

# LU Criminal Justice Newsletter

## Second Ground-Breaking of the John and Mary Gray Library on October 15, 2024



*3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Lamar University President John E. Gray at his office in the early 1940s.  
Picture from the Lamar University Library Special Collection.*

TSUS Chancellor Brian McCall, LU President Jaime Taylor, Provost Brett Welch, and other dignitaries broke the ground for the second time for the Mary and John Gray Library. The first ground-breaking of the Mary and John Gray library took place on September 17, 1973. John Gray (d. 2002) and Mary Hahn (d. 1996) were among the 125 students that comprised the original enrollment of South Park Junior College in 1923. They had known each other in high school and would later marry.

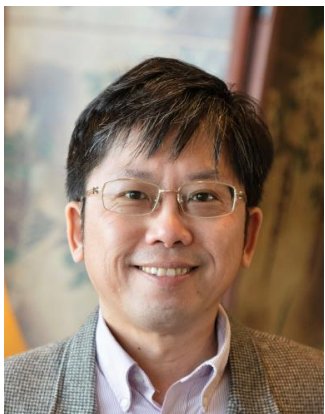
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### Editor-in-Chief:

**Dr. Vidisha Barua Worley, Esq.,**  
Professor of Criminal Justice,  
Lamar University

# Greetings from the CJ Director



*CJ Director Cheng-Hsien Lin, Ph.D.*

**G**reetings! As we close 2024 and look ahead to the future, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the incredible accomplishments of the Criminal Justice program. This year has been a testament to the hard work, innovation, and unwavering dedication of our faculty and students.

We've seen remarkable progress in undergraduate recruitment, with an exciting increase in freshmen enrollments for the on-campus program. It is truly inspiring to witness these students thrive within the vibrant Lamar University and Criminal Justice community. At the graduate level, the reputation of our online courses continues to grow, earning widespread praise for their quality and appeal. Faculty members have worked tirelessly to enhance the program's visibility, actively engaging in discussions and curriculum reviews to better meet the needs of students and professionals seeking advanced education in criminal justice. The year, 2024, also brought exceptional achievements from our students and organizations. Seventeen new members joined

Alpha Phi Sigma, the Criminal Justice Honor Society, marking another milestone of academic excellence. We eagerly anticipate the induction ceremony, planned for spring 2025, as we welcome these distinguished members into a proud legacy of leadership and scholarship.

The Criminal Justice Study Abroad Program for Summer 2024 was a tremendous success, with 12 undergraduate and graduate students presenting their research at the prestigious international victimology conference hosted by the Inter University Centre Dubrovnik in affiliation with the World Society of Victimology. Plans for the Summer 2025 program are well underway, with recruitment already in progress for the next cohort.

As always, the mission of our program—to excel in instruction, research, professional development, and service—remains our guiding force. Our close relationships with local criminal justice agencies and the strong support from our community reinforce the vital role we play in preparing future leaders in this field. This has been a year of growth, collaboration, and meaningful impact. I am deeply grateful for our faculty's dedication to student success and their tireless pursuit of academic excellence.

I am equally proud of our students, who continue to demonstrate passion, curiosity, and drive. Together, we are building a program that inspires and makes a lasting difference. Thank you all for making 2024 an extraordinary year for the Criminal Justice program. I look forward to the continued success we will achieve together in 2025 and beyond!

Warm regards,  
Cheng-Hsien Lin

## **LU Ranked No. 4 for Fastest Online Criminal Justice Degree Programs**

Intelligent.com, a trusted resource for program rankings and higher education planning, ranked Lamar University among the top institutions in the nation in several categories for 2025. The university earned five accolades, highlighting its commitment to academic excellence and innovative education. The rankings included Lamar University's No. 4 placement for Fastest Online Criminal Justice Degree Programs, showcasing its dedication to offering efficient and flexible options for career-focused students.

# The Lewiston Mass Shootings: A Community Tested; Heroes Defined

*In October 2023, 40-year-old Robert Card carried out a shooting spree in two locations in Lewiston, Maine, a bowling alley and a bar, killing 18 people and wounding 13 others. **Corporal Eugene Kavanagh (LU graduate student), Lieutenant Jim Theiss, and Sergeant Tyler Michaud** of the Lewiston Police Department and survivor **Brandon Mullen** were interviewed by **Professors Robert and Vidisha Worley** in December '24.*

On October 25, 2023, the night of the dual-site mass shooting in Lewiston, Maine, started as an ordinary evening for law enforcement. Lt. Jim Theiss, working overtime on a 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. shift, was serving as the watch commander. “Typically, we have a minimum of seven patrol officers for the whole city, broken into different geographical areas,” he explained. However, that evening was unique. With officers assigned to a soccer game, foot patrols, and firearms training, the department had 26 officers available—a number Theiss acknowledged as “really helpful, but not enough, to be honest.”

“It was just a normal night with calls coming in about accidents and disturbances,” Theiss recalled. Right before 7 p.m., while in his office, he heard on the dispatcher’s radio about an active shooter at the Just-In-Time Bowling Alley on Main Street. At first, he thought it might be a false alarm, citing the rise in swatting incidents involving bomb threats or active shooter reports. But this call was different. “I looked at the board and noticed the calls were all from the 207-area code. That’s when I realized this was probably real,” Theiss said.

As reports came in, patrol officers began arriving at the bowling alley within two to three minutes. The radio traffic confirmed multiple

shooting victims. Realizing the gravity of the situation, Theiss started calling in additional officers, including the next shift and specialized units. “I notified Sgt. Tyler Michaud, who has roughly 10 people under his command. I also contacted my other two supervisors, the chief, and the deputy chief,” he said. Despite the swift mobilization, chaos ensued as the scope of the tragedy became apparent.

Among the patrons at the bowling alley that night was 39-year-old Brandon Mullen, a lifelong bowler and Lewiston resident. “I live in Lewiston, Maine. I go to a program where we do life skills and Special Olympics activities. I love sports and hanging out with my family and friends,” Mullen shared. Bowling, however, is his true passion. “I’ve been bowling since I was three or four years old. My family is a bunch of bowlers, and it’s something we’ve done everywhere—Japan, Germany, Florida, Alaska. My high game is around 278 to 299.” Mullen was on lanes one and two when the shooting began. “My turn was up, and I heard a huge bang. At first, I thought it was a bowling ball or something,” he recalled. Realizing the danger, he acted quickly. I got out of the bowling alley and told everyone to leave. We went to a restaurant, but they didn’t want us near a window.” Meanwhile, the situation escalated rapidly.

