

**Crime Rates during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Workshop  
PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
*Biographical Sketches*

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**Chair: John M. MacDonald** is a Professor of Criminology and Sociology, Department of Criminology, at the University of Pennsylvania. Professor MacDonald works on a variety of topics in criminology including the study of crime and violence; race and ethnic disparities in criminal justice; and the effect of public policy responses on crime. In 2012, he was awarded the David N. Kershaw Prize from the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management for contributions to Public Policy by Age 40. In 2017 he was elected Fellow of the Academy of Experimental Criminology. His research has been published in leading scientific journals across different disciplines including the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences,

American Journal of Epidemiology, American Journal of Public Health, Criminology, the Economic Journal, Journal of American Statistical Association, and the Journal of Royal Statistical Society. His research has been funded by National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and National Institute of Justice (NIJ). A current focus of his work is on examining how policies and programs to change the land use of places can reduce crime and violence in neighborhoods. His current CDC and NIH funded research involves a randomized community trial of the effect of vacant lot remediation and stabilization on violence and injury outcomes and a randomized trial of abandoned housing remediation on substance abuse and violence. He is also active in studying racial disparities in criminal justice processing, and ways to reduce these disparities through policy and program reforms. He received a B.A. in political science, as well as a M.A. and Ph.D. in criminology from the University of Maryland.



**Jamein P. Cunningham** is an Assistant Professor in the Jeb E. Brooks School of Public Policy and the Department of Economics at Cornell University. Dr. Cunningham's research agenda consists of four broad overarching themes focusing on the intersectionality of institutional discrimination, access to social justice, crime and criminal justice, and race and economic inequality. He is a Faculty Affiliate at the Cornell Population Center and holds professional memberships in the American Economic Association, the Southern Economic Association, the American

Law and Economics Association, the Racial Democracy, Crime, and Justice Network, and the National Economic Association. Dr. Cunningham is a recipient of the Rackham Merit Fellowship and the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute in Child Health and Development Fellowship. Before receiving a Ph.D. at the University of Michigan, he completed his undergraduate degree at Michigan State University and a Master's in Economics at the University of North Texas.



**Charis E. Kubrin** is Professor of Criminology, Law and Society and (by courtesy) Sociology. She is also a member of the Council on Criminal Justice, the Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice- Network, and The UC Consortium on Social Science and Law, and is an expert for the Crime and Justice Research Alliance. Kubrin's research analyzes neighborhood correlates of crime, with an emphasis on race and violent crime. Recent work examines the immigration-crime nexus across neighborhoods and cities, as well as assesses the impact of criminal justice reform on crime rates. Professor Kubrin has received several national awards including the Ruth Shonle Cavan Young Scholar Award from the American Society of Criminology; the Coramae Richey Mann Award from the Division on People of Color and Crime, the American Society of Criminology; and the W.E.B. DuBois and Paul Tappan Awards from the Western Society of Criminology. In 2019, she was named a Fellow of the American Society of Criminology.



**Ojmarrh Mitchell** is an associate professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the Arizona State University. Professor Mitchell earned his Ph.D. in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland with a doctoral minor in Measurement, Statistics, and Evaluation. His research interests center on criminal justice policy, particularly in the areas of drug control, sentencing and corrections, and racial fairness in the criminal justice system. Most recently, Dr. Mitchell has been investigating prosecutorial discretion and its influence on case processing, case outcomes, and racial disparities in Florida's courts. For his research on racial and ethnic issues in the criminal justice system, he received the Western Society of Criminology's W.E.B. Du Bois award. Dr. Mitchell has served on numerous advisory roles including the U.S. Department of Justice's Science Advisory Board, New York City's Pretrial Research Advisory Council, Philadelphia's Pretrial Reform Advisory Council, and the American Society of Criminology's Executive Board.



**Richard Rosenfeld** is the Curators' distinguished professor emeritus of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Missouri - St. Louis. Dr. Rosenfeld has written extensively on crime trends and crime control policy. His current research focuses on changes in crime rates during the U.S. coronavirus pandemic. He is a fellow and former President of the American Society of Criminology. He received his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Oregon.