

JENNIFER L. DOLEAC

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Department of Economics
Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, Stanford University, June 2012
B.A. in Economics and Mathematics, Williams College, 1999-2003 (Highest Honors)

CURRENT ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Texas A&M University, Department of Economics
Associate Professor (with tenure), 8/2018 – present
Justice Tech Lab
Founder and Director, 4/2017 – present

PREVIOUS ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Virginia, Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy
Assistant Professor, 8/2012 – 7/2018
The Brookings Institution
Visiting Fellow, Economic Studies and The Hamilton Project, 9/2015 – 8/2016

OTHER AFFILIATIONS

Probable Causation podcast
Host, 4/2019 – present
Council on Criminal Justice
Trustee, 3/2019 – present
Journal of Economic Literature
Board of Editors, 2019 – present
Journal of Policy Analysis and Management
Guest Co-Editor, Special Call for Papers on Crime and Criminal Justice Policy, 2018 – present
Institute for Research on Poverty, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Research Affiliate, 2018 – present
Member of the Poverty, Employment, and Self-Sufficiency Network, 2017 – present
The Lab @ DC, Executive Office of the Mayor, Washington, DC
Senior Social Scientist, 2017 – 2018
IZA - Institute of Labor Economics
Research Fellow, 2017 – present
Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities, Notre Dame University
Faculty Affiliate, 2017 – present
The Brookings Institution
Nonresident Fellow, Economic Studies, 2016 – present
University of Chicago Crime Lab
Research Affiliate, 2016 – present

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

The Unintended Consequences of “Ban the Box”: Statistical Discrimination and Employment Outcomes When Criminal Histories are Hidden (with Benjamin Hansen). 2018. Accepted, *Journal of Labor Economics*.

Keep the Kids Inside? Juvenile Curfews and Urban Gun Violence (with Jillian Carr). 2018. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 100(4), 609-618.

The Effects of DNA Databases on Crime. 2017. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, 9(1), 165-201.

Under the Cover of Darkness: How Ambient Light Influences Criminal Behavior (with Nicholas J. Sanders). 2015. *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 97(5), 1093-1103.

The Visible Hand: Race and Online Market Outcomes (with Luke Stein). 2013. *Economic Journal*, 123(572), F469-F492.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“Evidence-Based Policy” Should Reflect a Hierarchy of Evidence. 2019. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 38(2), 517-519.

Wrap-Around Services Don’t Improve Prisoner Reentry Outcomes. 2019. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 38(2), 508-514.

The Roadblock to Reform (with Megan T. Stevenson). 2018. *American Constitution Society research report*.

Moving to job opportunities? The effect of ‘Ban the Box’ on the composition of cities (with Benjamin Hansen). 2017. *American Economic Review (P&P)*, 107(5), 556-559.

Increasing employment for individuals with criminal records. 2016. *The Hamilton Project*.

The geography, incidence, and underreporting of gun violence: new evidence using ShotSpotter data (with Jillian Carr). 2016. [Brookings Research Paper](#).

WORKING PAPERS

The effects of DNA databases on the deterrence and detection of offenders (with Anne Sofie Tegner Anker and Rasmus Landersø).

First draft: March 2016. Current draft: March 2019.

Encouraging desistance from crime.

Previously circulated as: “Strategies to productively reincorporate the formerly-incarcerated into communities: A review of the evidence.” *IZA Discussion Paper No. 11646*.

First draft: June 2018. Current draft: February 2019.

Algorithmic risk assessment tools in the hands of humans (with Megan T. Stevenson).

First draft: September 2018. Current draft: January 2019.

High-stakes Testing, Stress and Student Performance: Biological Pathways (with Jennifer Heissel, Emma Adam, David Figlio, and Jonathan Meer).

First draft: March 2018. Current draft: November 2018.

The moral hazard of lifesaving innovations: Naloxone, opioid abuse, and crime (with Anita Mukherjee). IZA Discussion Paper No. 11489.

First draft: March 2017. Current draft: September 2018.

How do state crime policies affect other states? The externalities of state DNA database laws.

First draft: April 2016. Current draft: December 2016.

A promising alternative: How making college free affects teens' risky behaviors (with Chloe Gibbs).

First draft: November 2014. Current draft: May 2016.

COLUMNS, BLOG POSTS, RESEARCH BRIEFS, AND TESTIMONY

Empirical evidence on the effects of Ban the Box policies: The state of the literature in 2019. March 2019.