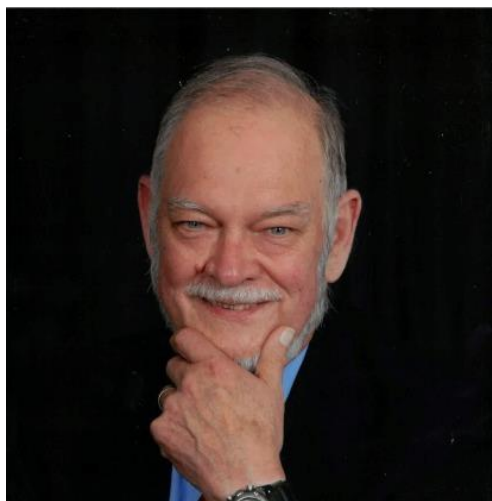
*Continued on Page 29*

## 100 Years of Cardinal Pride Oral History Project Now Online

The 100 Years of Cardinal Pride Oral History Project that Professor Vidisha Barua Worley and her students started on March 1, 2023 became available on the Lamar University website in October 2024: <https://www.lamar.edu/oral-history-project/index.html>. The goal is to record the history of Lamar in a live and vibrant form by interviewing subjects who are and have been associated with Lamar University.



# Remembering Professor James Love, a Pillar of Lamar University Criminal Justice Division



*Former Chair of the Department of Sociology, Social Work, and Criminal Justice, Professor Jim Love began working at Lamar University in 1981. B.S. in Sociology, Lamar University, Class of 1966.*

**‘I helped (CJ) transition from the vocational side over to the academic side.’**

Professor James Love breathed his last on April 20, 2024. He pursued a fulfilling career that saw him retire from Lamar University after teaching criminal justice for an impressive 44 years. His knowledge and dedication were evident not only in the classroom but also in his everyday life. He found joy in working in his garage, serving on the local Crime Stoppers Board, and watching sports and car racing on television.

## **Professor James Love in an interview with Professor Vidisha Worley:**

“I came back to Lamar in January 1976 as far as being employed there. I had attended Lamar University and got my baccalaureate degree there in 1966. Lamar served me well and gave me a great education. I went to Law School and joined the Bar. I had a very good time as a student. I was in a fraternity, Sigma Phi Epsilon. I enjoyed my college a lot. Overall, my undergraduate experience was really good. I was hired at Lamar at that time for police training and education, which would be LIT now, continuing education and vocational college. Lamar was also the regional police academy that served the Port Arthur, Hardin and Jefferson Counties. We trained officers. Lamar had the police academy. I helped Lamar transition from the vocational side over to the academic side. They were beginning a criminal justice program. They began the program a couple of years before I got here. I didn’t know much about it. I was running a university police department out in Odessa, TX. After I went to law school, I went to work as a city cop in Austin and then at the DA’s office and then got hired to go out to set up a new university police department in University of Texas Permian Basin. I came back to Beaumont because it was a little closer to home. This job came open. I worked as part professor, part trainer. I thought I would do that for a few years and then go do something else, and 41 years later, I am still here. Lamar kept the academy for a few years and eventually it did go back to LIT. The Criminal Justice program grew to be a fairly good-sized program. I was the department chair in the early 90s. It’s a bad job. You have to go to a zillion meetings. You don’t have time to do what you really want to do. All you want to do is teach students in class. That kind of becomes secondary to all your other duties. I was very happy to pass the torch to someone else.”

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

- Worley, R. M., Lambert, E., Worley, V. B.** (2024). "I might be a goody two-shoes, but at least I have a job! An examination of the correlates of following institutional rules among Texas prison guards." *Deviant Behavior*. Vol. 45, (12): 1667-1681.
- Lambert, E., Hogan, N., Barton, S., White, D., **Worley, R. M., & Worley, V. B.** (2024). "Examining the Connection of Supervisor and Management Trust with Organizational Citizenship Behaviors Among Correctional Staff." *Criminal Justice Studies*. Vol. 37, (3): 255-272.
- Worley, R. M.** (2024). "The Rivals? A Treatise on Gene Siskel and Roger Ebert's Howard Stern Appearances and an Extended Commentary on Opposable Thumbs." *Theory in Action*. Vol. 17, (3): 54-72.
- Lambert, E., Hogan, N., **Worley, R. M., & Salinas-Sauders, M.** (2024). "The Effects of Justice Views on Turnover Intent, Sick-Leave Views, and Sick-Leave Use Among Private Prison Staff." *Journal of Applied Security Research*. Vol. 19, (3): 413-436.
- Constantin, K., Reese, B. & **Boyett, K.** (2024). "The Donation Method: A New Behavioral Measure for White Collar Crime?" *Sociology Compass*, e13208, 1-24. <https://doi.org/10.1111/soc4.13208>.
- Tsado, L., Gibson, C., Alsmadi, I., & Bob, J.** (2024). Cyber Ready Rural: Understanding Law Enforcement Cyber Readiness. 12th International Symposium on Digital Forensics and Security (ISDFS), San Antonio, TX, USA, 2024, pp. 01-05, IEEExplore. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/10527231>.
- Raufu, **L. Tsado**, E. Mendie & E. Ben-Edet (Eds.) (2024). *Criminology in Nigeria: History, Evolution, and Trends*. Rowman and Littlefield.
- Tsado, L., Okoye, I., & Krakrafaa-Bestman, D.** (2024). "Cybercrime and Cybersecurity in Nigeria." In A. Raufu, **L. Tsado**, E. Mendie & E. Ben-Edet (Eds.), *Criminology in Nigeria: History, Evolution, and Trends*. Rowman and Littlefield.
- Mendie, E., & **Tsado, L.** (2024). "Overview of Sentencing in Nigeria." In A. Raufu, **L. Tsado**, E. Mendie & E. Ben-Edet (Eds.), *Criminology in Nigeria: History, Evolution, and Trends*. Rowman and Littlefield.
- Tsado, L.,** 2024. "Information Technology Risks." In E. Oduwale. (Ed.) *Understanding Risk Management: Becoming a Risk Guru in 31 Days*. Alter-Ed Limited.
- Tsado, L.,** 2024. "Cybersecurity Risks, Real or Not?" In E. Oduwale. (Ed.) *Understanding Risk Management: Becoming a Risk Guru in 31 Days*. Alter-Ed Limited.
- Tsado, L.,** 2024. "Skills Required for Cybersecurity Risk Management." In E. Oduwale. (Ed.) *Understanding Risk Management: Becoming a Risk Guru in 31 Days*. Alter-Ed Limited.
- Tsado, L.,** 2024. "Becoming an Information Security Expert." In E. Oduwale. (Ed.) *Understanding Risk Management: Becoming a Risk Guru in 31 Days*. Alter-Ed Limited.
- Gummelt, G., Wright, L., Malick, S., Singh, M., **Roebuck, K.** (2024). "Experiential Learning in Mental Health Diversion: Interdisciplinary Approaches Using Kolb's Learning Theory." *Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work*, 1-18.

### AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

The Support for Inmate Mistreatment Scale (**Worley, R.M., Worley, V. B.,** and Lambert, E., 2021) has been added to the list of psychological tests of the American Psychological Association. Available at <https://psycnet.apa.org/doiLanding?doi=10.1037%2Ft82946-000>.



## CRIMINAL JUSTICE FACULTY PRESENTATIONS



*Exploring How Different Types of Organizational Commitment are Related to the Life Satisfaction of Police Officers.* Hanif Qureshi, Eric Lambert, James Frank, Nancy Hogan, Shannon Barton, David White, **Robert Worley** and **Vidisha Worley** at the American Society of Criminology, CA: 2024.

*Not So Minor: An Analysis of Females Who Sexually Offend Against Underaged Persons.* **Robert Worley** and **Vidisha Worley** at the American Society of Criminology in San Francisco, CA: 2024.

*Using The Job Demands-Resources Model To Explain Organizational Trust Among Officers At A Nigerian Prison.* Smart Otu, Eric Lambert, O. Oko Elechi, Morris Jenkins, Daniel Hall and **Robert Worley** at the American Society of Criminology in San Francisco, CA: 2024.

*Organizational Trust and Job Satisfaction Among U.S. Prison Staff.* James Wells, Eric Lambert, Kevin Minor, Nancy Hogan, Shannon Barton, **Robert Worley**, **Vidisha Worley**, and Monica Solinas-Saunders at the American Society of Criminology in San Francisco, CA: 2024.

*Toward Improving Rural Law Enforcement Cybersecurity Infrastructure.* **Lucy Tsado**, Camille Gibson and Izzat Alsmadi. American Society of Criminology Conference. San Francisco, CA, 2024.

*An Experimental Approach to Testing AntiSexual Assault Policy Compliance.* **Kirstie Boyett**. American Society of Criminology (ASC) Conference. San Francisco, CA, 2024.

Author Meets Critics session (2024). *Murder by Mail: A Global History of the Letter Bomb*, written by Mitchel P. Roth. Chair: **Sanaz Alasti**, Lamar University. Critics: **Robert Worley**, Lamar University, **Vidisha Worley**, Lamar University, Di Jia, Metropolitan State University of Denver. ASC, 2024.

Author Meets Critics session (2024). *Judicial Corporal Punishment as an Alternative to Incarceration in the United States*, written by **Sanaz Alasti**, Lamar University. Critics: **Robert Worley**, Lamar University **Vidisha Worley**, Lamar University Amir Fakhravar, National Iranian Congress, Michael Laurence, Capital Defense Attorney, Law Offices of Michael Laurence William Gallagher, Golden Gate University School of law. The Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology. San Francisco, CA: November 2024.

Author Meets Critics session (2024). *The Spirit of the Constitutional Law*. Author: Amir Fakhravar. Chair: **Sanaz Alasti**, Lamar University; Critics: Chuck MacClean, Metropolitan State University; **Robert Worley**, Lamar University; **Vidisha Worley**, Lamar University; David Oppenheimer, Ujiversity of California, Berkley School of Law; **Lucy Tsado**, Lamar University; American Society of Criminology (ASC) Conference. San Francisco, CA: November 2024.

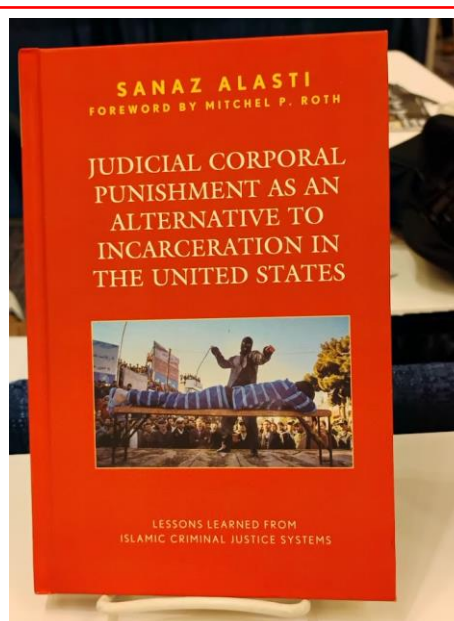
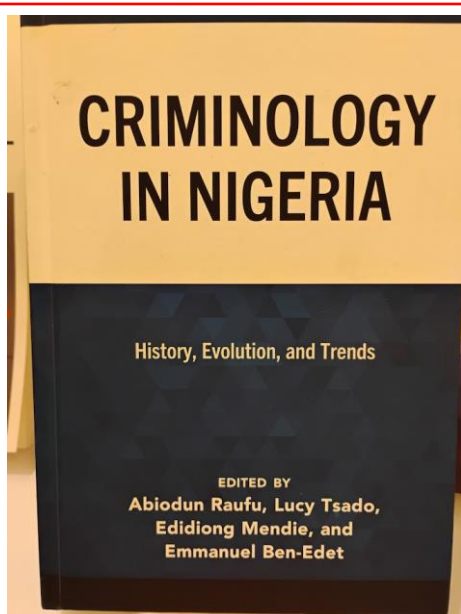
*Testing the Job Demands-Resources Model with Organizational Trust among Indian Police Officers*. Hanif Qureshi, Eric Lambert, James Frank, Nancy Hogan, Shannon Barton, David White, **Robert Worley**, and **Vidisha Barua Worley**. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in March in Chicago, Illinois: 2024.

*Exploring The Connection Between Job Characteristics And Justice Views of U.S. Correctional Staff*. Shannon Barton, Eric Lambert, **Robert Worley**, Nancy Hogan, Monica Solinas-Saunders, **Vidisha Barua Worley**, David White, Gayle Rhineberger, Jackie Bell, and Job Gutierrez. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in March in Chicago, Illinois: 2024.

*Justice and Job Satisfaction: A Test Among Indian Correctional Staff*. Hanif Qureshi, Eric Lambert, James Frank, **Robert Worley**, Mia Abboud Holbrook, **Vidisha Barua Worley**. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in March in Chicago, Illinois: 2024.

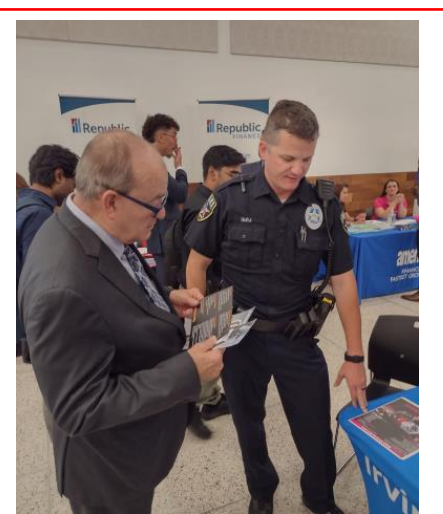
*Using the Job Demands-Resources Model for Chinese Police Officer Job Burnout*. Jianhong Liu, Eric Lambert, Shanhe Jiang, **Robert Worley**, **Vidisha Worley**. (2024). Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in March in Chicago, Illinois: 2024.

