

## MICHAEL LAFOREST

### Curriculum Vitae

Pennsylvania State University  
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(269) 470-0958

### PRIMARY POSITION

*Postdoctoral Scholar*, Criminal Justice Research Center, Pennsylvania State University 2020 – Present

### AFFILIATIONS

*Affiliate*, Crime & Education Lab, University of Chicago 2020 – Present

*Affiliate*, Wilson Center for Science and Justice, Duke University 2020 – Present

### PRIOR POSITIONS

*Research Director*, Crime and Education Lab New York, University of Chicago 2017 – 2020

*Research Assistant*, for Professor Benjamin Castleman, University of Virginia 2016 – 2017

*Strategy and Change Consultant*, IBM Global Business Services 2007 – 2010

### EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Virginia 2017

M.A. Economics, University of Virginia 2012

B.S. Economics & Political Science, Mathematics minor, University of Michigan 2007

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Microeconomics - Crime, Education, Labor

### PUBLICATIONS & FORTHCOMING PAPERS

Shaw, Anuj, and Michael LaForest, 2022. "Knowledge About Others Reduces One's Own Sense Of Anonymity." *Nature*. Advanced online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-022-04452-3>

Chalfin, Aaron, Michael LaForest, and Jacob Kaplan, 2021. "Can Precision Policing Reduce Gun Violence? Evidence from "Gang Takedowns" in New York City." *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 40(4): 1047-1082

Chalfin, Aaron, Jacob Kaplan, and Michael LaForest, 2021. "Street Light Outages, Public Safety and Crime Attraction." *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*. Advanced online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10940-021-09519-4>

Johnson, William C., Michael LaForest, Brett Lissenden, and Steven Stern, 2017. "Variation in Mental Illness and Provision of Public Services." *Health Services and Outcomes Research Methodology* 17: 1-30

**WORKING PAPERS**

LaForest, Michael. “A Structural Model of the Effects of High School Career and Technical Education on Employment, Wages, and Educational Attainment.” Revise & Resubmit, *Journal of Human Capital*

LaForest, Michael. “Parole Conditions and Early Release at the Margin.”

Aboaba, Oludamilare, Benjamin Hansen, Michael LaForest, Lucie Parker, and Patrick Sharkey. “A Randomized Controlled Trial Evaluating the Effect of the New York State Gun Violence Reduction Program.”

Bucklen, Kristofer B., and Michael LaForest. “Comparing COVID-19 Mortality Rates between Prisons and the Community.”

LaForest, Michael, and Steven Stern. “Wald Test for Common Mean Probabilities across Geographic Areas.”

**WORKS IN PROGRESS**

LaForest, Michael. “Racial Bias and the Effect of Parole Officers on Reentry.”

Bhatt, Monica, Jonathan Guryan, and Michael LaForest. “Increasing the Reach of Promising Individualized Academic Supports: Experimental Evidence of a Lower-Cost Technology-Infused Intervention.”

Goodman, Zachary, and Michael LaForest. “The Short and Long-Term Effects of the Thinking for a Change Program for Incarcerated Individuals.”

LaForest, Michael. “Temporal Bias in Officer Arrest and Use of Force Decisions – Evidence from Dallas.”

LaForest, Michael. “A Comparison of the Effects of High School Career and Technical Education over the Past Five Decades.”

LaForest, Michael. “The Effects of Mandatory Minimum Sentence Laws on Crime, Incarceration, and Plea Bargaining.”

**PEER REVIEWER**

*Review of Economics and Statistics; Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization; Oxford Economic Papers; Journal of Comparative Economics; Law & Policy; Educational Researcher; Criminal Justice Review; Journal of Empirical Legal Studies; International Journal of Drug Policy*

**PRESENTATIONS**

2022 American Economic Association

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|------|---|
| 2021 | American Society of Criminology, Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management, Copenhagen Business School (Economics), Niskanen Center (Webinar on Reducing Violence), Online Seminar on the Economics of Crime (Fall), Online Seminar on the Economics of Crime (Spring), Penn State University (Sociology and Criminology), Southern Economic Association |
| 2020 | American Society of Criminology, Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management, Mississippi State University (Economics), Office of Evaluation Services, Penn State University (Criminal Justice Research Center), Southern Economic Association, Tulane University (Education Research Alliance for New Orleans)  |
| 2017 | Bureau of Economic Analysis, Federal Trade Commission, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, University of Chicago (Crime and Education Lab New York)  |
| 2016 | Association for Education Finance and Policy, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Southern Economic Association, University of Virginia (Economics)   |

## TEACHING

*Instructor, University of Virginia*

Economics of the Public Sector 2014

*Teaching Assistant, University of Virginia*

Graduate Microeconomic Theory II 2012 – 2013

Graduate Microeconomic Theory I 2011

Game Theory 2012

Principles of Macroeconomics 2011, 2015 – 2016

Principles of Microeconomics 2010

## AWARDS & GRANTS

“Increasing the Reach of Promising Individualized Academic Supports: Experimental Evidence of a Lower-Cost Technology-Infused Intervention” (*co-PIs: Monica Bhatt, Jonathan Guryan, and Michael LaForest*), Laura and John Arnold Foundation (\$350,505), Overdeck Family Foundation (\$122,000)

Southern Economic Association Graduate Student Award, University of Virginia 2016

Bankard Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, University of Virginia 2014 – 2015

Radulovacki Summer Research Fellowship, University of Virginia 2013

Quantitative Collaborate Fellowship, University of Virginia 2012 – 2013

## INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

*Founder and Officer, UVA Economics Graduate Club* 2011 – 2016

Founded bi-weekly graduate student research collaboration meetings, a yearly graduate student-run seminar, and a graduate fellowship directory

*Vice President of Operations, UVA Graduate Student Council* 2013 – 2016

Oversaw all committees; chaired a committee which organized a university-wide graduate student conference; chaired a committee which organized monthly social events for graduate students

## REFERENCES

John Pepper

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Aaron Chalfin	achalfin@sas.upenn.edu	(215) 573-9097
Jonathan Guryan	j-guryan@northwestern.edu	(773) 848-9408
Thomas A. Loughran	tal47@psu.edu	(814) 865-8668
Jens Ludwig	jludwig@uchicago.edu	(773) 834-0811
Steven Stern	steven.stern@stonybrook.edu	(631) 632-1328
Lee Coppock ( <i>teaching</i> )	coppock@virginia.edu	(434) 924-6747

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Undergraduate Activities, University of Michigan (2003-2007)

*Executive Board*, College Democrats

*Director of Disarmament & International Security Committee*, Model United Nations Conference

*External Relations Committee*, Michigan Student Assembly

*Board Member and Actor*, Residential College Players

*Intern*, FTI Consulting, Washington, DC

*Intern*, United States House of Representatives (*Fred Upton - R, MI*), Washington, DC

*Branch Operator*, College Works Painting, Ann Arbor, MI

Computing Proficiency

Stata, Matlab, R, Fortran 95, Microsoft Office