Research Statement
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I am an applied microeconomist, and I have diverse interests in labor and public economics. My work focuses on domestic violence, the economics of crime and prosecution, and low-wage labor markets; I have both working papers and new projects in development in each of these areas.

My job market paper, "Local Shelter Availability and Intimate Partner Homicides" estimates the effect of local shelter availability on intimate partner violence. Using data on intimate partner homicides from the FBI UCR's Supplementary Homicide Reports and the CDC's National Vital Statistics System and data on the number of shelters in each county from the US Census Bureau's County Business Patterns data, I employ modern staggered difference-in-differences methods and find that the closing of a county's last or only shelter increases homicide rates among unmarried women by 10% over the next three to five years. This paper contributes to literatures on homeless services and on domestic violence interventions, and, to my knowledge, is the first to find that shelters can affect intimate partner violence.

In an additional working paper in this area, "The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on treatment for domestic violence injuries: evidence from medical claims" (with Lauren Gilbert and Susan Parker), we use a unique dataset from a medical claims aggregator to investigate assault-related emergency room visits during the COVID-19 pandemic. This work is motivated by an emerging literature finding that domestic violence 911 calls increased during the COVID-19 pandemic, and we add context to this finding by showing how this increase, along with the general conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic, resulted in reduced emergency department utilization for domestic violence injuries. We find no evidence that this reduction in usage is driven by domestic violence incidence, however, as the reduction in domestic violence visits was smaller in magnitude that broader declines in emergency department utilization. We recently received an invitation to revise and resubmit this paper to *Review of Economics of the Household*.

I am also collaborating with Lindsey Bullinger, Mayra Pineda-Torres, and Kait Sims on a project exploring the effect of the rollout of Uber on family violence; improvements in transportation access may enable victims to increase their income and bargaining power, or to more easily flee a violent situation in the heat of the moment. This is a work in progress, but I will be presenting preliminary results at the Southern Economic Association this fall showing that the Uber rollout reduced domestic violence 911 calls and reports of child maltreatment but had no effect on domestic violence homicides.

My other work on the economics of crime explores prosecutor decision-making and prosecutor politics. In a co-authored paper "The day after the recall: policing and prosecution in San Francisco" (with Anna Kyriazis and Dvir Yogev), we implement an interrupted time series design using high-frequency policing data to show that police reduce their effort leading up to a local election to recall the "unfriendly" district attorney, and that their propensity to make stops, incident reports, and arrests increases immediately after the DA is successfully recalled. I will be presenting this paper at the Southern Economic Association and the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management conferences this fall. We hope to expand the analysis in this paper to compare San Francisco to other cities where police departments had high-profile conflicts with progressive district attorneys to further bolster our findings, and we eventually plan to submit the

paper to the *Journal of Law and Economics* or other similar outlets. My most exciting work in this area, however, is through my post-doctoral fellowship with the *Prosecution Research Initiative* (with Amanda Agan, Anna Harvey, and Anna Kyriazis), an ongoing, multi-year project with $1,000,000 funding, in partnership with several large district attorneys' offices, to study the effects of prosecutors' policies and decision making on recidivism, public safety, and racial disparities in the criminal justice system. We recently gained access to a dataset with 20 years' worth of case data from the District Attorney of New York's office, containing information on 1.9 million arrests including decisions by prosecutors on whether and on what charges to prosecute cases, diversion decisions, city-wide arrest history and demographic information for all associated defendants, and case dispositions. Our preliminary work in this partnership is using an instrumental variables design to explore 1) whether deferred prosecution and eventual dismissal of charges after a short-term compliance period can reduce recidivism by preventing defendants from acquiring a criminal record and 2) whether prosecutors exhibit racial bias in choosing whether and on what charges to prosecute cases. We are also collecting data from several other offices to explore similar questions, hoping to determine whether effects differ across states based on other policy variation, such as when and how criminal charges and convictions are reported on background checks and whether defendants are eligible for additional programming during deferred prosecution. Over the course of the last several months, we have also negotiated a research and data sharing plan with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's office and we anticipate that the data use agreement will be executed by the end of the year, resulting in access to another large dataset with which to explore these questions. Importantly, this work will produce policy-relevant evidence on how prosecutors can balance cost effectiveness, public safety, and reduction of harm to defendants in the two largest metropolitan areas in the United States.

Another strand of my research agenda focuses on labor market conditions for economically disadvantaged populations. In joint work with Brian Cadena and Tania Barham, we evaluate a subsidized employment and job training program for TANF recipients and find that clients who received a transitional job in which their wage was subsidized for approximately 3 months were 12 percentage points more likely than other TANF clients to be employed and earn on average about $1000 more per quarter, with effects persisting up to two years after exiting the transitional job. We are working on final touches to this manuscript and plan to submit it to *Journal of Public Economics* by the end of the year.

I also have plans to expand my work in labor economics. I have collected legal data in all 50 states for a project using a staggered difference-in-differences design to estimate the effects of state-level legislation strengthening remedies and private right of action for wage theft violations, co-authored with Saigeetha Narasimhan. We will estimate the effects of these laws on employment and earnings of low-wage workers, reported NLRA violations, and firm survival. If we do find evidence that these effects result in reduced wage and hour violations and/or changes in employment and earnings for low-wage workers, we will also explore whether they produce second-order effects on income-generating forms of criminal activity.