducted data analysis and cleaning on statewide sentencing information for Annual Reports using SPSS.

Met regularly with judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and other criminal justice stakeholders across the state of Maryland to inform the revision of the state's sentencing guidelines.

Created legislative briefs on how new bills impact Maryland's sentencing guidelines.

ICF

Reston, VA

Research Analyst II; Justice Research and Victim Services Division

July 2022 – August 2024

Disseminated grantee evaluations for Department of Justice Training and Technical Assistance Centers.

Authored reports and literature reviews on topics related to human trafficking and victim services.

Facilitated focus groups with victims of crime to gather qualitative data on state victim compensation programs.

Led the delivery of four needs assessments working with tribes, demonstrating strong analytical and communication skills.

Conducted data cleaning, analysis, and data visualizations using SPSS and Excel.

Maryland General Assembly

Annapolis, MD

Legislative Intern

January – April 2021

Assisted Delegate Crutchfield, District 19, with policies advocating for juvenile justice reform.

Researched over 50 bills and wrote Delegate Crutchfield's testimonies in hearings for bills on hate crimes.

Liaised with constituents to hear local concerns about legislation on police reform and expungement.

Scheduled and attended hearings to take notes and conduct research on future bills relating to solitary confinement.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Quantitative Analysis Software: Stata, R, SPSS, Python

Qualitative Analysis Software: Atlas.TI

Additional Software: Microsoft Office Suite, Google Workspace, Qualtrics, SurveyMonkey

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Scoring Injustice: The Racial Consequences of Criminal History Enhancements in Maryland's Sentencing Guidelines

November 2025

American Society of Criminology Conference | Washington, DC

Negotiating Racial Justice: Examining Case Outcomes Across Three Maryland Jurisdictions

September 2025

European Society of Criminology Conference | Athens, Greece

PUBLICATIONS

Ellis, R., Kramer, T., Arslanian, M., Abuelhawa, J. Barrack, A. R., Caspero, J., Brittan-Powell, T., Justice, S., Sanfuentes, I., Vogel, G., Yang, E. M., Hom, J. (2021). Engaged pedagogy in the criminology classroom: A visual essay. *American Anthropologist*.

<https://www.americananthropologist.org/online-content/engaged-pedagogy-visual-essay>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University Of Maryland

College Park, MD

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

August 2020 – May 2022

GVPT201: Scope and Methods for Political Science Research

Supervisor: Dr. Sarah Croco

Undergraduate Course

Course Focus: Introduction to research design and the use of quantitative methods in political science. Basic fundamentals of descriptive and inferential statistics, hypothesis testing, and regression analysis.

Roles: Led 2 weekly discussions of 10-30 students, delivered course material, taught students the fundamentals of the programming language R, graded problem sets, assisted in developing and grading exams.

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

Professional Organizations

President: Alpha Phi Sigma Criminal Justice Honor Society

2021 – 2022

Member: Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society

2020 – 2022

University Service – University of Maryland

Graduate Student Representative: University Senate
(Campus Affairs Committee)

2025 – Present

Student Representative: Graduate Council

2025 – Present

Member: Dean's Graduate Student Advisory Council

2024 – Present