

Brenden Beck

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Rutgers University Newark
School of Criminal Justice
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EMPLOYMENT

- 2023- Associate Professor
Rutgers University, Newark, School of Criminal Justice
- 2020-2023 Assistant Professor
University of Colorado, Denver, Department of Sociology
- 2018-2020 Assistant Professor
University of Florida, Department of Sociology, Criminology, and Law

EDUCATION

- 2018 Ph.D., Sociology, City University of New York – Graduate Center
Dissertation: *Uneven Policing*
Committee: Richard Alba (chair), Lynn Chancer, Ruth Wilson Gilmore, Michael Jacobson
- 2007 B.A., Political Science, Bard College

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

[Google Scholar profile](#)

- 2026 Huang, Zhuochao, **Brenden Beck**, and Joseph Antonelli. "Causal Inference and Racial Bias in Policing: New Estimands and the Importance of Mobility Data." *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series A*. Online first.
- 2025 Beck, Brenden. "Local Government Spending: Policing Versus Social Services." *Annual Review of Criminology* 8(1): 505-528.
- Stagoff, Aaron, Jon Ben-Menachem, and **Brenden Beck**. "Can Speed Cameras Make Streets Safer? Quasi-Experimental Evidence From New York City." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 122(50).
- Op-ed in *Vital City*.
- Kendall, Emmett, **Brenden Beck**, and Joseph Antonelli. "Robust Inference for Geographic Regression Discontinuity Designs: Assessing the Impact of Police Precincts." Forthcoming in *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series A*.
- 2024 Beck, Brenden. "Do Austerity Cuts Spare Police Budgets? Welfare-to-Carceral Realignment During Fiscal Crises." *Criminology* 62(4): 623-654.
- Lead article.
- Mikulas, Alex, **Brenden Beck**, and Max Besbris. "Home Price Change and Ethno-racial Residential Segregation: Temporal Relationships at the Metro Level." *Socius* 10.

- Beck, Brenden, Angela LaScala-Gruenewald, and Joseph Antonelli. "Neck-restraint Bans, Law Enforcement Officer Unions, and Police Killings." *Criminology and Public Policy* 23(3): 663-688.
- 2023 Simes, Jessica, **Brenden Beck**, and John Eason. "Policing, Punishment, and Place: Spatial-Contextual Analyses of the Criminal Legal System." *Annual Review of Sociology* 49:221-240.
- Beck, Brenden. "Police Killings and Municipal Reliance on Fine-and-Fee Revenue." *RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences* 9(2): 161–81.
- Press coverage in *Reuters*.
- Antonelli, Joseph and **Brenden Beck**. "Heterogeneous Causal Effects of Neighborhood Policing in New York City with Staggered Adoption of the Policy." *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Statistics in Society: Series A*.
- Beck, Brenden, Eaven Holder, Abigail Novak, and Jacob Kaplan. "The Material of Policing: Budgets, Personnel, and the United States' Misdemeanor Arrest Decline." *The British Journal of Criminology* 63(2): 330-347.
- Press coverage in *Slate*, *The San Francisco Chronicle*, and *Wisconsin Public Radio*.
- 2022 Beck, Brenden and Eaven Holder. "Proximity and Policing: Spatial Dynamics of the Misdemeanor Arrest Decline." *Socius* 8: 1-12.
- Beck, Brenden, Joseph Antonelli, and Gabriela Piñeros. "Effects of New York City's Neighborhood Policing Policy." *Police Quarterly* 25(4): 470-496.
- Press coverage in *TheCity.nyc* and *The New York Daily News*.
- 2021 Zapatka, Kasey and **Brenden Beck**. "Does Demand Lead Supply? Gentrifiers and Developers in the Sequence of Gentrification." *Urban Studies* 58(11): 2348-2368.
- 2020 Beck, Brenden. "Policing Gentrification: Stops and Low-Level Arrests during Demographic Change and Real Estate Reinvestment." *City & Community* 19(1): 245-272.
- Among the three most downloaded articles from the journal in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023.
 - Press coverage in *Vox*, *The Daily Beast*, *Citations Needed*, *Salon*, *The Appeal*, and *Housing Matters*.
- 2019 Beck, Brenden. "Broken Windows in the Cul-de-Sac: Race/Ethnicity and Quality-of-Life Policing in the Changing Suburbs." *Crime & Delinquency* 65(2):270-292.
- Winner, American Society of Criminology, Division of Critical Criminology, Graduate Student Paper Award.
- 2018 Beck, Brenden and Adam Goldstein. "Governing Through Police? Housing Market Reliance, Welfare Retrenchment, and Police Budgeting in an Era of Declining Crime." *Social Forces* 96(3):1183-1210.
- Winner, American Society of Criminology, Petersilia Outstanding Article Award.
- Alba, Richard, **Brenden Beck**, and Duygu Basaran Sahin. "The Rise of Mixed Parentage: A Sociological and Demographic Phenomenon to be Reckoned with." *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 677(1): 26-38.

