

Scott Mourtgos

- scott.mourtgos@utah.edu • <https://smourtgos.netlify.app/>
- [Google Scholar profile](#) • [ResearchGate profile](#)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate

2018 – Present

University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

Department of Political Science

Subfields: Public Administration, American Politics

Master of Arts in Forensic Psychology

2016

University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice *Summa Cum Laude*

2004

Weber State University, Ogden, UT

Emphasis in Law Enforcement

Minor in Political Science

SCHOLARSHIP

PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Mourtgos, Scott M., Ian T. Adams, & Samuel R. Baty. (2021). Challenging the ordinality of police use-of-force policy. *Criminal Justice Policy Review*. doi: [10.1177/08874034211038346](https://doi.org/10.1177/08874034211038346).

Mourtgos, Scott M., Ian T. Adams, & Justin Nix. (*forthcoming*). Elevated police turnover following the summer of George Floyd protests: A synthetic control study. *Criminology & Public Policy*.

Mourtgos, Scott M., Ian T. Adams, & Sharon H. Mastracci. (2021). Improving victim engagement and officer response in rape investigations: A longitudinal assessment of a brief training. *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 74. doi: [10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2021.101818](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2021.101818).

Mourtgos, Scott M., & Ian T. Adams. (2021). COVID-19 vaccine program eliminates law enforcement workforce infections: A Bayesian structural time series analysis. *Police Practice & Research: An International Journal*, 22(5), 1557-1565. doi: [10.1080/15614263.2021.1894937](https://doi.org/10.1080/15614263.2021.1894937).

Mourtgos, Scott M., Ian T. Adams, Justin Nix, & Tara N. Richards. (2021). Mandatory sexual assault kit testing policies and arrest trends: A natural experiment. *Justice Evaluation Journal*, 4(1), 145-162. doi: [10.1080/24751979.2021.1881410](https://doi.org/10.1080/24751979.2021.1881410).

Mastracci, Sharon H., & **Scott M. Mourtgos**. (2021). The ethics of emotional labor in public service: The case of children's services forensic interviewers. *Human Service Organizations: Management, Leadership & Government* (45)3, 260-272. doi: [10.1080/23303131.2021.1883787](https://doi.org/10.1080/23303131.2021.1883787).

Adams, Ian T., **Scott M. Mourtgos**, & Sharon H. Mastracci. (2021). High-stakes administrative discretion: What drives body-worn camera activations? *Public Administration Review* (81)4, 691-703. doi: [10.1111/puar.13339](https://doi.org/10.1111/puar.13339)

Mourtgos, Scott M., & Ian T. Adams. (2020). Public perception of police use-of-force: Legal reasonableness and community standards. *Justice Quarterly*, 37(5), 869-899. doi: [10.1080/07418825.2019.1679864](https://doi.org/10.1080/07418825.2019.1679864).

Mourtgos, Scott M., Roger C. Mayer, Richard A. Wise, & Holly O'Rourke. (2020). The overlooked perspective of police trust in the public: Measurement and effects on police job behaviors. *Criminal Justice Policy Review*, 31(5), 639-672. doi: [10.1177/0887403419851850](https://doi.org/10.1177/0887403419851850).

Mourtgos, Scott M., & Ian T. Adams. (2019). The rhetoric of de-policing: Evaluating open-ended survey responses from police officers with machine learning-based structural topic modeling. *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 64, 61-73. doi: [10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2019.101627](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2019.101627).

Mourtgos, Scott M., & Ian T. Adams. (2019). The effect of prosecutorial actions on deterrence: A county-level analysis. *Criminal Justice Policy Review*, 31(4), 479-499. doi: [10.1177/0887403419829201](https://doi.org/10.1177/0887403419829201).

Mourtgos, Scott M., Richard A. Wise, & Thomas Petros. (2018). The consequences of restricting police arrest authority: Less deterrence and more crime. *Policing: An International Journal*, 41(2), 233-246. doi: [10.1108/pijpsm-11-2016-0165](https://doi.org/10.1108/pijpsm-11-2016-0165).