Testimony submitted to the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a hearing on the Fair Chance Act.

Jennifer Doleac on Crime. January 21, 2019. Interview on the EconTalk podcast.

Research roundup: What does the evidence say about how to fight the opioid epidemic? (with Anita Mukherjee and Molly Schnell). December 7, 2018. Brookings: Up Front.

Gun regulation is costly — and not the only option. November 9, 2018. The Regulatory Review, University of Pennsylvania Law School.

Study after study shows ex-prisoners would be better off without intense supervision. July 2, 2018. Brookings: Up Front.

Can employment-focused programs reduce reincarceration rates? June 29, 2018. Econofact.

The moral hazard of live-saving innovations: Naloxone access, opioid abuse, and crime (with Anita Mukherjee). April 2018. IZA Newsroom.

Using technology to fight sexual harassment in Economics. April 2018. CSWEP newsletter (pages 7-8).

New evidence that access to health care reduces crime. January 3, 2018. Brookings: Up Front.

Empirical evidence on the effects of Ban the Box policies. December 13, 2017. Testimony submitted to the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for the hearing “Oversight of the Bureau of Prisons and Inmate Reentry.”

Do police body-worn cameras reduce the use of force? November 17, 2017. Econofact.

Do body-worn cameras improve police behavior? October 25, 2017. Brookings: Up Front.

The effects of ‘Ban the Box’ on the employment of black men (with Amanda Agan). June 9, 2017. Econofact.

New evidence that lead exposure increases crime. June 1, 2017. Brookings: Up Front.

Do databases of criminal offenders help reduce crime? May 12, 2017. Medium (premium site).

What are the benefits of police-worn body cameras? May 2017. Apple News and Huffington Post.

Can DNA databases reduce crime rates? May 2017. Forbes and Apple News.

How can acoustic gunshot detection systems help law enforcement? May 2017. Forbes.

How is our criminal justice system broken? May 2017. Huffington Post.

How technology is impacting our criminal justice system. May 2017. Forbes.

How can the average person help improve our criminal justice system? May 2017. Huffington Post.

Let computers be the judge. April 20, 2017. Medium (premium site).

Are Immigrants More Likely to Commit Crimes? February 14, 2017. Econofact.

Forget “ban the box” and give ex-prisoners employability certificates. December 15, 2016. Real Clear Policy. Also published by Brookings.

Does “Ban the Box” Help or Hurt Low-Skilled Workers?: Statistical Discrimination and Employment Outcomes when Criminal Histories are Hidden (with Benjamin Hansen). October 26, 2016. [Cato Research Briefs in Economic Policy](#), Number 62.

How Hiding Criminal Records Hurts Black and Hispanic Men (with Benjamin Hansen). September 8, 2016. [Time](#).

Are criminal risk assessment scores racist? (with Megan Stevenson). August 22, 2016. [Brookings: Up Front](#).

DNA databases deter crime, without filling prisons. August 16, 2016. [Real Clear Markets](#). Also published by [Brookings](#).

To reduce wrongful convictions, reform the bail system. June 22, 2016. [Inside Sources](#). Also published by [Brookings](#).

The unintended consequences of ‘Ban the Box’, May 31, 2016, [Real Clear Markets](#). Also published by [Brookings](#).

Gun violence in major U.S. cities is massively underreported, April 27, 2016, [Brookings blog](#).

Should we pay people not to commit crime? April 18, 2016. [Inside Sources](#). Also published by [Brookings](#) and the [Las Vegas Sun](#).

Keep the Kids Inside? Juvenile Curfews and Urban Gun Violence. March 16, 2016. [Cato Research Briefs on Economic Policy](#), Number 47.

Want to reduce incarceration rates? Try targeted surveillance. March 15, 2016. [Real Clear Markets](#). Also published by [Brookings](#).

To reduce gun violence, empower citizens to make their communities safer. February 4, 2016. [Inside Sources](#). Also published by [Brookings](#).

Repealing juvenile curfew laws could make cities much safer. December 29, 2015. [Real Clear Markets](#). Also published by [Brookings](#).