Alba, Richard, **Brenden Beck**, and Duygu Basaran Sahin. "The American Mainstream Expands—Again." *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 44(1): 99-117.

2016 Beck, Brenden, Anthony Buttarro Jr., and Mary Clare Lennon. "Home Moves and Child Well-being in the First Five Years of Life in the United States." *Journal of Longitudinal and Life Course Studies* 7(3): 240-264.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Beck, Brenden, Adam Goldstein, Angela LaScala-Gruenewald, Florian Hollenbach, and David Szakonyi. "The Housing Cost Consequences of Institutional Investment in Rental Markets."

Polito, Isabella, Merin Senil, and **Brenden Beck**. "For Whom the State Spends: How Police Budgeting Responds to Public Opinion Stratified by Race, Class, and Gender."

Beck, Brenden and Morgan McMains. "Does Social Service Spending Reduce Incarceration?"

EXTERNAL GRANTS

2025-27 Arnold Ventures Research Grant. "The Effects of Police and Social Service Spending on Crime," Co-Principal Investigator with Joseph Antonelli. \$231,190.

2020 William C. Mullen Fund, Bard College Research Grant. "Analyzing Changes in U.S. Policing," Principal Investigator. \$500.

INTERNAL GRANTS

2025-26 Sheila Y. Oliver Center for Politics and Race in America at Rutgers University-Newark Research Grant. "City Spending and Ethno-Racial Divides in Public Opinion," Principal Investigator. \$11,195.

2025 Sheila Y. Oliver Center for Politics and Race in America at Rutgers University-Newark Classroom Enrichment Grant. \$2,150.

2021 CU Denver, Office of Research Services Research Grant. "Gathering and Validating Data on Racial Inequities in Police Killings," Principal Investigator. \$23,000.

FELLOWSHIPS

2017 Dissertation Fellowship. Center for Place Culture and Politics, CUNY Graduate Center, \$11,000.

2016 Writing Across the Curriculum Fellowship. CUNY Law School, \$19,000.

2012-2015 Enhanced Chancellor's Fellowship. CUNY Graduate Center, \$19,000 per year for four years.

BOOK REVIEWS

2025 Beck, Brenden. "Before Gentrification: The Creation of DC's Racial Wealth Gap, by Tanya Maria Golash-Boza." *American Journal of Sociology* 130(5).

- 2017 Beck, Brenden. "Policed in the Suburbs: Review of Race, Place, and Suburban Policing, by Andrea S. Boyle." *Sociological Forum* 32(1): 240-242.
- 2015 Beck, Brenden. "Immigrants and Crime in the New Destinations, by Vincent A. Ferraro." *Contemporary Sociology* 42(2): 288-289, 292.