BOOK CHAPTERS

Mourtgos, Scott M., Ian T. Adams, & Sharon H. Mastracci. (2021). Improving victim retention and officer response in rape investigations. In E. Arble & B. Arnetz (Eds.), *Interventions, training, and technologies for improved police well-being and performance*. IGI Global. doi: [10.4018/978-1-7998-6820-0.ch004](https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-7998-6820-0.ch004)

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Wise, Richard A., Roger C. Mayer, **Scott M. Mourtgos**, & Holly O'Rourke. (revise and resubmit). Police-public trust: Time to look at the whole picture.

PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Scott M. Mourtgos. 2021. "SLCPD Resignations," *Legislative Brief*. Utah State Legislature.

Scott M. Mourtgos. 2021. "Effect of COVID-19 Vaccines at SLCPD." *Research Brief for Multiple Government Agencies*. Utah Department of Public Safety; Salt Lake County Health Department; Salt Lake City Police Department.

Scott M. Mourtgos. 2020. "Officer Retention in 2020." *Research Brief for Agency Presentation*. Salt Lake City Police Department.

Scott M. Mourtgos, Ian T. Adams, Justin Nix, & Tara N. Richards. 2020. "Code-R Kit Mandatory Testing Experiment." *Research Brief for Agency Presentation*. Salt Lake City Police Department.

Scott M. Mourtgos, & Ian T. Adams. 2020. "First Responder Sexual Assault Training: An Evaluation." *Research Brief for Agency Presentation*. Salt Lake City Police Department.

Scott M. Mourtgos. 2017. Identifying students exposed to violence or trauma. In *A training manual for school administrators and school resource officers*. Salt Lake City, UT.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Earl and Elies Skidmore Endowed Graduate Fellowship	2021
National Institute of Justice (NIJ) LEADS Scholars Fellowship	2020
Accepted to the FBI National Academy January 2021 Session	2020
Police Star Commendation – Salt Lake City Police Department	2017
Appointed to the President's Task Force on 21 st Century Policing Rank and File Forum	2016
Law Enforcement Professional of the Year – Salt Lake County Children's Justice Center	2012
Chief's Unit of the Year Award – Salt Lake City Police Department	2010
Meritorious Unit Citation – Salt Lake City Police Department	2007
Blue Shirt Award – Salt Lake City Police Department Police Academy	2006
Director's List – Utah Peace Officer Standards and Training Academy	2005
Office of the Police Corps, Office of Justice Programs Scholarship	2002

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Mourtgos, Scott M. (2020). National Institute of Justice LEADS program: First responder sexual assault training, presented at the 2020 International Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana (*conference conducted online due to COVID-19 pandemic*).

Mourtgos, Scott M., & Ian T. Adams. (2020). Assessing public perceptions of police use-of-force: Legal reasonableness and community standards, presented at the 2020 Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas (*conference canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic*).

Mayer, R. C., **Scott M. Mourtgos,** Richard A. Wise, & Holly O'Rourke. (2020). Police-public trust: Time to look at the whole picture, presented at the 2020 Behavioral Science &

Policy Association Annual Conference, Washington DC (*conference conducted online due to COVID-19 pandemic*).

Adams, Ian T., Sharon Mastracci, & **Scott M. Mourtgos**. (2020). Body-worn camera activations: Demographic, attitudinal, and job function predictors, presented at the 2020 Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Meeting, San Antonio, Texas (*conference canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic*).

Mourtgos, S. M., & Ian T. Adams. (2019). The (non)linearity of use-of-force continuums: Effects on officer injuries, presented at the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Western Association of Criminal Justice, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Mourtgos, S. M., Roger C. Mayer, & Richard A. Wise. (2017). Police-community trust: The overlooked perspective of police trust in the public and its effects on policing, presented at the 77th Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management, Atlanta, Georgia.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Utah’s Use of Parole: Effects on Violent Crime.” Invited research presentation, Political Research Colloquium, University of Utah. March 12, 2021.