Can technology fix the criminal justice system? December 2015. [Brookings Top Economic Stories of 2015](#)

Fighting crime with Daylight Saving Time (with Nicholas J. Sanders). October 29, 2015. [Brookings Now](#)

The case for expanding the DNA database. February 7, 2015. [Richmond Times-Dispatch](#)

Race has a hand in determining market outcomes (with Luke C.D. Stein). July 2010. [SIEPR Policy Brief](#)

Race, discrimination, and iPods (with Luke C.D. Stein). June 2010. [CEPR Vox](#)

RESEARCH GRANTS

W.T. Grant Foundation. Principal Investigator. “Strategies to productively reincorporate formerly-incarcerated black and Latino youth into communities.” \$50,000. 2018.

J-PAL North America. Co-Principal Investigator (with Ben Castleman): “Improving access to cognitive behavioral therapy for incarcerated populations through gamification.” \$46,763. 2017-2019.

J-PAL North America. Co-Principal Investigator (with Ben Castleman): “Improving prisoner re-entry outcomes through large-scale behavioral interventions.” \$117,966. 2017-2019.

Koch Foundation. Co-Principal Investigator (with Ben Castleman): “Improving prisoner re-entry outcomes through large-scale behavioral interventions.” \$455,000. 2016-2019.

Bankard Fund for Political Economy, UVA. Principal Investigator: “Technology and Campus Sexual Assault Reporting: Evaluating Callisto.” \$30,000. 2016-2017.

Russell Sage Foundation. Co-Principal Investigator (with Robynn Cox, Benjamin Hansen, and Sarah Jacobson): “How Race Affects Perceptions of Criminality and Thereby Employment.” \$28,600. 2015-2017.

Bankard Fund for Political Economy, UVA. Principal Investigator: “Should we ‘ban the box’? Race, criminality, and employment.” \$30,000. 2015-2016.

Spencer Foundation. Co-Principal Investigator (with Emma Adam and Jonathan Meer): “High Stakes Testing, Stress and Performance: Biological Pathways.” \$50,000. 2015.

Bankard Fund for Political Economy, UVA. Principal Investigator: “Property division laws and the long-run outcomes of divorce.” \$30,000. 2014-2015.

National Institute of Justice. Principal Investigator: “The Interactions and Impacts of State DNA Database Laws.” \$226,496. 2014-2016.
Bankard Fund for Political Economy, UVA. Principal Investigator: “Heterogeneous and Cross-State Effects of DNA Databases.” \$30,000; PI. 2013-2014.
VPGE Diversity Dissertation Research Opportunity Grant, Stanford University. 2010-2011.
John M. Olin Program in Law and Economics Research Grant, Stanford University. 2009-2010.

OTHER GRANTS

Emergent Ventures. Probable Causation podcast on law, economics, and crime. \$25,000. 2019-2020.
Institute for Humane Studies. Texas Economics of Crime Workshop. \$15,040. 2018-2019.
STATA. Texas Economics of Crime Workshop. \$1,000. 2018-2019.
Koch Foundation. Batten Faculty Research Seminar Series. \$5,000. 2017-2018.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2017-2018 Batten Faculty Excellence in Engagement Award
2016-2017 Batten Faculty Excellence in Research Award
2013-2014 NBER/NSF Crime Research Fellowship
2011-2012 Hawley-Shoven Fellowship, Stanford University
2011 Summer Research Fellowship, John M. Olin Program in Law and Economics, Stanford
2010-2011 B.F. Haley and E.S. Shaw Fellowship for Economics, Stanford University
2010 Summer Research Fellowship, John M. Olin Program in Law and Economics, Stanford
2009-2012 Shultz Scholar, Stanford University
2006-2008 Graduate Fellowship, Stanford University