### **Books displayed at the Book Exhibit, the American Society of Criminology Conference, CA 2024**





# October Career Fairs Benefit CJ Students



**Criminal Justice faculty members and students attended the Fall Career Expo and the Criminal Justice and Social Services Career Fair held on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and October 17<sup>th</sup>, respectively.**



## CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDENTS PLACED IN VARIOUS INTERNSHIPS LEADING TO POSITIONS

**Moises Bowling** - Beaumont Police Department internship and hopes to be hired after graduation and completion of the academy.

**Denisia Bryant** - Hardin County Probation internship and hopes to be hired after graduation and plans on attending graduate school at Lamar University.

**Braden Clark** - Beaumont Police Department internship. He has completed his last interview with the Department of Public Safety and is awaiting his background check for employment.

**Eric Grimaldo** - Port Arthur Police Department Internship.

**Sydney Henry** - Beaumont Police Department internship, is in application for Texas Department of Public Safety.

**Catlin Johnson** - In application with the FBI Internship Program and is in the final round to be hired. She is currently employed at the Lamar Police Department as a security officer.

**Karson Labier** - Completed Beaumont Police Department Internship and is in the process of completing a second internship with Texas Department of Public Safety and is in application to be hired.

**Jacob Martinez** - Internship at Roebuck, Thomas and Adams Law Firm and in application for security officer at Lamar University. Will be pursuing his master's in CJ at Lamar, and then Law School.

**Delilah Maxwell** - Hardin County Juvenile Probation internship in application for Harris County Probation upon graduation.

**Cole Reneau** - Completed his internship with Texas Game Warden and a second internship with Beaumont Police Department. In application for Texas Department of Public Safety and Texas Game Warden.

**Chole Rodriguez** - Jefferson County Juvenile Probation internship. She will be attending Lamar for her CJ master's and continuing to run track for Lamar University.

**Cassandra Stanley** - Beaumont Police Department internship. In application with Orange County Probation upon graduation and attending Lamar University for her master's degree.

**Makaela Williams** - Jefferson County Probation internship and in application for Montgomery County Probation.



### Demystifying Research Methods

November 4, 2024, 12:45-2:30

CICE 113

Hosted by the COAS Strategic Plan

Research & Creative Activity

Moderators: Sanaz Alasti & Jesus Garcia

Sylvestre Twagirayezu	Research Methods in Chemistry
Vidisha Worley	How to conduct legal research by analyzing federal cases and examining law review articles
Robert Worley	Quantitative Research Methods in Social Science Research
Ginger Gummelt	Qualitative Research
Tom Sowers	Leveraging Large Data
Raouth Kostandy	Quality Improvement Projects

*From the left: Dr. Sylvestre Twagirayezu, Dr. Jeffrey P. Forret, Dr. Sanaz Alasti, Dr. Vidisha Worley, Dr. Ginger Gummelt, Dr. Tom Sowers, Dr. Jesus Garcia, COAS Dean Rebecca Boone, COAS Senior Associate Dean Xiangyang (Sunny) Lei, Dr. Raymond Doe, Dr. Wael Al-Sawai, and Provost Brett C. Welch.*

# LU Presence in Croatia



In May 2024, Dr. Kirstie Boyett led 11 Lamar University students to Dubrovnik, Croatia, for the Criminal Justice Study Abroad course, *“International Perspectives on Justice.”* This program was hosted by the Inter University Centre Dubrovnik in affiliation with the World Society of Victimology. The program attracts approximately 80 international students and 50 globally renowned experts in victimology, criminology, and criminal justice. Course topics ranged from restorative justice and human trafficking to victimization of women and U.N. declarations on victim rights. Lamar University students also earn 3 hours of upper-level elective credit and a postgraduate certificate in Victimology, Victim Assistance, and Criminal Justice.

***Left: Picture of Kaitlyn King and Dr. Kirstie Boyett at the Graduation Ceremony with the certificate earned from the World Society of Victimology.***











**2024 Study Abroad participants** included nine Criminal Justice majors and two students from other disciplines.

**Criminal Justice majors:** Kourtlyn Christian, Avileni Cruz-Cordero, Caitlin Johnson, Madison Martin, Aaron Tabor, and graduate students Kaitlyn King, Mariel Macias Mesa, Kim Massey, and Bryce Tousha.

**Non-CJ majors:** Morgan Kay (Forensic Chemistry) and Nataly Magana (Business).

Lamar University students presented original research on diverse victimological topics, ranging from “*Women in the United States & the Death Penalty*” to “*Victim Advocates and Restorative Justice*”

*Left: Picture of the classroom where lectures were held.*





## Several LU Students Won Scholarships for the Trip

Several participants earned scholarships for the trip, including the Study Abroad Scholarship. Notably, Nataly Magana received the LU Reaud Honors College McMaster Scholarship and Avileni Cruz-Cordero received the prestigious federal Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship.

During the trip, Lamar students formed bonds with international scholars and new friends. They celebrated the graduation ceremony from their program with their new friends. (Picture Above)





**In October, Henrietta, a friend from Germany, visited Texas and got a taste of Tex-Mex cuisine—a quintessential Texas experience!**



### **KVLU Podcast to Feature CJ Student Madison Martin**

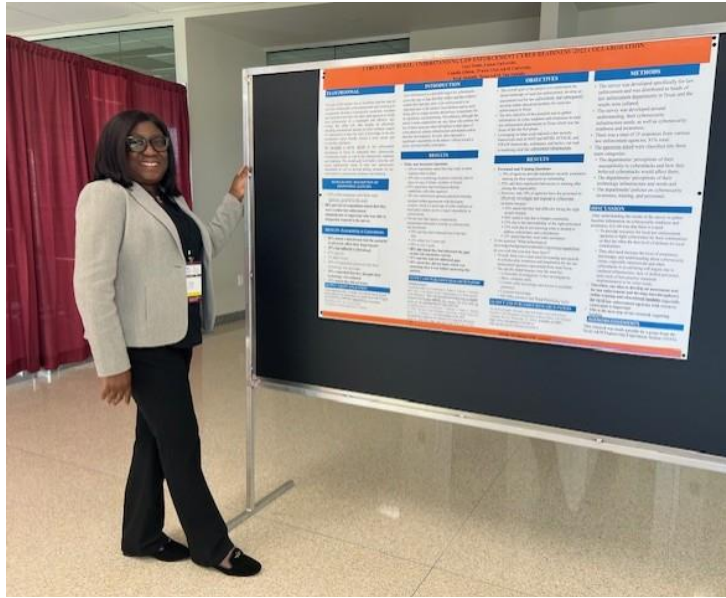
Tune in to the KVLU Podcast on **January 27th at 7:50 A.M.** for insights from participant Madison Martin (picture left). The episode will be available on Spotify later that day.

