

ROMAN GABRIEL RIVERA

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Fields: Labor, Law and Economics, Crime

References

Sandra E. Black	W. Bentley MacLeod	Sokbae (Simon) Lee
Professor of Economics	Sami Mnaymneh Professor of Economics	Professor of Economics
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Education

2018-	Columbia University Ph.D. in Economics, expected May 2023
2022-	The University of Chicago Booth School of Business Visiting Ph.D. Student
2017	The University of Chicago Master of Public Policy (Honors), June 2017
2016	The University of Chicago Bachelor of Arts in Economics, June 2016

Job Market Paper

“Release, Detain, or Surveil? The Effect of Electronic Monitoring on Defendant Outcomes”

Abstract: This paper studies the effect of pretrial electronic monitoring (EM) as a middle alternative to both pretrial release and detention (jail) in Cook County. EM often involves a defendant wearing an electronic ankle bracelet that tracks their movement and aims to deter pretrial misconduct. Using the quasi-random assignment of bond court judges, I estimate the effect of EM vs. release and EM vs. detention on pretrial misconduct, case outcomes, and future recidivism. I develop a novel method for the semi-parametric estimation of marginal treatment effects in ordered choice environments, allowing me to construct relevant treatment effects. Relative to release, EM increases new cases pretrial due to bond violations while reducing new cases for low-level crimes and failures to appear in court. Relative to detention, EM increases low-level pretrial misconduct but improves defendant case outcomes and reduces cost-weighted future recidivism. Finally, I bound EM’s crime-reduction effect; I find that while EM is likely an effective substitute for pretrial detention, it is not clear that EM prevents enough high-cost crime to justify its use relative to release, particularly for low-level defendants.

Publications and Accepted Papers

“The Black-White Recognition Gap in Award Nominations”

[Accepted at *Journal of Labor Economics*]

(with Nayoung Rim, Andrea Kiss, and Bocar Ba)

“Peer Effects in Police Use of Force”

[Conditionally Accepted at *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*]

(with Justin Holz and Bocar Ba)

“The Role of Officer Race and Gender in Police-Civilian Interactions in Chicago”, *Science* 2021, Vol. 371
(with Bocar Ba, Dean Knox, Jonathan Mummolo)

Coverage: CNN, The Guardian, Business Insider, +200 others

“Disparities in Police Award Nominations: Evidence from Chicago”, *AEA Papers and Proceedings* 2020,
Vol. 110: 447-51

(with Bocar Ba and Nayoung Rim)

Working Papers

“The Effect of Minority Peers on Future Arrest Quantity and Quality”

[Revise and Resubmit at *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*]

“The Effect of Police Oversight on Crime and Allegations of Misconduct: Evidence from Chicago”

[Revise and Resubmit at *The Review of Economics and Statistics*]

(with Bocar Ba)

Coverage: Vox, Niskanen Center

“Who are the Police? Descriptive Representation in the Coercive Arm of Government”

[Revise and Resubmit at *American Political Science Review*]

(with Bocar Ba, Jacob Kaplan, Dean Knox, Mayya Komisarchik, Rachel Mariman, Jonathan Mummolo,
and Michele Torres)

“Police Officer Assignment and Neighborhood Crime”

[NBER Working Paper No. 29243]

(with Bocar Ba, Patrick Bayer, Nayoung Rim, and Modibo Sidibe)

Coverage: City Journal

Works in Progress

“Deterrence, Income Support and Optimal Crime Policy”

(with W. Bentley MacLeod)

“Who “Benefits” from Bail Reform? Evidence from Chicago”

(with Bocar Ba, Patrick Bayer, Jenny Jiao, and Nayoung Rim)

“Community Ties and Police Use of Force”

(with Bocar Ba and Nayoung Rim)

“Good Intentions but Bad Policy?”

(with W. Bentley MacLeod)

Honors, Fellowships, Awards, and Grants

2022-2023 Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine)

2022 Program for Economic Research Graduate Student Summer Fellowship (Columbia University)

2022	Graduate Student Workshop (WEAI Annual Conference)
2021-2022	Lewis A. Sanders Endowed Fellowship in Economics (Columbia University, GSAS)
2021	Wueller 4th Year Pre-Dissertation Award, Winner (Columbia University, Economics Department)
2021	Best Student Paper (Urban Economics Association 2021)
2021	Program for Economic Research Graduate Student Summer Fellowship (Columbia University)
2020	Harriss 2nd Year Paper Award, Winner (Columbia University, Economics Department)
2020	Russell Sage Foundation Pipeline Diversity Grant (PIs: Bocar Ba and Nayoung Rim)
2018	Provost Diversity Fellowship (Columbia University, GSAS)

Conferences and Presentations

2022	Texas Economics of Crime Workshop, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Society of Labor Economists, Western Economics Association International, CHEPS/SDSU, APPAM, CEP/LSE Crime Seminar
2021	CIVICA, Urban Economics Association (North America), HBS Rising Scholars, Southern Economics Association
2020	APPAM, Southern Economics Association

Media and Panels

2021	Panelist, <i>Obtaining, Organizing, and Opening Police Misconduct Data Panel</i> , Ford Foundation
2020	Panelist, <i>Community Dialogue on Police Accountability</i> , HPKCC
2020	“Police think they can get away with anything. That’s because they usually do.”, <i>Washington Post</i> , (with Bocar Ba)

Employment, Teaching, and Other Positions

Fall 2022	Teaching Relief (Wueller 4th Year Pre-Dissertation Award), Columbia University
Spring 2022	Sokbae (Simon) Lee, Introduction to Econometrics (Undergrad), Teaching Assistant, Columbia University
Fall 2021	Teaching Relief (Harriss 2nd Year Paper Award), Columbia University
2020-2021	W. Bentley MacLeod, Research Assistant, Columbia University
2020-2021	Diversity Initiative Committee, Student Liaison, Columbia University
Spring 2020	Nima Haghpahanah, Game Theory (Undergrad), Teaching Assistant, Columbia University
Fall 2019	Brendan O’Flaherty, Economics of Race (Undergrad), Teaching Assistant, Columbia University
2016-2018	Robert J. LaLonde, Research Assistant (September 2016 - January 2018)
2017-2018	Amy Claessens, Research Assistant (October 2017 - April 2018)
2017-2018	Invisible Institute, Data Scientist, (June 2017 - May 2018)

Referee Service

Quarterly Journal of Economics (3), *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* (1), *Journal of Labor Economics* (1), *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* (1), *American Law and Economics Review* (1), *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* (1)

Software

Python, R, Julia, Stata, Matlab, ArcGIS, L^AT_EX