

# Department of Criminal Justice

## Fall 2022 Newsletter

This volume illustrates the accomplishments of students and faculty during the 2021- 2022 academic year.

For more information, please visit our webpage at:

<http://www.monmouth.edu/department-of-criminal-justice/>

### Inside this issue:

Alumni in the Field 2

Senior Seminar Student Presentations 3

Department Wins ACJS Award 4

Department Awards Ceremony 5

Faculty Accomplishments 6

The Guardian's Club 7

Student Internship Experiences 8



Fall 2022 • Volume 10

### Graduate Students Visit London to Study International Policing and Public Safety



The Class Meets with Officials at New Scotland Yard

Graduate students taking CJ 598: International Policing, Safety and Leadership had the opportunity to spend a week in London to visit many of the agencies that provide law enforcement and security services for the United Kingdom. Criminal Justice Department faculty Dr. Lockwood and Professor Collier worked closely with Mitchell Sklar of the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP) and group liaison Dave Annetts to create an experience for students to meet with officials from New Scotland Yard, the US Embassy, the National Police Coordination Centre, and the National Crime Agency at Whitehall Palace, among several others. Students particularly enjoyed getting a tour of Tottenham Hotspur Stadium and its security operations by its Senior Safety Officer Eileen Williams, and also hearing from representatives the Mayor's Violence Reduction Unit, including Rhiannon Sawyer, Megan Hatton, and Arnold Yusef.

Senior Safety Officer Eileen Williams leads the class on a tour of the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium facility and its security operations.



## Where Are Our Graduates?: Positions Accepted by Department Alumni

Joseph Johnson  
B.A. in CJ, 2018

Program Development Specialist  
Division of Human and  
Community Services  
City of New Brunswick



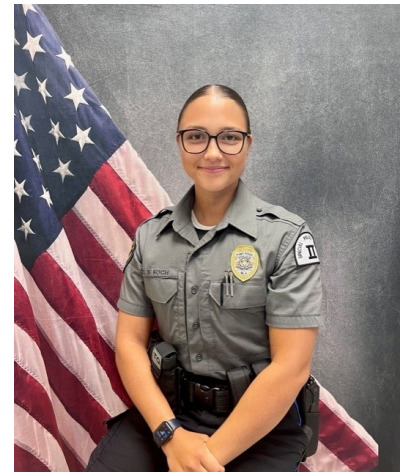
Tiffany Antonelli  
B.A. in CJ, 2021  
M.A. in CJ, 2022

New Jersey Fusion Center  
Intelligence Analyst



Sara Koch  
B.S. in HLS, 2021

Class II Special Police Officer  
Toms River Police Department



Abigail E. Weighell  
M.A. in CJ, 2022

Yorke International  
Resource Analyst



Jared Farhat  
B.S. in HLS 2019  
M.A. in CJ, 2021

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Program Analyst



Bruce Davis  
B.S. in HLS 2020  
M.A. in CJ, 2021

United States Secret Service  
Special Agent



## Students in Senior Seminar Present Their Research Projects at Poster Presentation Event

On April 22, 2022, students in Dr. Lockwood and Dr. Forney's Senior Seminar courses presented their research projects at a poster presentation event in Pozycki Hall. Nearly 30 students participated in the event to show the Monmouth University community the results of their original research projects. Each student was required to develop a research methodology to test a series of research questions on a topic of their choosing, statistically test their hypotheses, and then present their findings. Students examined a wide range of important issues, including factors of terrorist radicalization, spatial components of school shootings, the impact of social media on bullying, and many others.

The projects presented by students are the culmination of a sequence of research-based courses that includes Statistics in Criminal Justice, Research Methods, and finally, Senior Seminar. Along the way, students learn about the scientific method, how to analyze data using statistical software, and how to present their results in a professional and persuasive manner.

Each year, one student receives the Pamela Markowitz Award, presented to a student in Senior Seminar who exhibits an exceptional work ethic, positive attitude, and willingness to help others. The award is given in honor of Pamela Markowitz, a beloved MU criminal justice student who passed away in 2004. The recipient of the Pamela Markowitz Award in 2022 was William John Dailey, Jr.



