

# Alaina De Biasi

## Curriculum Vitae

School of Criminal Justice  
Michigan State University  
655 Auditorium Road, 439 Baker Hall  
East Lansing, MI 48824  
Email: debiasia@msu.edu

## Professional and Academic Interests

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Interests include crime and place, communities, violence prevention, policing, criminal justice policy, spatial analysis, crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED), and urban planning.

## Education

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- 2016 - Present    **Ph.D. Candidate, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI**
- Criminal Justice Program
- 2013 - 2015    **Master of Arts, University of Maryland, College Park, MD**
- Criminology and Criminal Justice Program
- 2008 - 2012    **Bachelor of Arts, University of Michigan, Dearborn, MI**
- Criminal Justice Program
  - Psychology Program

## Publications

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### Peer Reviewed Articles

- 4 Circo, G., McGarrell, E., Krupa, J., & **De Biasi, A.** (2019) The individual-level deterrent effect of “call-in” meetings on time to re-arrest. *Crime & Delinquency*.
- 3 **De Biasi, A.** (2019). Squatting and adverse possession: Countering neighborhood blight and disinvestment. *City*, 23(10), 66-82.
- 2 Porter, L., **De Biasi, A.**, Mitchell, S., Curtis, A., & Jefferis, E. (2018). Understanding the criminogenic properties of vacant housing: A mixed methods approach. *Journal of*

*Research in Crime and Delinquency*, 56(3), 378-411.

- 1 **De Biasi, A.** (2017). Transforming vacant lots: Investigating an alternative approach to reducing fear of crime. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 50, 125-137.

### **Manuscripts Under Review**

- 3 **De Biasi, A.,** & Circo, G. Capturing crime at the micro-place: A spatial approach to inform buffer size. *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*. Special Issue on Advances in Place-based Methods. Under Review.
- 2 **De Biasi, A.,** Carr, J., Almanza, M., & Zwickle, A. (2019). A micro-place evaluation of the relationship between risky places and risk perceptions. *Journal of Criminal Justice*. Under Review.
- 1 Circo, G., McGarrell, E., Krupa, J., & **De Biasi, A.** (2019). A focused deterrence and program fidelity: Evaluating the impact of Detroit ceasefire. *Police Quarterly*. Under Review.

### **Manuscripts in Preparation**

- 3 **De Biasi, A.,** Porter, L, Curtis, A., & Jefferis, E. Non-residential crime attractors, generators, and repellants.
- 2 **De Biasi, A.,** McGarrell, E., Krupa, J., & Circo, G. The effect of Detroit project safe neighborhood on fatal and non-fatal shootings.
- 1 Pierotte, L., Porter, L., & **De Biasi, A.** Google street view and observations of physical disorder: Implications for criminological inquiry.

### **Grant Evaluation Reports**

- 2 **De Biasi, A.,** McGarrell, E., Krupa, J., & Circo, G. (2019). *Detroit project safe neighborhood: Final evaluation report*. Submitted to the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

- 1 Circo, G., McGarrell, E., Krupa, J., & **De Biasi, A.** (2018). *Detroit ceasefire: Final evaluation report*. Submitted to the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

## **Research Experience**

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- Fall 2016 – Present      **Research Assistant, Michigan State University – Dr. Edmund McGarrell**
- Contributes to several grant-funded projects under the instruction of Dr. Edmund McGarrell that focus on violence prevention, including Detroit Ceasefire, Detroit Project Safe Neighborhoods, Tale of Four Cities: Improving our Understanding of Gun Violence, and Sentinel Event Review
- Spring 2018 - Present      **Research Assistant, Michigan State University – Dr. Linda Nubani**
- Assists Dr. Linda Nubani on several grant-funded projects that focus on exploring the connection between features of the built environment and behavior, including Retrofitting and Behavioral Change in Correctional Facilities, Co-Creating Crime Prevention Policies with Communities, and Designing Safe Neighborhoods
- Spring 2014 - 2016      **Research Assistant, University of Maryland - Dr. Lauren Porter**
- Contributed to a grant-funded research project under the instruction of Dr. Lauren Porter on offender decision-making and the relationship between signs of neighborhood dilapidation and crime
- Fall 2014 – Fall 2015      **Research Assistant, University of Maryland – Dr. Min Xie**
- Identified relevant variables to include in assessments of the nature and meaning of community differences in immigration and crime
  - Constructed datasets on various topics, such as minority participation in government