#### **Looking ahead to 2025:**

Dr. Kirstie Boyett is thrilled to offer this amazing Study Abroad program again in 2025. For more information, contact Dr. Boyett at [Kirstie.Boyett@lamar.edu](mailto:Kirstie.Boyett@lamar.edu).



## Tsado's Team 3rd Prize Winner at Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station Conference



**Team Cyber Griffin wins \$2,500 at Texas A&M University, College Station. May 20-21, 2024.**

Dr. Lucy Tsado and her team Cyber Griffin won the third prize at the Texas A & M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) Annual Research Conference (TARC). The title of the project was “Working Together for Texas and Beyond.” Project Title: Cyber Griffin. PI – Erdogan Dogdu, San Angelo State University; Co PIs: Srujan Kotikela, Texas A&M University, Avdesh Mishra, Texas A&M University, Kingsville, **Lucy Tsado, Lamar University**, Yongzhi Wang Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi; Garth Crosby Texas A & M University. **Project description:** Develop a knowledge-based AI framework that provides automation and remediation for network security. The framework involves both hardware and software techniques to ensure the security of AI is trustworthy.

# Alasti's Book Ranked #61 Among Amazon Best Sellers In Middle Eastern Studies



amazon.com/Judicial-Corporal-Punishment-Alternative-Incarceration/dp/1666930296/ref=rg\_bs\_g\_23561424011\_d\_scc1\_11/144-1116513-5228711?psc=1

## Editorial Reviews

### Review

Sanaz Alasti provides a vigorous overview contrasting the persistence of the lash in some Islamic criminal justice systems with centuries of corporal punishment in Western societies and its eventual decline. She uncovers a small brigade of dissident legal scholars eager to revive corporal punishment in the mass-incarceration USA, while opinion polls reveal occasional bursts of public zeal for inflicting painful retribution on convicts. When court in the multi-religious city-state of Singapore sentenced teenage vandal Michael Fay to a harsh caning in 1994, a survey by the Los Angeles Times of U.S. opinion revealed that men favored this punishment by a margin of 6 percent to 36 percent, while women disapproved by totals of 58 percent to 39 percent. This book provides the wider historical context and legal rationales for corporal punishment, while also revealing the human rights traditions that have sought its abolition.

-- John Trumbour, Harvard Law School

### About the Author

Sanaz Alasti is professor of criminal justice and director of the center for death penalty studies at Lamar University.

## Product details

**Publisher :** Lexington Books (July 31, 2023)  
**Language :** English  
**Hardcover :** 158 pages  
**ISBN-10 :** 1666930296  
**ISBN-13 :** 978-1666930290  
**Item Weight :** 15.3 ounces  
**Dimensions :** 6.24 x 0.7 x 9.33 inches  
**Best Sellers Rank:** #959,022 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)  
 #61 in Middle Eastern Studies  
 #482 in Criminal Law (Books)  
 #651 in Criminology (Books)

## Videos

Help others learn more about this product by uploading a video!

Upload your video



# Congressman and LU Alumnus Babin Speaks with Alasti's Class



On October 1, 2024 U.S. Congressman and Lamar University alumnus, Brian Babin, D.D.S. of the 36th District of Texas spoke with Professor Sanaz Alasti's class about his personal experiences and insights on the U.S. Constitution. Many distinguished guests from our Lamar University community, such as, Interim Provost Brett Welch, Reaud Honors College Dean Tilisa Thibodeaux, CJ Director Dr. Cheng-Hsien Lin, Professor Robert Worley, and Professor Vidisha Worley, among others, attended this memorable event. Author and activist, Amir Abbas Fakhravar, as well as two alumni from the LU Criminal Justice Master's Program, Ms. Hallie Gates ('12) and Ms. Kennedy Ratcliff ('21) were also there.

## ★ FACULTY GRANTS, AWARDS, WORKSHOPS 2024 ★

**Tsado, L.:** CyberTraining: Pilot: Interdisciplinary Cybersecurity Education to Support Critical Energy and Chemical Infrastructure, In collaboration with Chemistry, Engineering and Computer Science Departments. Role Co Pi (\$299,897). National Science Foundation.

**Tsado, L.:** Center for Resiliency Springboard Project: Reframing Resilience: Investigating and Increasing Cybersecurity Awareness for Early Childhood Education. (\$18,716) (2024). Role: Co-PI.

**Lin, C.:** Mental Health, Safety, and Efficiency for First Responders and Rescue Personnel: Impacts through Potential Environmental and Equipment Redesigns. Role: Principal Investigator (PI), Dr. Yueqing Li (Co-PI). The Center for Resiliency Springboard Project.

**Lin, C.:** Enhancing Disaster Response Preparedness: Advanced Mixed Reality (MR) Simulations for First Responder Training in Hurricane Scenarios. Role: Co-PI, Dr. Wenhao Yang (PI). The Center for Resiliency Lamar Project.

**Worley, V.B.:** College of Arts and Sciences Spring Research Competition Award 2024. \$500.00

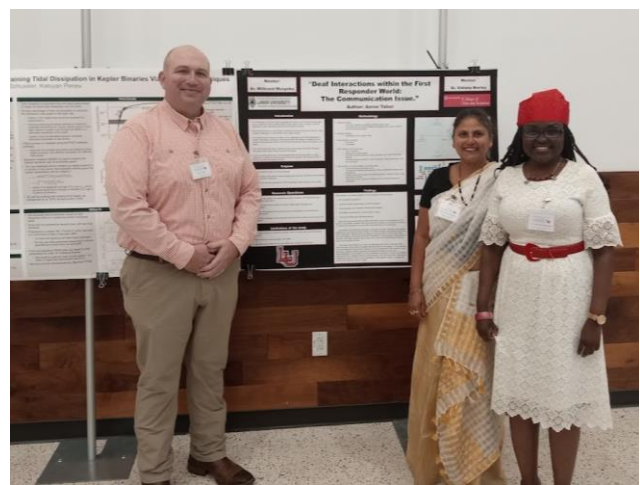
**Tsado, L.:** Workshop/ Education Outreach. Digital Safety Workshop. Bridging the Digital Divide. (Fall 2023 and Spring 2024). Presented at various elementary schools in Beaumont, Texas. An Innovative Project of Lamar University College of Education and Human Development. Sponsored by the AT&T Foundation.

## Boyett Launches Experimental Criminology Lab

Dr. Kirstie Boyett has officially launched the Experimental Criminology Lab at Lamar University. Additionally, Dr. Boyett was recently awarded a Center for Resiliency Springboard Project internal grant for her study, “*Utilizing Virtual Reality to Build Resiliency and Reduce Recidivism Rates: An Experimental Pilot Study.*” With this grant, she will secure VR equipment for the lab and train undergraduate research assistants to implement experimental designs using VR and other body sensory technologies, such as eye-tracking equipment. Additional research affiliated with the lab will include experimental and survey studies on policy effectiveness, mock jury studies, and evaluations of psychological biases that could contribute to disparities in sentencing.

