

MARTHA MCCULLOUGH

Department of Criminal Justice
University of Cincinnati
2610 University Circle
CECH 550.15
Cincinnati, Ohio 45221
mccullm6@mail.uc.edu

EDUCATION

UPDATED: 04/2025

PhD	University of Cincinnati, Criminal Justice	May 2028
MA	University of South Florida, Criminology Graduated Summa Cum Laude	May 2024
Thesis: "The Perception of Innocence and Guilt: Understanding Relationships between Exonerees and their Loved Ones"		
Advisor: Dr. Jessica Grosholz / Committee: Dr. Lyndsey Boggess, Dr. Amanda Lewis		
BS	University of Florida, General Psychology Graduated Cum Laude	May 2022
BA	University of Florida, Criminology Graduated Cum Laude	May 2022

RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC INTERESTS

Qualitative Methods	Victimization
Wrongful Conviction	Public Perceptions
Reentry Services	Gender-based Violence

PUBLICATIONS

Peeler, G., Pieri, Z.P., Grosholz, J.M., & **McCullough, M.** (2025). Straight Outta 4chan: Exploring the album art of the White Supremacist "Moon Man" music project. *Race & Justice*. [\[article link\]](#)

Wagers, S., Grosholz, J., Carter, K., Khan, S., & **McCullough, M.** (submitted). BRIGHTening pathways: analyzing stakeholder needs for enhanced engagement in human trafficking services.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

McCullough, M., & Lewis, A. (2024). Understanding the strain, coping mechanisms, and behavior among exonerees and their loved ones. ***

Wagers, S., Grosholz, J., Carter, K., Khan, S., & **McCullough, M.** (2024). BRIGHTening pathways: analyzing stakeholder needs for enhanced engagement in human trafficking services.*

McCullough, M., & Lewis, A. (2023). The perception of innocence and guilt: understanding the relationships between exonerees and their loved ones. ***

Wagers, S., Carter, K., Scott, M., Grosholz, J., & **McCullough, M. (2023).** The BRIGHT project: participatory action research, human trafficking stakeholders, and lessons learned. ***

* submitted for publication

** submitted for potential presentation at conference

*** accepted for presentation at conference

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

OVW Research Project

Summer 2024 - Current

University of Cincinnati

Graduate Research Assistant, Dr. Rachael Powers and Dr. Brittney Hayes

Project: *IDD VICTIMS AND BARRIERS TO REPORTING*

Trafficking in Persons Risk to Resilience Research Lab (TiP Lab)

Fall 2023 - Current

University of South Florida (St. Petersburg Campus)

Graduate Research Assistant, Dr. Shelly Wagers and Dr. Jessica Grosholz

Project: *BRIGHT QUALITATIVE STUDY ON PRODUCT USAGE*

Graduate Research Assistant

Summer 2023 – Spring 2024

University of South Florida (Sarasota-Manatee Campus)

Graduate Research Assistant, Dr. Jessica Grosholz and Dr. Zacharias Pieri

Project: *WHITE POWER MUSIC STUDY*

Center for Justice Research & Policy (CJRP LAB)

Summer 2023 – Fall 2024

University of South Florida (Tampa Campus)

Graduate Research Assistant, Dr. Bryanna Fox and Dr. Edelyn Verona

Project: *PARC STUDY, PASCO COUNTY JAIL*

Project: *NIJ REENTRY SERVICES & RCT EVALUATION*

LEAD Psychology and Law Lab (LEAD Lab)

Spring 2020 – Summer 2022

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Dr. Lora Levett

Project: *Dissertation (Dr. Amanda Lewis): "BEYOND THE BARS – EXPLORING THE LIVES OF EXONEREES AND THEIR LOVED ONES AS THEY COPE WITH MISCARRIAGES OF JUSTICE"*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Cincinnati

Spring 2025

(Uptown Campus) Cincinnati, OH

Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Criminal Justice*

Instructor: Dr. Rachael Powers

Course: *CJ3028 – Women and Crime*

University of Cincinnati Fall 2024
(Uptown Campus) Cincinnati, OH
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Criminal Justice
Instructor: Dr. Rachael Powers
Course: CJ3028 – Women and Crime

University of South Florida Fall 2023
(Sarasota-Manatee Campus), Sarasota, FL
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Criminology
Instructor: Dr. Roberta O'Malley
Course: CCJ4651 – Drugs and Crime

University of South Florida Fall 2023
(Tampa Campus), Tampa, FL
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Criminology
Instructors: Dr. Cindy Moore and Cary Elyes
Course: CCJ4651 – Drugs and Crime

University of South Florida Summer 2023
(Tampa Campus), Tampa, FL
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Criminology
Instructors: Dr. Cindy Moore
Course: CCJ4651 – Drugs and Crime

University of South Florida Spring 2023
(Tampa Campus), Tampa, FL
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Criminology
Instructors: Dr. Cindy Moore and Cary Elyes
Course: CCJ4651 – Drugs and Crime

University of South Florida Fall 2022
(Sarasota-Manatee Campus), Sarasota, FL
Graduate Grading Assistant, Criminology
Instructor: Dr. William Tafoya
Course: CCJ4933 – Digital Forensics

PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) Spring 2023
National Harbor, MD, USA

American Society of Criminology (ASC) Fall 2023
Philadelphia, PA, USA

McCullough, M., & Lewis, A. (2023). The perception of innocence and guilt: understanding the relationships between exonerees and their loved ones. [Panel presentation]. Accepted for presentation at the American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS)
Chicago, IL, USA

Spring 2024

McCullough, M., & Lewis, A. (2023). The perception of innocence and guilt: understanding the relationships between exonerees and their loved ones. [Panel presentation]. Accepted for presentation at the American Society of Criminology, Chicago, Illinois, USA.

Wagers, S., Carter, K., Scott, M., Grosholz, J., & **McCullough, M. (2023)** The BRIGHT project: participatory action research, human trafficking stakeholders, and lessons learned. [Panel presentation]. Accepted for presentation at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Chicago, Illinois, USA.

American Society of Criminology (ASC)
San Francisco, CA, USA

Fall 2024

McCullough, M., & Lewis, A. (2024). Understanding the strain, coping mechanisms, and behavior among exonerees and their loved Ones. [Panel presentation]. Accepted for presentation at the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, California, USA.

Wagers, S., Grosholz, J., Carter, K., Khan, S., & **McCullough, M. (2024)** BRIGHTening pathways: analyzing stakeholder needs for enhanced engagement in human trafficking services. [Panel presentation]. Accepted for presentation at the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, California, USA.

GRANTS

Center for Criminal Justice Research Doctoral Student Research Grant
University of Cincinnati
(Uptown Campus) Cincinnati, OH
Recipient (\$1000)

Spring 2025

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Criminology Graduate Student Organization (CGSO)
University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
Treasurer

Spring 2023 – Spring 2024

Alpha Phi Sigma (Criminal Justice Honor Society)
University of South Florida Tampa, FL
Member

Fall 2022 – Spring 2024

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

UF Hall of Fame Inductee
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
University of Florida Member of the 101st Cohort

Spring 2022

RESEARCH SOFTWARE EXPERIENCE

NVivo

STATA

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Microsoft Office – Word, Excel, PowerPoint

Google – Docs, Sheets, Slides