## Teaching Experience

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- Fall 2019                      **Michigan State University**
- Serves as an on-campus, undergraduate instructor for *CJ 292 – Methods of Criminal Justice Research*
- Winter 2019                      **Detroit Police Department**
- Served as a training instructor for crime analysts of the Detroit Police Department
  - Led training sections on hot spot identification techniques using ArcMap (version 10.5) and RTMDx (version 1.5) software
- Fall 2013 – Spring 2014      **University of Maryland**
- Served as an on-campus, undergraduate teaching assistant for *CCJS 200 – Introduction to Statistics*

## Grant-funded Work

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- Fall 2019                      **Retrofitting and Behavioral Change in Correctional Facilities (Michigan State University)**
- Will explore the connection between energy efficiency retrofitting and inmate and staff attitudes, behavior, and well-being
- Summer 2019 - Present      **Co-Creating Crime Prevention Policies with Communities (Institute of Public Policy and Social Research)**
- Assists in the development of crime prevention strategies and policies for three medium-sized communities within Calhoun, Livingston, and Lenawee counties
  - Develops crime data snapshots for each community
  - Assists in the conduction of workshops focused on placemaking and CPTED
- Fall 2016 – Present              **Detroit Project Safe Neighborhoods (Bureau of Justice Assistance)**
- Utilizes spatial analytical techniques to identify crime hot spots in Detroit neighborhoods to assist in the deployment

of police resources / other services and analyzes the effectiveness of these activities

- Co-authored evaluation report on program effectiveness
- Developed evaluation methodology and implemented synthetic control estimation

Fall 2017 – Present

### **Sentinel Event Review**

#### **(National Institute of Justice)**

- Assists in the selection of sentinel events and the identification of root causes of victimization in collaboration with the Detroit Police Department, Detroit Health Department, and Detroit Public School Community District

Fall 2018

### **Designing Safe Neighborhoods**

#### **(Urban Collaborator Group)**

- Assisted in the planning and organization of a charrette focused on improving the neighborhood of Pleasant Grove Holmes located in Lansing, Michigan
- Collected and analyzed crime data using spatial software and presented findings to community and city stakeholders
- Facilitated group activities aimed at engaging residents, the Lansing Police Department, and other city and community stakeholders in an effort to select areas in their neighborhood to receive additional city resources and generate ideas for neighborhood revitalization
- Assisted urban planners and architects in re-designing areas within the neighborhood to be in compliance with CPTED principles

Fall 2016 – Spring 2018

### **Detroit Operation Ceasefire**

#### **(Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention)**

- Organized, collected, and evaluated data on the effectiveness of target-hardening tactics on gun violence
- Co-authored evaluation report on program effectiveness

Fall 2016 – Fall 2018      **Tale of Four Cities: Improving our Understanding of Gun Violence**  
**(National Institute of Justice)**

- Utilized spatial analytical techniques to understand the nature of gun violence across four cities: Detroit, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, and St. Louis

Fall 2014 – Fall 2015      **Offender Decision-making**  
**(National Institute of Justice)**

- Used spatial video technology to record the environments of street segments
- Transcribed qualitative interviews
- Co-authored publication in peer-reviewed journal from data obtained through grant

## **Grant Writing Experience**

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2019      Principal Investigator (Co-principal Investigator Dr. Edmund McGarrell)  
Project: The Search for the Broken Windows Tipping Point: A Dose-Response Propensity Score Assessment of the Relationship between Disorder and Violent Crime  
Funding Opportunity Number: NIJ-2019-15466; Graduate Research Fellowship in Social and Behavioral Sciences

2018      Project: Innovations in Community-Based Crime Reduction Program  
Funding Opportunity Number: BJA-2018-13609

## **Presentations**

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### **Conference Participation**

Circo, G., **De Biasi, A.**, Magee, L., & McGarrell, E. (2018). “Spatial Patterns of Gun Violence.” Annual Conference of the American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, Georgia.

Porter, L., Noel, J., **De Biasi, A.**, Jefferis, E., & Curtis, A. (2018). "Non-Residential Crime Attractors, Generators, and Repellants." Annual Conference of the American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, Georgia.