Students and faculty attend the Senior Seminar Poster Presentation Event

## ACJS selects the Department of Criminal Justice as the Recipient of its Education Award

The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) has selected the Department of Criminal Justice as the recipient for its 2022 Education Award. This award recognizes a “National Criminal Justice Month (March) event for its educational impact on students and the community.” The Departmental event nominated, Policing in Communities of Color: A Panel Conversation on Police Violence, Black Lives Matter, and Police Reform, was described by the selection committee as “an excellent example of bringing together academics, practitioners, and students to raise awareness and increase constructive discourse regarding the challenges in addressing police-community relations, racial disparities in the criminal justice system, and policing reform. Events such as this are a benefit to your students and community.” A goal of Monmouth University, and as such the Department, is to provide students with transformative learning opportunities. This panel is one example of such an opportunity, especially as the students were able to engage in critical thinking exercises after the panel, and to write reflective papers.

The Education Award includes a beautiful plaque that is now displayed in the Department. This prestigious, national award rightly recognizes the departmental effort in holding this event. However, we would be remiss if we did not acknowledge the extra hard work and effort of Dr. Marie Mele in thinking of the idea for the panel, organizing it, contacting and inviting the panelists, and working with others at the University to see the panel to realization. As many of you know, Dr. Mele has left the University, but not without first making her mark on it. We will miss her but this award will help us to remember Dr. Mele as a big proponent of challenging students, seeking change, and fighting for the underdog.

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## The Criminal Justice Department Hosts Federal Law Enforcement Career Day

The Criminal Justice Department hosted a Federal Law Enforcement Career Day on April 14, 2022. More than 75 students attended this event, which provided students with the opportunity to hear from and engage with members of the federal law enforcement community. Representatives from 13 federal agencies were on campus for the event, including the FBI, DEA, Department of Homeland Security, the US Marshals Service, and many others.



## The Department of Criminal Justice Awards

On April 22, 2022, the Department of Criminal Justice held its Annual Awards Ceremony to honor its finest students during the 2021-2022 academic year. Students were awarded for academic excellence, service to the Monmouth University community, and for joining one of the prestigious honor societies that include Alpha Phi Sigma for Criminal Justice students and Omicron Sigma Sigma, the Order of the Sword and Shield, for those studying Homeland Security. Mr. Daniel O'Connor, Field and Security Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, served as the keynote speaker .

### *Student Award Recipients*

*Pamela Markowitz Award*  
Presented by: John & Gail Markowitz

**William John Dailey Jr.**

*Gregory Coram Outstanding Student Service Award*

**Russell Hernandez**

*Outstanding Undergraduate Academic Performance in Criminal Justice Award*

**Matthew Romagnuolo**

*Outstanding Undergraduate Academic Performance in Homeland Security Award*

**Matthew Pringle**

*Outstanding Graduate Academic Performance in Criminal Justice Award*

**Kristen Kane**

**Gianna Petrone**

### *Alpha Phi Sigma Inductees*

Brendan Jon Brooks  
Daniella N. Cangiano  
Joseph Contino  
Sydney Emershaw

Molly Catherine Gould  
Emily Lang  
Kylie E. Shimkus



### *Order of the Sword and Shield Inductees*

Angelina Esposito  
Alexis Falco  
Paige Heathwood  
Abigail McMillan  
Lissette Pena

Stephanie Santos  
Stephanie Seymour  
Nicholas Shoemaker  
Sarah Skran



## Faculty Accomplishments During the 2021-2022 Academic Year

**Professor Douglas Collier** partnered with Long Branch School system and received a MOU in support of his CJ-598 Community/Police Engagement Course. Graduate students will be presenting an Outreach program to the parents of the children that attend the school.

**Dr. John Comiskey** was appointed to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention World Trade Center (WTC) Health Program Scientific/Technical Advisory Committee to serve a four-year term on March 1, 2022.

**Dr. John Comiskey** presented his research at the International Association For Intelligence Educators Conference in Treviso, Italy in June, 2022, titled “Unpacking the 2021 National Intelligence Estimate on Climate Change-Implications for Homeland and National Security.”

**Dr. John Comiskey** presented his research at the American Institute for Health’s Advancing Workers Health & Safety Conference in Nashville, TN in May, 2022 titled “Climate Change-Challenges and Opportunities for Occupational Health & Safety.”