INVITED TALKS

- "Do Austerity Cuts Spare Police Budgets?" New York University School of Law, Goldstock-Jacobs Faculty Seminar. September 26, 2024.
- "Austerity Governance." University of Texas Austin Population Research Center. November 10, 2023.
- "Fiscal Crises and the Budgetary Shift from Social Services to Law Enforcement." University of Texas Austin Crime, Law, and Deviance Workshop. November 15, 2022.
- "Welfare-to-Carceral Realignment during Fiscal Crises." Law & Society Association's Punishment Collaborative Research Network Digital Speaker Series. November 9, 2022.
- "The Economic Determinants of Policing." Boston University Department of Sociology. February 21, 2020.
- "Does Demand Lead Supply? Gentrifiers and Developers in the Sequence of Gentrification." Boston University Urban Inequality Workshop. February 21, 2020.
- "Broken Windows in the Cul-de-Sac" New York University's Crime, Law, and Deviance Workshop. September 16, 2016.

SELECT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- "Does Social Service Spending Reduce Incarceration?" Vera Institute's Incarceration and Inequality Research Symposium. Brooklyn, NY. October 28-29, 2025.
- "The Housing Cost Consequences of Private-Equity Investment in Rental Markets." American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. August 2025. Regular Session on Housing, "Landlords, Developers and Housing Affordability."
- "Austerity and Carcerality in City Budgets." The New School for Social Research, Carceral Political Economy conference. New York City, NY. March 21, 2025.
- "Local Spending: Police Versus Social Services." ASC Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA. November 2024.
- "Do Austerity Cuts Spare Police Budgets?" ACS Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. November 2023.
- "Gentrification and Policing." Gentrification and Displacement: An International Dialogue. Boston University. October 2023. Panel chair and presider.
- "Police Killings and Municipal Reliance on Fine-and-Fee Revenue." ASA Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA. August 2022. Thematic Session "Geographies of Legal Displacement" co-organized with Jessica Simes.
- "Police Killings and the Reallocation of Municipal Expenditures from Police to Social Services." ASC Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. November 2021.

“How Many Michael Browns in How Many Fergusons? Police Killings and Municipal Budgeting in Unequal Suburbs.” Russell Sage Foundation Conference, Suburban Inequality in the United States, New York City, NY. November 4-5, 2021.

“Gentrifiers and Developers in the Sequence of Gentrification,” Quantitative Approaches to Studying Gentrification in the United States, University of Cincinnati. October 2019.

Introductory Remarks, “Coded for Crime: Challenges and Opportunities in AI-Directed Criminal Justice.” University of Florida conference. March 1, 2019.

“The Chicken or the Egg? Temporality in the Analysis of Gentrification,” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, Washington, DC. March 2019.

“The Decline of Broken Windows Policing,” ASC Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. November 2018.

“Gentrification and Proactive Policing in New York City, 2006-2012,” ASC Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. November 2017.

COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

“Police Killings and Municipal Reliance on Fine-and-Fee Revenue.” Fine and Fee Justice Center. April 28, 2023.

“Racial Equity in Denver’s Police Stops.” Denver Streets Partnership. December 18, 2020.

“Denver’s Police Data in Context.” Denver Task Force to Reimagine Policing. October 15, 2020.

“Policing and Crime Trends in Denver, 1990-2020.” Reclaim the Block Community Organization, at the invitation of Denver City Councilwoman CdeBaca. August 18, 2020.

COURSES TAUGHT

Graduate

Race, Crime, and Justice (PhD & MA): Rutgers, spring 2025

Research Methods (MA): Rutgers, spring 2024; CU Denver, fall 2021, fall 2022

Data Analysis and Management (MA): Rutgers, fall 2023, fall 2024

Crime, Justice, and the City (MA): CU Denver, fall 2020, spring 2022

Urban Sociology (PhD): University of Florida, fall 2019

Undergraduate

Criminology: Rutgers, fall 2024, spring 2025; CU Denver, spring 2021, fall 2021, spring 2022, spring 2023

Urban Sociology: CU Denver, spring 2021, spring 2023; University of Florida, spring 2019, fall 2019