**Students interested in working in the lab or assisting with research are encouraged to reach out to Dr. Boyett at [Kirstie.Boyett@lamar.edu](mailto:Kirstie.Boyett@lamar.edu). While students who have completed courses in Statistics and Research Methods course are preferred. All interested students will be considered for review.**





## CJ Students Win Awards

Undergraduate CJ Student, **Aaron Tabor** won the **Best Narrative Award** for his research titled, *Deaf Interactions within the First Responder World: The Communication Issue* at the Spring 2024 Undergraduate Research Conference of the **Office of Undergraduate Research** (OUR) at Lamar University. His mentors were Dr. Millicent M. Musyoka and **Dr. Vidisha Barua Worley**.

Student **Ivy Nash** won a \$100 Chick-fil-A gift card for participating in **Dr. Lucy Tsado's cybersecurity social engineering project** in Fall 2024. She was presented with the gift card during Cardinal View in Spring 2024.

# Madison Martin and Aaron Tabor Honored at LU First Generation Award Ceremony



Two Criminal Justice majors, Madison Martin and Aaron Tabor, were recognized for their outstanding achievements at the Lamar University First Generation Celebration Luncheon held on Friday, November 8, 2024.

Madison was awarded the Leadership Award for her ability to inspire others to work collaboratively and creatively, demonstrate initiative, and empower her peers. Aaron received the Global Impact Award for his contributions to enhancing Lamar University's global engagement through research, education, and service.

Both students participated in the 2024 Study Abroad Criminal Justice Program, are actively involved in undergraduate research, and hold leadership roles in the Alpha Phi Sigma Criminal Justice National Honor Society, where Madison serves as Vice President and Aaron as Treasurer. Additionally, they presented original undergraduate research at the World Society of Victimology course during their study abroad trip, further demonstrating their commitment to academic and professional excellence.

Congratulations to Madison and Aaron for their well-deserved recognition and for representing the excellence of Lamar University's first-generation students!





## CJ Students and Faculty at Cardinal View



# Tsado, Wang, Doe Organize 2024 LU Arts and Science Summer Camp



**Dr. Lucy Tsado**, Dr. Sujing Wang (Computer Science), and Dr. Raymond Doe (Psychology) organized the 2024 Arts and Science Summer Camp at Lamar University. Dr. Tsado was the Workshop Speaker at the Summer Coding Camp in June, 2024. She presented at Lamar University, Computer Science Department, ArtSci Tech Digital Explorers Camp on Social Media and Cybersecurity.



## Modelling Student Learning: A Community Mental Health, Intervention, Networking and Diversion Program

Stephan Malick, Instructor Communication and Karen Koch Roebuck, Instructor Criminal Justice

Supported by



Center for Resiliency

### PROGRAM DESIGN

- **Intervention Components**

Social Work: Case management, counseling, and community resources.

Criminal Justice: Diversion programs, restorative justice practices, and law enforcement training.

Education: Educational workshops, vocational training, and continuous learning opportunities.

Communication: Public awareness campaigns, interpersonal communication skills training, and media strategies.

- **Kolb's Experiential Learning Cycle**

This model focuses on the critical role the real-world experience in the comprehensive learning process.

The process involves the synthesis of knowledge and skills, allowing the learner to fully integrate theory with applied skills.

This research project provided students evidence-based practicums in criminal justice (CJ), social work, communication & teacher education.

This model allowed students to integrate knowledge and skills in real-world practice settings, which include working directly with, LMHA, the courts, judges, attorney's, and clients with low-level offenses involving mental health crisis intervention.

### METHODOLOGY

- **Target Population**

Criteria for participant selection are individuals involved in the criminal justice system that have diagnosis or undiagnosed mental health issues.

Specifically low risk offenders who have entered the court phase of the criminal justice system.

### PROGRAM PHASES

- **Intake and Assessment**

Initial evaluation by mental health professionals, criminal justice professionals and social workers and student interns.

At the time of docket call all persons in the court gallery were provided with information about local mental health services. If interested in services, then an assessment was conducted by LMHA and resources and observation.

These reflections are subsequently integrated into abstract concepts, which can be tested and refined in the generation of new experiences (Kolb & Kolb, 2005).

Figure 1 depicts stages within the learning process, connecting the realms of "knowing what" and "knowing how".

- **Intervention Phase:**

This multi-faceted approach with coordinated efforts across disciplines helped to provide services and potentially divert clients with charges from the criminal justice system.

- **Follow-up and Support:**

Ongoing support and monitoring by the LMHA and possibly the criminal justices system to assure that mental health needs are met will ensure long-term success.

### DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

- **Research Design**

Quantitative Methods: using a multidisciplinary approach to reduce recidivism, improve mental health outcome, enhance community integration and foster interdisciplinary collaboration

Qualitative data was collected through transcripts of student training, presentations, meetings, and journaling notes maintained throughout the project.

A codebook was developed through direct analysis of data, which offered an operational formalization of codes used to transcribe finding throughout the coding process and was regularly examined to review emerging codes with consistency and reliability.

Data saturation for this study was met when new information provided little or no change to the codebook and the data had been analyzed by researchers.

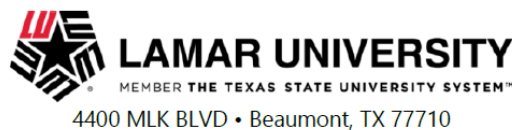
**RESULTS, DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION**

- Student's observations of time and space to consider and identify their experiences and understanding in two areas service/resources and personal experiences.
- Concrete experiences noted by students were the connection with clients or potential client's communication/ collaboration and the value of the experience , or the worthiness of the work.
- Student quote "this whole experience in general has really opened my eyes to mental health advocating, the way we view people, the stigma associated with those suffering from or dealing with mental illness. The key to effective change is communication, collaboration, and education/ increased awareness. The factors are critical to stopping the criminalization of mental illness at various diversion points in the criminal justice system."
- Student quote " This whole experience in general has just really opened my eyes to mental health and advocating for mental health literacy. It has shown me what we are doing wrong in society. This project gives me a way to make a difference and I think I am doing so."
- Students who participated in this study demonstrated increased empathy, critical thinking, self-efficacy, and enhanced professional skills workshops, vocational training, and continuous learning opportunities.