“A Random Forest Approach to Predicting US Public Opinion on Punitiveness in the Criminal Courts System.” Invited research presentation, Political Research Colloquium, University of Utah. October 30, 2020. With Ian T. Adams.

“Publishing as a Graduate Student.” Invited panelist in *The Hidden Curriculum* workshop, University of Utah. October 23, 2020.

“Investigating Homicides and Officer Involved Critical Incidents: A Practitioner’s Perspective.” Invited speaker event, POLS 3220: Introduction to Criminal Jurisprudence, University of Utah. October 8, 2020.

“Assessing Public Perceptions of Police Use-of-Force: Legal Reasonableness and Community Standards.” Invited research presentation, Political Research Colloquium, University of Utah. March 6, 2020. With Ian T. Adams.

“Policy, Policing, & Prisons.” Invited research presentation, POLS 3320: Introduction to Public Policy and Analysis, University of Utah. November 14, 2019. With Ian T. Adams.

“Title IX Sexual Assault Investigations.” Westminster College, Salt Lake City, UT. July, 2017.

“Child Interviews for First Responders.” Utah Children’s Justice Symposium/Utah Prosecution Council Domestic Violence Conference, Snowbird, UT. May, 2016.

“Analysis of the Impact of Jail Restrictions on Offender Behavior in Salt Lake City.” Salt Lake City Police Department Week 35 CompStat Assembly, Salt Lake City, UT. March, 2016.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Research Assistant, Dr. Matthew Burbank	2020 - 2021
Teaching Assistant, Dr. Stephen Nelson	2020
Teaching Assistant, Dr. James M. Curry	2019
Research Assistant, Dr. Sharon Mastracci	2018 – 2019
Teaching Assistant, Dr. Morgan Lyon Cotti	2018 – 2019

SERVICE

EDITORIAL BOARDS

2021 – Present: *Journal of Criminal Justice*

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS (ad-hoc)

Policy Studies Journal

Justice Quarterly

Journal of Criminal Justice

European Journal of Criminology

Policing & Society

Administrative Theory & Praxis

American Psychology-Law Society Annual Conference, 2017

Gender Issues

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Advisory Board of the Salt Lake County Children's Justice Center 2019-2021

Salt Lake Area Family Justice Center Partners Council 2019-2020

Salt Lake Area Non-Fatal Strangulation Steering Committee 2019-2020

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for Utah's Office of Guardian ad Litem 2014-2015

GRANT ACTIVITY

Grant Lead Technical Reviewer, (2020). *Research and Evaluation in Safety, Health, and Wellness in the Criminal Justice System*. On behalf of the National Institute of Justice. Grant reference NIJ-2020-17296.

Grant Peer Reviewer, (2020). *Preventing School Violence: BJA's STOP School Violence Program*. On behalf of the Bureau of Justice Assistance. Grant reference BJA-2020-17312.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL MEDIA

Lehman, C. F. (2021, July 13). "Why Cops Are Quitting." City Journal. Available at [City Journal website](#).

Payne, D. (2021, July 11). "Sharp Increase in Police Resignations after Black Lives Matter Protests in 2020: Study." Just the News. Available at [Just the News website](#).

