



# Western Association of Criminal Justice

## Thursday, October 12

**8:00am-12:00pm**      **REGISTRATION/HOSPITALITY DESK**      **Riverfront A**

**8:00am**      **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**      **Riverfront A**

*Sponsored by: Boise State University, School of Public Service*

**8:30am - 9:30am**      **EVENT # 6**      **Riverfront A**

**PAPER PRESENTATIONS: Police to Prisons: Interrogations, Revocations, and LWOP**

*Chair: Taryn VanderPyl, Western Oregon University*

**Growing Up in Prison: The Impact of Juvenile Life Without Parole Sentences**

*Taryn VanderPyl, Western Oregon University*

There have been roughly 2,500 kids sentenced to juvenile life without parole (JLWOP), considered “irreparably corrupt” and “permanently incorrigible” by the courts before their brains were finished developing. A series of four landmark cases changed some harsh sentencing laws for children, but not before thousands of lives were irreparably harmed and permanently scarred. As a result, JLWOP sentences across the country are being reviewed and hundreds of now-adults are being released. This presentation includes the results of a qualitative study involving several of these individuals who went into prison as teenagers and came out decades later to a different world.

**Remedies for Violations of Juvenile Interrogation Statutes**

*Mark Denniston, Weber State University*

*Michelle Jeffs, Weber State University*

This paper addresses whether suppression of evidence is appropriate for voluntary statements by a minor undergoing custodial interrogation, without the statutorily-mandated presence of a parent or guardian, when interrogation otherwise followed Miranda procedure. At this writing, twenty states have statutory protections for juveniles in addition to Miranda requirements, of which twelve states also provide statutory remedies, but the remaining eight do not specify a remedy. Courts have also reached different conclusions regarding whether strict or substantial compliance with statutes triggers suppression.

**What Influences Officer Decisions to Pursue Revocation?**

*Eric Wodahl, University of Wyoming*

The current study seeks to enhance our understanding of how community supervision officers make decisions to pursue revocation through a survey with probation officers in the Denver



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Adult Probation Department. Survey questions generally focused in three broad areas: 1) the amount of freedom officers feel they have in making revocation decisions, 2) the importance of consulting outside sources (e.g., other probation officers, counselors, family members), and 3) the weight given to factors such as the perceived threat the client poses to the community and the client's mental health. Study findings and policy implications are discussed.

**9:40am - 10:50am**

**EVENT # 7**

**Riverfront A**

**ROUNDTABLE: The Supreme Court in 2023**

*Moderator: Mark Denniston, Weber State University*

*Discussant: Jennifer Noble, California State University, Sacramento*

*Discussant: Stephanie Mizrahi, California State University, Sacramento*

*Discussant: Ciara McGlynn, Washington State University*

*Discussant: Mary McMillin, Washington State University*

This session will review the Supreme Court's 2022 term through presenting the paper, "Recent Legal Developments: Criminal Justice Decisions of the United States Supreme Court, 2022 Term." Then the panel will consider several pending criminal justice cases, including *U.S. v Rahimi*, asking whether a congressional statute prohibiting the possession of firearms by persons subject to domestic violence restraining orders violates the Second Amendment, and *McElrath v Georgia*, considering the application of the Double Jeopardy Clause to repugnant verdicts, before asking attendees to vote on the likely outcome of pending cases.