**For additional information contact:**

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[smalick@lamar.edu](mailto:smalick@lamar.edu)

Karen Koch Roebuck, Instructor  
Department of Sociology, Social Work  
and Criminal Justice  
[kkoch@lamar.edu](mailto:kkoch@lamar.edu)







## *Roebuck, Malick present on Criminalization of Mental Illness in San Juan, Puerto Rico*

Ms. Karen Roebuck and Mr. Stephan Malick presented in San Juan, Puerto Rico in July 2024 on the criminalization of the mentally ill and how they utilized student interns in their research. The research is being conducted by Dr. Ginger Gummelt, Dr. Mamta Singh, Ms. Lori Wright, Mr. Stephan Malick and Ms. Karen Roebuck. The research focuses on how the mentally ill are criminalized and how they can be diverted away from the criminal justice system and into mental health treatment. Based on this research, the team has assisted the Jefferson County Jail and the State of Texas - Spindletop, the local mental health authority, in obtaining a \$4.2 million grant for a Mental Health Diversion Center for Jefferson and surrounding counties.



**Congratulations  
To Dr. Stefan  
Krouse, Ms. Lori  
Wright, Ms.  
Karen Roebuck,  
and Dr. Jeremy  
Alm on a great  
panel on  
teaching!!**

Join the COAS Engaged Learning Committee for a discussion on *Make it Stick: The Science of Successful Learning*

**make it stick**  
★  
The Science of Successful Learning  
Daniel F. Willingham  
Lori Wright, Stephan Malick, Karen Roebuck, Jeremy Alm

"The authors present research findings that have truly important implications for how we can all become more effective learners, teachers, and coaches, and they provide examples and stories that bring that research out of the lab and into the real world." *James B. Avey, University of California, Los Angeles*

**March 26  
12:45-1:45  
Galloway 101**

**Lori Wright**  
Social Work

**Stephan Malick**  
Mathematics

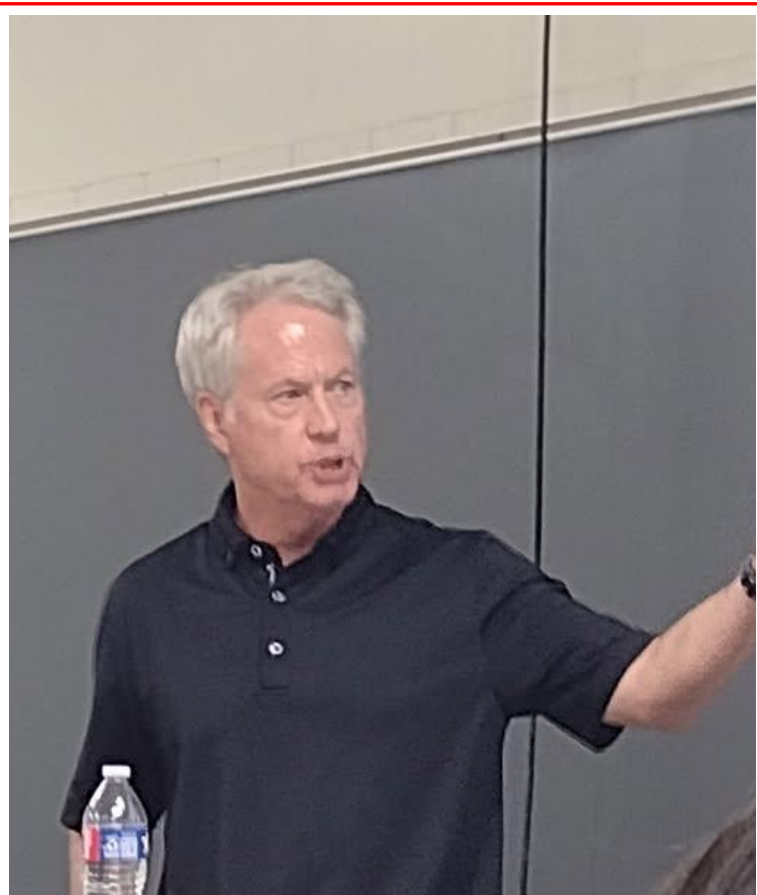
**Karen Roebuck**  
Criminal Justice

**Jeremy Alm**  
Psychology

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO**

## Prosecutor in The Boston Bomber Case Speaks With CJ Students

On September 16th, Mr. Steve Mellin, Trial Attorney of the Justice Department's Capital Case Section (retired), delivered a riveting and insightful presentation to Lamar University Criminal Justice students and faculty about his role in the prosecution of Dzhokhar A. Tsarnaev, one of the Boston Bombers.



## MENTORING MATTERS



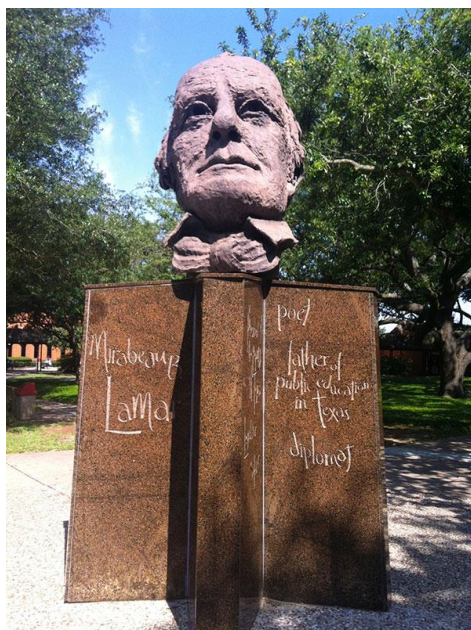
Mentoring Matters, a panel on the mentor-mentee relationship in the College of Arts and Sciences, was moderated by Criminal Justice **Professor Sanaz Alasti**. The panelists were Dr. Sujing Wang, Dr. Adam Nemmers, Dr. Christina Gregory, and their students. The event was a success!



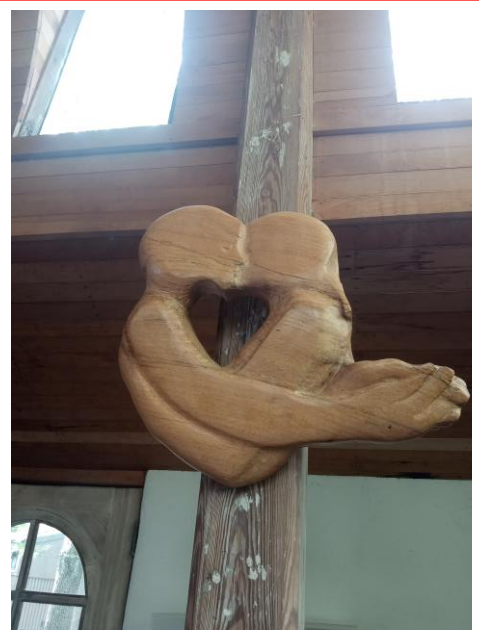


**DAVID CARGILL, THE MAKER OF  
THE LAMAR STATUE ON CAMPUS**

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**



**Drs. Robert and  
Vidisha Worley  
visited 95-year-old  
David Cargill at  
his residence in  
March, celebrating  
March as National  
Criminal Justice  
Month. He is seen  
browsing the 2023  
LU Criminal  
Justice Newsletter!**