Race & Policing: University of Florida, fall 2018, spring 2019, fall 2019

GRADUATE ADVISING

Rutgers University Newark

Lupe Amate, Dissertation committee member, 2025-

Sarah Marks, Dissertation committee member, 2025-

Eeron Wilson, Empirical paper committee member, 2025-2026

University of Colorado Denver

Kiana Smith, MA student thesis chair, 2021-2022, graduated
Jay Pecenka, MA student thesis chair, 2021-2023, graduated
Abbigail Grzyb, MA student thesis chair, 2021-2023, graduated
Angelina Vongsaraphanh, MA student thesis co-chair, 2022-2023, graduated

UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE, AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Member, PhD Committee, School of Criminal Justice, Rutgers Newark, 2025-present.
Member, Undergraduate Committee, School of Criminal Justice, Rutgers Newark, 2023-2025.
Member, University Curriculum Committee, CU Denver, 2021-2023.
Member, Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Sociology, CU Denver, 2020-2023.
Member, Hiring Committee for Associate Dean for Student Success, CLAS, CU Denver, 2022.
Member, Executive Committee, Dept. of Sociology, University of Colorado Denver, 2021-2023.
Member, Graduate Student Committee, Department of Sociology, Criminology, & Law, University of Florida, 2019-2020.
Member, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Sociology, University of Florida, 2019.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editorial Board Member: *Social Forces*, 2023 – present.

Reviewer: *Nature*, *American Sociological Review*, *Criminology*, *American Journal of Sociology*, *Demography*, *Social Forces*, *Social Problems*, *Urban Studies*, *Justice Quarterly*, *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*, *Policy Studies Journal*, *Nature Cities*, *Punishment & Society*, *British Journal of Sociology*, *Crime & Delinquency*, *Journal of Urban Affairs*, *Urban Affairs Review*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *American Journal of Criminal Justice*, *City & Community*, *Police Quarterly*, *Policing*, *PLOS One*, *Journal of Criminal Justice*, *Criminal Justice Policy Review*, *Sociological Forum*, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, *Law & Social Inquiry*, *Race & Justice*, *Police Practice and Research*, *Longitudinal and Life-Course Studies*, and *Routledge Textbooks*.

Member: Mentorship Committee, American Sociological Association (ASA), Community and Urban Sociology Section, 2022 – 2024.

Award Committee Panelist:

American Society of Criminology (ASC), Joan Petersilia Article Award, 2026.
ASA, Crime, Law, and Deviance section, Distinguished Scholar Award, 2025.
ASA, Community and Urban Sociological Section, Graduate Student Paper Award, 2024.
ASA, Crime, Law, and Deviance section, Graduate Student Paper Award, 2020.
ASC, Division on Critical Criminology, Graduate Student Paper Award, 2018.

Reviewer: ASA Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, 2021, 2025.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Sociological Association, member 2012 – present.
American Society of Criminology, member 2013 – present.

AWARDS

- 2023 Visiting Scholar. Population Research Center, University of Texas Austin.
- 2020 Joan Petersilia Article Award for “Governing Through Police.” American Society of Criminology.
- 2017 Graduate Student Paper Award for “Broken Windows in the Cul-de-Sac.” American Society of Criminology Division of Critical Criminology.

PRESS COVERAGE IN

Vox, San Francisco Chronicle, CNBC.com, Wisconsin Public Radio, TheCity.nyc, New York Daily News, Toronto Star, Science News, Reuters, Housing Matters, KTVU Fox 2 Oakland, KMGH ABC 7 Denver, Colorado Sun, City Cast Denver, the Denver Gazette, the Coast News, the Dig, KUNC 91.5 FM Greely, CBS Radio 880 AM New York, and The Brother Jeff Show.

PUBLIC WRITING IN

Slate, New York Daily News, the Appeal, Metropolitcs, Westword, Gainesville Sun, Gotham Gazette, Philadelphia Weekly, the Philadelphia Notebook, the New York Times Local Blog, City Limits, AM New York, and Newsday.