**11:00am-11:15am**

**EVENT # 8**

**Riverfront A**

**ACJS President Remarks**

*Anthony Peguero, Arizona State University*

**11:15am**

**EVENT # 9**

**Riverfront A**

**BUSINESS MEETING**

*Future Directions by WACJ Executive Board*

*Financial Report by Andrew Giacomazzi, Treasurer*

*Organization Updates by Marianne Hudson, Secretary*

*Nominations for Second-Vice President*

**\*\*\*ALL INVITED---NOMINATIONS FOR SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT WILL BE TAKEN\*\*\***



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## EVENT # 10

# WACJ LUNCHEON

12:00pm - 1:30pm, Pavilion

Guest Speaker: *Sterling Cunio,*  
*Transformative Justice Community*

Sterling Cunio is a poet and activist who is on a path of redemptive service as a credible messenger through mentoring, performing, and engaging with returning citizens, scholars, and fellow change agents. Sterling was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole at the age of 16. After serving more than 27 years inside Oregon State Penitentiary, former Governor Kate Brown granted him clemency for his remarkable transformation and influence. He was released on November 1, 2021. Since his return to society, Sterling has worked tirelessly to promote transformative justice through recognition of the intersection of personal transformation, healing, and the need to dismantle systems of oppression. His goal is to promote individual and systemic change to reduce violence, incarceration, and re-incarceration. He is a 2019-2020 PEN America Writing for Justice Fellow, a 2019 Oregon Literary Arts Fellow, and a two-time PEN America Prison Writing Award winner. His work has been published by The Marshall Project and the Los Angeles Review of Books. His story has been featured in the books *A Grip of Time: When Prison is Your Life* and *Free: Two Years, Six Lives, and the Long Journey Home*, and on NPR's *All Things Considered* for his poetry being turned into song by Grammy-winning jazz drummer Antonio Sanchez. Sterling is the director of ReGroup, a reentry support organization, and serves on the board of the nonprofit, Transformative Justice Community.

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**1:30pm-5:00pm**

**REGISTRATION/HOSPITALITY DESK**

**Riverfront A**

**1:40pm-3:40pm**

**EVENT # 11**

**Riverfront A**

**FEATURED ROUNDTABLE: Beyond the Ivory Tower: Learning the Impact and Insights of The Criminal Justice Legal System from Those with Lived Experience**

*Moderator: Taryn VanderPyl, Western Oregon University*

*Discussant: Sterling Cunio, Transformative Justice Community*

*Discussant: Scott Spencer-Wolff*

*Discussant: Kyle Hedquist*

This moderated panel will include participants with decades of personal experience in prisons in Oregon, Washington, and California. Learn the impact of our system of punishment, insights from those who have been there, and the potential for addressing harm caused. What does true accountability look like? How can trauma be transformed to interrupt harm? What does transformation look like in a prison environment? How can one live out their amends? Join the discussion and learn directly from those who spent decades inside prison trying to answer these very questions.

**3:50pm – 4:50pm**

**EVENT # 12**

**Riverfront A**

**PAPER PRESENTATIONS: The World Today: Intimate Partner Violence, Mass Shootings, and Homicide**

*Chair: Faith Lutze, Washington State University*

**Bringing the Firepower: Examining Muzzle Energy and Caliber of Ammunition in The Context of Mass Shootings**

*Cody Jorgensen, Boise State University*

*Benjamin Comer, Texas Christian University*

Despite the extensive literature on mass shootings, minimal consideration has been given to the specific muzzle energy and caliber of ammunition used in these events and whether these factors influences the outcome of these shootings. The current study examined the effect of muzzle energy and caliber of ammunition on the number of victims killed and injured in mass shootings. Analysis of The Violence Project (Version 6) mass shooting dataset indicated that the muzzle energy of the ammunition used in a mass shooting was positively associated with the number of people killed and total victims while the caliber of the ammunition was negatively associated with those outcomes.

**Code of The Street and Homicidal Ideation: A Test of Race and Gender**

*Mark Heirigs, University of Montana*



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Research has examined the relationship offending severity, psychopathy, and adverse childhood experiences have with homicidal ideation. The literature also consistently shows a link between street code adherence and offending. However, researchers have yet to examine the effect that street code adherence has on homicidal ideation. The current analysis used 322 criminal justice involved individuals to examine the effects street code adherence has on homicidal ideation. Adherence to the code of the street was a consistent predictor of homicidal ideation. The findings suggest street code is an important factor that researchers should consider when studying homicidal ideation.

## **Intimate Partner Violence and the Importance of Real Time Data Collection by Police: Utilizing the LAP Lethality Screen Beyond Risk Assessment**

*Faith Lutze, Washington State University*

*Anne Korp, Spokane Regional Domestic Violence Coalition*

*Tessa Wilson, Washington State University*

*Eunsuhk Choi, South Korea National Police Services*

*Mary Miller, Whitworth University*

The Lethality Assessment Program's (LAP) Lethality Screen is used by police to assess the risk that serious injury or death may occur if IPV victims are not provided additional safety planning and assistance. Thus, the lethality screen is generally used on a case-by-case basis to guide victims and first responders in the immediate situation. We argue that the information gathered by police officers through the Lethality Screen, when used in the aggregate, may be used to describe the types and severity of IPV encountered by the police within their jurisdiction and have utility in the aggregate to inform policy and practice.

**5:00pm**  
**WACJ QUIZ BOWL**

**EVENT # 13**

**Riverfront A**

*Moderator: Andrew Giacomazzi, Boise State University*

Do you have what it takes to be crowned the 2023 champs? Form a team of 2-4 members, then get ready for a face-paced game where your speed in answering questions could be the difference between winning and losing. Lots of CJ/Criminology/WACJ/Spokane specific questions. See you at WACJ QUIZ BOWL!