**Dr. Megan Forney** supervised student Sydney Strickland for the Summer Scholars program. Sydney assisted with administering surveys during the Monmouth County Crisis Intervention Team training, entered survey data into SPSS, and presented her findings at the conclusion of the program

**Dr. Brian Lockwood** co-authored an article with B. Wyant and H. Grunwald titled “Locating litter: An exploratory multilevel analysis of the spatial patterns of litter in Philadelphia” in *Environment & Behavior*.

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## The Order of the Sword and Shield Visits NYC

On March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022, members of the Order of the Sword and Shield (OSS) Homeland Security Honor Society attended a guided tour of the Port Authority of NY/NJ Command Center, Oculus, and Reflecting Pools at the World Trade Center site. Students also were invited to a roundtable discussion on attaining employment in the fields of both Homeland Security and Criminal Justice at the conclusion of the tour sessions. Students made some genuine connections from their classroom studies of the World Trade Center attack during 9/11 in speaking with members of the Port Authority.



Dr. Tom Carey and students visit the World Trade Center Oculus

## Department of Criminal Justice Guardian's Club Provides Students with Opportunities to Meet With Special Guests and Visit Important Locations

The Guardians Club is a student-run organization supported by the Department of Criminal Justice that provides students with the opportunity to hear from individuals working in the field and organizes trips to important locations in our region. Under the guidance of faculty advisor Professor Nicholas Sewitch and Club President Angelina Esposito, the Club has doubled to more than 70 students within the last year and has brought many important speakers to campus, including:

- Detective Regina Strugala with the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General - Division of Criminal Justice.
- Chief Giacomo Sacca from the Elizabeth Police Department in New Jersey.
- Officer Dareick Barr and Officer Amanda Aigle with the United States Capitol Police.
- Alternate Commander/Special Agent Alani Bankhead from Hawaii's Department of the Attorney General on the Hawaii Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.
- Senior Parole Officer Marquis Barron from the New Jersey State Parole Board's Training and Recruitment Center.
- Detective Joe Procopio of the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office, Intelligence Unit.
- FBI Agents Jennifer Frobese and Karen Leck from the Boston, MA Field House.
- Joseph Cordoma, a Crime Scene Investigator (CSI) with the Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office.

On Saturday April 23, 2022, Dr. Meg Forney led a group of students from The Guardian's Club on a trip to Washington, DC. The group visited two museums: The National Museum of American History and the International Spy Museum. Students learned quite a bit from both museums and especially enjoyed the exhibits at the International Spy Museum.



# MU

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## Student Internship Experiences:

### **Stephanie Santos** **Ocean County Sheriff's Office** **Crime Scene Investigations Unit**

I was given the opportunity to intern at the Ocean County Sheriff's Office CSI Unit over the summer. As an intern, the CSI Unit introduced first-hand experiences that included participating in crime scenes, how to process evidence, using equipment, and the procedures, as well as techniques in examining crime scenes. The unit treated their interns as co-workers and prepared each intern as if we were an investigator.

I became familiar with various techniques and skills during my time spent at different incidents. I learned how to adapt, self-manage, and become team-oriented when present at different crime scenes that included suicides, domestic violence, overdoses, car thefts, and a burglary. I contributed my efforts in helping to find fingerprints, shell casings, and other valuable evidence. After applying my skills and techniques, I am now capable of identify-

ing and preserving evidence at crime scenes, can adapt to different environments, and collaborate successfully with others. An opportunity to intern at the CSI Unit is highly recommended to gain first-hand experiences with challenging crime scenes and work beside dedicated officers.



### **Joseph Colonna** **Lakewood Police Department**

My internship at Lakewood Police Department offered me practical life experience working in law enforcement. My site supervisor was very kind to me at all times and laid out all of my scheduling ahead of time to make sure that it worked for me. There was a great level of professionalism that was carried out throughout the department, but everyone also had a great sense of humor so we always had a good laugh. The officers I had the pleasure of working with allowed me to get involved in everything they did. At no point was I ever sitting around looking for something to do, my schedule sometimes had me with two divisions in one day which kept things interesting.

I looked forward to spending time with divisions like the Strategic Response Team and Bureau of Information Technology on a

weekly basis. Not only did I learn the ins and outs of police work, but also the level of communication and collaboration required by law enforcement agencies to serve and protect. I recommend this internship at the Lakewood Police Department to any Criminal Justice or Homeland Security students.