## SSWCJA & COSC HAVE A FUN TIME AT THE HOLIDAY PARTY!





*Continued from Page 3, Maine Mass Shooting*

Just 12 minutes after the first reports from the bowling alley, another urgent call came in—this time reporting an active shooter at the Schemengees Bar & Grille Restaurant. Theiss noted the unprecedented nature of this dual-location attack. “This was a very unique situation because, unlike any other active shooter incident I can recall, this had dual locations with multiple fatalities and injuries,” Theiss said. “To have a dual location involving the same shooter within minutes is almost unheard of.” The strain on resources was immediate and intense, as officers had to split their efforts between the two sites while coordinating with other first responders. Theiss quickly reached out to additional resources, including Lt. Randy Keaton of the state police detective bureau and a contact at the FBI to secure federal assistance. “I knew once I called him, we’d get whatever federal resources we’d need to respond to this area,” he said. Officers from other agencies began arriving to provide support. Ambulances were dispatched to both locations to tend to multiple victims. However, some officers had to transport injured individuals in their patrol cars and pickup trucks to prevent the further loss of life. “If we had waited for ambulances from out of town, there would have been a lot more casualties without question. That was the right decision at the time,” Theiss said. The weapon used by the suspect, a Ruger SFAR semi-automatic rifle chambered in .308 Winchester and equipped with an extended magazine, flashlight and optic, caused extensive damage, and the injuries were severe.

With the shooter still unaccounted for, Theiss coordinated efforts to secure the city. He called the city administrator at 8 p.m., advising him to shut down the city and issue a shelter-in-place order. By 8:30 p.m., alerts had been sent out to keep people off the streets as emergency vehicles moved between locations. “We didn’t know where the shooter was. Reports were coming in that he was still there,” Theiss explained. Officers at both scenes prioritized eliminating the threat before assisting victims, as the suspect’s location remained unclear. “We

**“You train for things like this, but when you walk in and you’ve got people pulling at your pant leg saying, ‘Don’t let me die!’ it’s extremely hard to walk over them to make sure there’s no threat in the immediate area—that’s tough.”**  
**Corporal Eugene Kavanagh**

didn’t know who the shooter was, and it was tough to navigate for the first responders,” Theiss explained. Eye-witness accounts at both sites were crucial in piecing together events. Once the scenes were stabilized, investigators recovered video surveillance from the bowling alley and the bar.

“Within an hour to an hour and a half, we had a clear picture of who the shooter was and positively identified him as the same shooter in both locations. We could describe him, but we didn’t have an ID yet,” he said. Unsure if the shooter acted alone, the team prioritized sharing his image on social media to gather leads. Calls began pouring into the command post. “One person called in and positively identified this person as Robert Card,” Theiss continued. By matching the image to a driver’s license photo, they confirmed their suspect. “That’s when we were 99% sure we had our man.”

Corporal Eugene Kavanagh, who had been at the firearms range earlier that evening, described the scene at the bar. “When I left the range and went down to the bar, we weren’t in uniform. When we pulled up and got out of the truck, it was complete and total chaos. People were running out of the bar as we were making our way in,” he said. Inside, the devastation was immediate. “You could see someone who had died trying to make it to the bathroom,” Kavanagh recalled. The first priority was to secure the area. “You train for things like this, but when you walk in and you’ve got people pulling at your pant leg saying, ‘Don’t let me die!’ it’s extremely hard to walk over them to make sure there’s no threat in the immediate area—that’s tough,” he said.

As he cleared the building, including the kitchen, Kavanagh's thoughts remained with the victims. Returning to the main area, he used bar towels to assist a man leaning against the bar, who was crying out in pain. "The thought inside my head, which didn't come out, was, 'Stop yelling because you're making everyone else more scared.'" Instead, he tried talking to him, asking his name, telling him to take a deep breath, trying to calm him down. Despite the chaos, he and others began carrying people out, using whatever was available, including a sheet. By the time victims were moved to safety and witnesses secured, it was nearly 8 p.m. "It was just officers and those who had died there," Kavanagh said.

The remaining officers worked to secure the scene, ensuring only law enforcement personnel could enter. The aftermath was sobering. "When the shooting occurred, everyone just ran out. They left their purses and their cell phones. The phones didn't stop ringing until I left. It was the business phone; it was personal cellphones," he said. Kavanagh worked until 1 a.m., staying to maintain the perimeter before finally being relieved by another agency. He returned to work just a few hours later, embodying the all-hands-on-deck approach required in such a crisis.

While officers continued securing businesses and enforcing the shelter-in-place order, intelligence on Card's background began to emerge. The shootings occurred on a Wednesday, and by Friday night, the search ended when Card was found on the property of a former employer in Lisbon, ME. "He

**"When the shooting occurred, everyone just ran out. They left their purses and their cell phones. The phones didn't stop ringing ... It was the business phones; it was personal cellphones."**

**Corporal Eugene Kavanagh**

went into an 18-wheeler trailer and died from a self-inflicted gunshot. He didn't wait for us to get there. He had been deceased for a period of time," Theiss explained. The employer's property, a recycling facility, was a location Card was familiar with. Lt. Theiss reflected on the unprecedented nature of the incident. "In today's world, you prepare for active shooter scenarios, but nothing truly readies you for something of this scale," he said. The dual-site tragedy underscored the critical need for coordinated responses in the face of unimaginable violence.

The actions of Corporal Eugene Kavanagh, Lt. Jim Theiss, Sgt. Tyler Michaud, and the entire Lewiston, Maine Police Department exemplify courage, professionalism, and an unwavering commitment to safeguarding their community. Brandon Mullen, a survivor of the incident, has since returned to the bowling alley where he and his league continue to play. "The bowling alley is doing much better. The people there love us—they're the best owners at Just-In-Time Recreation," Mullen shared. In the aftermath of the tragedy, the alley hosted a grand reopening, offering special gifts to league members, including teddy bears and blankets. "They help us out so much there," Mullen added, highlighting the resilience and mutual support within the community.

*Corporal Eugene Kavanagh is a student of the Master of Science in Criminal Justice program at Lamar University, which he chose for its affordability and esteemed faculty. Among his coursework, CRIJ 5324: Serial Murder with Professor Robert Worley stood out as a highlight. Despite its challenges, the class provided Kavanagh with invaluable theoretical insights and an academic framework to better understand the dual-site mass shooting he and his team faced that night. In addition to his professional and academic accomplishments, Kavanagh has made significant contributions to his field. He recently authored an academic essay on Killer Data: Modern Perspectives on Serial Murder by Enzo Yaksic. This essay, which has been accepted for publication in Theory in Action, is scheduled for release on January 31.*