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED SEMINARS

2020: Universidad Católica del Uruguay (scheduled); Georgia State University (scheduled)
2019: San Diego State University - Center for Health Econ & Policy Studies; University of Oregon; Public Choice Society annual meeting; Indiana University Criminal Justice; Williams College; Women in Economics Research conference — keynote address; PELS Replication Conference; UCLA Luskin; UT Austin Crime, Law, and Deviance Workshop; IDC Herzliya (scheduled); Tel Aviv University (scheduled); Hebrew University (scheduled); Ben-Gurion University (scheduled); Economics of Violence against Women workshop at the University of Munich — keynote lecture (scheduled); IRP Summer Research Workshop (scheduled); Inter-American Development Bank (scheduled); National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics Workshop (scheduled); Baylor University (scheduled); University of Missouri - Columbia (scheduled); Minnesota Population Center (scheduled); University of Lausanne (scheduled); Glenn College of Public Affairs at Ohio State University (scheduled), University of Pittsburgh (scheduled)
2018: Texas A&M University, Duke University, UVA Psychology, University of Georgia, Brigham Young University, Grinnell College, London School of Economics, “Prison conditions, labor markets, and recidivism” workshop at the University of Bologna, STATA Empirical Micro Conference, Science of Diversity & Inclusion Initiative conference, “Economic Issues Facing Hispanic and African-American Communities” ASHE-TAMU conference, UC Davis, UT Austin
2017: American Economic Association Annual Meeting, American University, Universities of Waterloo & Western Ontario workshop on the economics of crime, Duke University, DC HELD Policy Day Conference, SOLE annual meeting, EEOC DataNet, Western Economics Association Conference, NBER Summer Institute Law & Economics, NBER Summer Institute Crime Working Group, West Point, Cornell Law, Transatlantic Workshop on the Economics of Crime, Southern Economics Association Conference, UC Irvine

- 2016: University of Texas School of Law, Williams College, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, UPenn Law, American Enterprise Institute, University of Chicago Convening on Urban Data Science, AREUEA national conference, IRP Summer Research Workshop, Banff Empirical Micro Workshop, University of Chicago - Harris School, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Southern Economics Association Conference, University of Alabama – Birmingham
- 2015: UVA Law, Eastern Economics Association Conference, UVA Quantitative Collaborative, Midwest Economics Association Conference, Montana State University, IRP Summer Research Workshop, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, APPAM Big Data Workshop, Southern Economics Association Conference
- 2014: National Institute of Justice, Eastern Economics Association Conference, Western Economics Association Conference, Georgetown Law
- 2013: American Economic Association Annual Meeting, Tulane University, Midwest Economics Association Conference, Texas A&M, Eastern Economics Association Conference, RAND, Western Economics Association Conference, IRP Summer Research Workshop, West Virginia University, American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting
- 2012: American Enterprise Institute, Harvard Kennedy School, Wellesley College, Joint Committee on Taxation, UVA Batten School, Notre Dame, Brookings Institution, NBER Summer Institute - Crime Working Group, U. Maryland School of Public Policy, UVA Economics, UVA Darden, UVA Law, William & Mary
- 2011: Eastern Economics Association Conference
- 2010: San Francisco Federal Reserve Applied Micro Summer Conference

POLICY PRESENTATIONS, PANELS, AND TESTIMONY

- 2019: February 1: JHPPL/Taubman Center conference on the politics of opioid policy, Brown University
- January 6: “Twitter tips for success: Social media for economists “— CSWEP panel, ASSA annual meeting
- 2018: October 22: “Racial discrimination in criminal justice” — Symposium on the Law and Economics of Criminal Justice Reform, George Mason University Law & Economics Center
- October 10: “Does Intensity of Community Supervision Matter: The Latest Research Evidence” — webinar for American Probation and Parole Association
- October 3: “The importance of rigorous policy evaluation: Two tales of unintended consequences” — joint workshop of the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine, and the Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science — [slides](#)
- September 17: “The unintended consequences of ‘ban the box’ policies” — The Freedom Project, Wellesley College — [slides](#)
- April 26: “Evidence on the effects of ‘Ban the Box’ policies” — Criminal Justice Reform conference, Tommy G. Thompson Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison — [slides](#)
- April 25: “The Effect of DNA Databases and Ban-the-Box Policies on Recidivism” — Behavioral Insights for Government lecture series, La Follette School of Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- April 18: “Breaking the incarceration cycle: What can cities do to improve prisoner reentry outcomes?” — Boston University Initiative on Cities — [slides](#)