- Ridderbusch, K. (2021, June 21). "Metro Atlanta Police Grapple with Mental Health amid Violence, Stress and Scrutiny." WABE – Atlanta NPR. Available at [WABE – Atlanta NPR website](#).
- Mourtgos, S. M. (2021, February 5). "Don't Forget the Good with the Bad and the Ugly: Topic Modeling a Policing Commission Listening Session." Post at [personal website](#).
- Mourtgos, S. M. (2021, January 19). "Fleeing Police: Evaluating and Forecasting Police Turnover." Post at [Police Practice & Research: An International Journal website](#).
- Mourtgos, S. M. (2020, December 7). "Policing in a Pandemic: How Practitioners and Data can Help." Post at [Police Practice & Research: An International Journal website](#).
- Mourtgos, S. M. (2020, December 2). "Explaining Federal Crime Control Policy with Punctuated Equilibrium Theory." Post at [personal website](#).
- Mourtgos, S. M. (2020, August 20). "Police Twitter Rhetoric post-George Floyd: Difference by Party in the US Senate." Post at [personal website](#).
- Pantazi, A. (2020, September 11). "Jacksonville prosecutors will seek longer sentences for felony gun charges. Will it stop crime?" The Florida Times-Union. Available at [Florida Times-Union website](#).
- Race, Policing & Protests: Recent Relevant Research. (July, 2020). Crime and Justice Research Alliance. [CJRA Newsletter](#).
- Lee, J., & Donaldson, A. (2019, June 25). Voices of Reason [Podcast]. Available at [KSL website](#).
- "A First Responder's Introduction to Sexual Assault." Utah Peace Officer Standards and Training in-service online course, Salt Lake City, UT. April, 2018.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences	Western Association of Criminal Justice
<i>Police Section</i>	Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA)
<i>Law and Public Policy Section</i>	International Association of Chiefs of Police
American Society of Evidence-Based Policing	(IACP)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Police Captain/Lieutenant/Sergeant/Detective/Police Officer	2005 – Present
<i>Salt Lake City Police Department, Salt Lake City, UT</i>	
Captain	
Division Commander – Training Division/Academy Director	
COVID-19 Pandemic Incident Commander	
Lieutenant	

Assistant Division Commander – Investigations, Person Crimes
Intelligence Commander – Major Cities Chiefs Association
Assistant Division Commander – Support Division

Sergeant

Professional Standards
Strategic Deployment
Field Training Supervisor
Patrol Sergeant

Detective/Officer

Community Intelligence Unit Detective
Special Victims Unit Detective
Fusion Detective/Bike Unit
Narcotic Detective
Patrol Officer

Police Academy Instructor

<i>Salt Lake City Police Academy</i> , Salt Lake City, UT	2010 - Present
<i>Weber State University Police Academy</i> , Ogden, UT	2014 - Present

Child Forensic Interviewing Instructor

2013 – Present

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Interviewing Protocol,
State of Utah Attorney General's Office & Salt Lake County Children's Justice Center

High School Law Enforcement Teacher

2011 – 2012

Salt Lake City School District, Salt Lake City, UT

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL TRAINING & CERTIFICATIONS

Leadership in Police Organizations - International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)	Child Forensic Interviewing – National Institute of Child Health & Human Development
Fair and Impartial Policing Trainer – Fair and Impartial Policing	Incident Command System (ICS) Advanced Certification: ICS 100, 200, 300, 400; NIMS 700 – Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Advanced Force Science Analyst – Force Science Institute	Mid-Management Certificate – Utah POST
STATIC-99 Sex Offender Actuarial Risk Assessment Instrument	Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) - State of Utah
Instructor Development - Federal Bureau of Investigation	Division Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Child Abuse Investigations – Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention	Child Abduction Response Team – United States Department of Justice
Undercover Operations – Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission	Secret Security Clearance - FBI

NOTABLE PROFESSIONAL PROJECTS

Implemented Salt Lake City's Coordinated Community Response to Non-Fatal Strangulation Pilot Program at the Salt Lake City Police Department.	2019
Developed and implemented an Early Identification and Intervention Program for the Salt Lake City Police Department.	2019

Accomplished a comprehensive revision of the Salt Lake City Police Department's policy and procedure manual. 2018

Managed, designed, administered, and analyzed the Community Survey and Employee Survey for the Salt Lake City Police Department's 5-year Strategic Plan. 2017

Created an evidence-based policy, procedure, and training program to improve officers' response to sexual assault investigations. Trained all sworn members of the Salt Lake City Police Department on the resulting protocol. 2015

Created an evidence-based policy, procedure, and training program to improve interviewing of child victims in the field by first responders. Trained all sworn members of the Salt Lake City Police Department on the resulting protocol. 2015