**De Biasi, A.**, & Circo, G. (2018). "Capturing Crime at the Micro-Place: A Spatial Approach to Inform Buffer Size." Annual Conference of the American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, Georgia.

**De Biasi, A.**, Carr, J., Almanza, M., & Zwickle, A. (2018). "A Micro-place Evaluation of the Relationship between 'Risky Places' and Risk Perceptions." Annual Conference of the American Society of Criminology. Atlanta, Georgia.

Circo, G., **De Biasi, A.** & McGarrell, E. (2017). "Examining Gun Crime Micro-Place Hot spots Exploring the Varying Correlates of Spatial Risk." Annual Conference of the American Society of Criminology. Philadelphia, PA.

**De Biasi, A.** (2017). "Identifying Global and Local Clusters of Abandoned Homes: Implications for Blight Removal." Annual Conference of the American Society of Criminology. Philadelphia, PA.

**De Biasi, A.** (2015). "Transforming Vacant Lots: Investigating an Alternative Approach to Reducing Fear of Crime." Annual Conference of the American Society of Criminology. Washington, D.C.

### **Invited Presentations**

**De Biasi, A.**, & Nubani, L. (2019). "Crime Prevention and Reduction: Pleasant Grove Holmes." Designing Safe Neighborhoods Charrette. Lansing, MI.

**De Biasi, A.** (2018). "Hot spot Identification Techniques." Detroit Police Department's weekly Operation Ceasefire Meeting. Detroit, MI.

### **Professional Associations**

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| 2013 - Present | ▪ American Society of Criminology      |
| 2018 - Present | ▪ Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences |

## Professional Service

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- Spring 2019    **Demolitions and Crime Task Force Member, Detroit Police Department**
- Was a member of a task force - assembled per the request of Mayor Duggan - to develop a strategy for targeting property demolitions in Detroit
  - Served as a research expert on abandoned properties, vacant lots, and crime
  - Utilized spatial analytical tools to help identify areas to receive demolition funds
- Spring 2019    **Crime Analyst Academic Specialist Hiring Committee Member, Michigan State University**
- Served as a committee member that sought to hire a qualified applicant to fulfill the position of *Crime Analyst Academic Specialist* through the Detroit Police Department
- Fall 2017    **Post-Doctoral Fellowship/Research Associate Hiring Committee Member, Michigan State University**
- Served as a graduate student representative on a committee that sought to hire a qualified applicant to fulfill the position of *Post-doctoral Fellowship/Research Associate*
- 2013-2014    **Graduate Student Mentor, University of Maryland**
- Served as a graduate student mentor to undergraduate students who were considering pursuing a graduate-level education in criminology and criminal justice

## Other Professional Contributions

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### Ad-hoc Manuscript Reviewer

- Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency
- Journal of Crime and Justice
- International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice



## Honors and Awards

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- 2019
  - Summer Research Fellowship, MSU School of Criminal Justice - \$3,000.00
  
- 2018
  - Conference Travel Award, MSU School of Criminal Justice - \$355.00
  - Summer Research Fellowship, MSU School of Criminal Justice - \$3,000.00
  
- 2017
  - Conference Travel Award, MSU School of Criminal Justice - \$514.00
  - Summer Research Fellowship, MSU School of Criminal Justice - \$3,150.00

## Research Skills & Relevant Coursework

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### Statistical & Spatial Package Competency

- Proficient with STATA, SPSS, & ArcMap
- Intermediate with R

### Statistics Coursework

- Introduction to Regression Analysis (two courses) - University of Maryland
- Limited and Categorical Dependent Variables - University of Maryland
- Causal Inference - University of Maryland
- Spatial Data Analysis - Michigan State University

## Statistics Workshops Attended

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Summer 2019      **Longitudinal Data Analysis, Including Categorical Outcomes**  
Instructor: Donald Hedeker  
Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, Ann Arbor, MI

Summer 2018      **Confirmatory Factor Analysis and Structural Equation Modeling using Partial Least Squares (PLS) Analysis**  
Instructor: Wietske Van Osch  
Center for Statistical Training and Consulting, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan

Fall 2017

**Risk Terrain Modeling Training Webinar**

Instructors: Joel Caplan and Leslie Kennedy

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey

Summer 2017

**Regression Discontinuity Designs**

Instructors: Rocio Titiunik and Sebastian Calonico

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, Ann Arbor, MI