- April 6: “Use of Social Media to Promote Your Policy Research” — APPAM Regional Student Conference, Washington, DC
- March 28: “The unintended consequences of Ban the Box policies” — webinar, Institute for Research on Poverty, UW-Madison
- 2017: December 13: Testimony to the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, about the effects of Ban the Box policies — [video and link to written testimony](#)
- November 15: “Incarceration and work for low-income men: Context and strategies to increase employment,” Promoting Work and Well-Being Among Low-Income Men Workshop, hosted by the Poverty, Employment, and Self-Sufficiency Network, Washington, DC — [slides](#)
- July 18: Working Group on Prisoner Reentry Research, AEI — co-host and speaker
- May 10: [Quora Session](#) — online Q&A about crime and discrimination
- April 25: “Increasing economic opportunity for people with criminal records”, private discussion with Brookings Council, the Brookings Institution
- April 21: “[SIEPR Policy Forum on Crime, Policing, and Incarceration](#)”, Stanford University
- March 15: Testimony to Massachusetts state legislature’s Time Zone Commission about effect of Daylight Saving Time on criminal behavior
- February 21-23: [Online debate](#) about “Ban the Box” policies, Urban Institute
- January 7: “[Mass incarceration and the Economy: The Criminal Justice System’s Impact on Employment, Equality, and Growth](#)”, American Economic Association Annual Meeting — [slides](#)
- 2016: October 21: “Second Chances Through Successful Reentry”, The Hamilton Project, Brookings Institution — [event details and video](#)
- October 12: “The social value of forensic science”, Forensic Science Managers Symposium, INTERPOL
- 2015: February 9: Meeting on “The Economics of Consumer Privacy Rights”, The White House
- 2014: June 16: “Identity Intelligence” panelist at UVA Conference on National Defense and Intelligence
- 2013: November 6: “The effects of DNA databases on crime”, 7th International DNA Users’ Conference for Investigative Officers, INTERPOL

ACADEMIC SERVICE (TEXAS A&M)

2019-20: Graduate Placement Director
2018-19: Graduate Placement Co-Director

ACADEMIC SERVICE (UVA)

2017-18: Batten Executive Committee, Faculty Research Seminar Organizer

2016-17: Faculty Research Seminar Committee, “Targets of Opportunity” Search Committee, Junior Economics Workshop organizer
2015-16: (On leave)
2014-15: Admissions Committee, Batten Website Committee
2013-14: Economics Search Committee, Dean of the Batten School Search Committee, Undergraduate Capstone Committee, Graduate Curriculum Committee
2012-13: Economics Search Committee

ACADEMIC SERVICE (OTHER)

2019: Mentor, CSWEP CeMENT workshop for faculty in doctoral programs
Organizer, Texas Economics of Crime Workshop (TxECW)
Organizing committee, IRP Summer Research Workshop
Program committee, CSWEP sessions on crime for the 2020 ASSA meetings
Co-chair of the Crime, Justice, and Drugs program committee, APPAM fall research conference
2018: Advisory board, AmericanViolence.org
J-PAL North America Peer Reviewer
Mentor, AEA Job Market Bootcamp
2017: Advisory board, AmericanViolence.org
Russell Sage Foundation Peer Reviewer
Organized series of “economics of crime” sessions (3) for the WEAI annual meeting
Organized series of “economics of crime” sessions (3) for the SEA annual meeting
2016: ALEA Area Organizer (Criminal Law; Crime; Law Enforcement)
NSF Peer Reviewer
Organized series of “economics of crime” sessions (3) for the SEA annual meeting
Organized “economics of crime” session for the AREUEA annual meeting
2015: NSF Peer Reviewer
Organized “economics of crime” session for the MEA annual meeting
2014: NIJ Peer Reviewer
Organized “economics of crime” session for the WEAI annual meeting

REFEREEING

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics (AEJ: Applied), American Economic Journal: Economic Policy (AEJ: Policy), American Economic Review (AER), American Economic Review: insights (AER:I), Cambridge University Press, Economic Inquiry, Economic Journal (EJ), Economics of Education Review, ILR Review, Journal of the European Economics Association (JEEA), Journal of Health Economics (JHE), Journal of Human Resources (JHR), Journal of Labor Economics (JOLE), Journal of Law and Economics (JLE), Journal of Policy Analysis and Management (JPAM), Journal of Public Economics (JPubEc), Journal of Urban Economics, Labour Economics, Law & Society, Management Science, Review of Economics and Statistics (REStat), Southern Economics Journal, Quarterly Journal of Economics (QJE)

CONSULTING

ACLU of Illinois (March 2016 - present)

American Constitution Society (December 2017 - December 2018): “Criminal Justice Reform, Risk Assessments, and Judicial Elections”

Cherrydale Strategies (October 2018 - present)

PAST POSITIONS

2005-2006 Assistant Analyst, Congressional Budget Office
2003-2005 Senior Research Assistant, The Brookings Institution

Last updated: May 16, 2019