

# Jason Szkola, MSW PhD

Rowan University • Department of Law and Justice Studies

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## Research Interests

Gun-violence, criminal justice policy, community-based program implementation and evaluation, and spatial crime patterns.

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## Education

**Doctor of Philosophy in Criminal Justice**, September 2022

John Jay College of Criminal Justice/Graduate Center, City University of New York – New York, New York

Dissertation: *Credible Messengers: An Exploratory Analysis of What Makes Them “Credible”*

**Master’s in Social Work**, May 2010

New York University – New York, NY

**Bachelor of Arts in English Literature**, May 2006

**Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy**, May 2006

Northeastern University – Boston, Massachusetts

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## Academic Appointments

**Assistant Professor**, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of Law and Justice Studies, Rowan University, September 2024

**Affiliated Staff**, Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety, Arizona State University, April 2024-present

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## Research and Scholarly Experience

**Everytown for Gun Safety**, New York, New York

Data Scientist, August 2021 – July 2024

**Institute for State and Local Governance**, City University of New York, New York, New York

Research Associate, November 2019 – June 2021

**Everytown for Gun Safety**, New York, New York

Research Consultant, April 2020 – August 2021

**Research & Evaluation Center**, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, New York

Senior Research Associate, July 2017 – November 2019

**Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, Inc.**, New York, New York

Evaluation Consultant, August 2016 – March 2018

**New York University McSilver Poverty Institute**, New York, New York

Evaluation Volunteer, August 2013 – July 2014

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## **Publications**

### **Peer-Reviewed Articles**

**Szkola, Jason** and Blount-Hill, Kwan-Lamar. (in press). A framework for understanding *credibility*: What makes credible messengers “credible” in a New York City-based sample of gun violence intervention programs? *Criminal Justice and Behavior*.

*This paper was written with equal contribution by both authors.*

Schnippel, Kathryn; Larson, Bruce; Jay, Jonathan; **Szkola, Jason**, and O’Toole, Megan. (2023). Cost of Summer Youth Employment to Prevent Violence: An Analysis and Implementer’s Tool. *Journal of Urban Health*

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11524-023-00753-8>

Evans, Douglas N; St. John, Victor; and **Szkola, Jason**. (2022). Regions of Discrimination: Felony Records, Race, and Expressed College Admissions Policies. *Journal of Crime and Justice*

<https://doi.org/10.1080/0735648X.2022.2114100>

Piza, Eric L.; **Szkola, Jason**; and Blount-Hill, Kwan-Lamar. (2021) How Can Embedded Criminologists, Police Pracademics, and Crime Analysts Help Increase Police-Led Program Evaluations? A Survey of Authors Cited in the Evidence-Based Policing Matrix *Policing: A Journal of Policy and Practice*

<https://doi.org/10.1093/police/paaa019>

**Szkola, Jason**; Piza, Eric; and Drawve, Grant. (2019). Risk Terrain Modeling: Seasonality and Predictive Validity. *Justice Quarterly*

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/07418825.2019.1630472>

Evans, Douglas N; **Szkola, Jason**; and St. John, Victor. (2019). Going Back to College? Criminal Stigma in Higher Education Admissions in Northeastern U.S.. *Critical Criminology: An International Journal*

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10612-019-09443-x>

Evans, Douglas N; Pelletier, Emily; and **Szkola, Jason**. (2018). Education in Prison and Self-Stigma: Empowerment Continuum. *Crime & Delinquency*, 64(2), 255-280.

<https://doi.org/10.1177/0011128717714973>

### **Manuscripts in Progress**

**Blount-Hill, Kwan-Lamar**, and Szkola, Jason. Studying community violence interventions: An approach to crime prevention research for social impact and social justice. *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, invited submission.

*This paper is being written with equal contribution by both authors.*

**Szkola, Jason**. Credible Messengers: A Confirmatory Analysis of Traits that are Important to “Credibility”

### **Book Chapters**

Butts, Jeffrey A. and **Szkola, Jason** (2020). The juvenile justice response to violence. In Handbook of Interpersonal Violence across the Lifespan. Michael B. Greene and Robert L. Johnson (Section Editors). New York: Springer.

## Blog Posts

O'Toole, Megan J., **Szkola, Jason**, and Burd-Sharps, Sarah (2022) Gun Thefts from Cars: The Largest Source of Stolen Guns, Everytown Research and Policy, Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, <https://everytownresearch.org/gun-thefts-from-cars-the-largest-source-of-stolen-guns/#:~:text=New%20research%20from%20Everytown%20for,of%20gun%20sales%20and%20violence.>

**Szkola, Jason**, O'Toole, Megan J., and Burd-Sharps, Sarah (2024) Gun Thefts from Cars: The Largest Source of Stolen Guns, Everytown Research and Policy, Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, <https://everytownresearch.org/report/gun-thefts-from-cars-the-largest-source-of-stolen-guns-2>

**Szkola, Jason**. (2017) A Tool for Helping Staff Translate Results into Action, *AEA 365*, American Evaluation Association, <https://aea365.org/blog/internal-eval-week-a-tool-for-helping-staff-translate-results-into-action-by-jay-szkola/>

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## Conference Presentations and Papers

**Szkola, Jason** & Evans, Douglas. *A Credible Messenger Intensive Mentoring Program's Relationship to Recidivism*. Presentation to the 73rd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. November 2017.

Evans, D. N. & **Szkola, Jason**. *Research from the Inside: Critical Analyses of Crimes in the Prison Institution*. Presentation to the 73rd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. November 2017.

**Szkola, Jason**. *Unpacking Credible Messengers from the Cure Violence Model*. Presenting at the Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Criminal Justice Sciences, Portsmouth, Rhode Island. June 2017

Evans, D. N., Blount-Hill, K., & **Szkola, Jason**. *Contextualizing Criminal Justice System Imposed Stigma and Methods of Resistance*. Presentation to the 12th Annual Left Forum, New York, NY. June 2017.

Evans, D. N., **Szkola, Jason**, & St. John, V. *Going Back to College? Criminal Stigma in Admissions to Higher Education in Northeastern U.S.* Presentation to the 74th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, Georgia. November 2018.

**Szkola, Jason**, Piza, E. L. & Drawve, G. *Seasonality Effects on Environmental Risk Factors*. Presentation to the 75th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, Georgia. November 2019

**Szkola, Jason**. *Hotspots: Time, Weather, and Climate Matter*. Presentation to the 76th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Washington, DC. November 2020.

**Szkola, Jason**. *A Qualitative Examination of Credibility*. Presentation to the 78th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA. November 2022.

**Szkola, Jason** and Blount-Hill, Kwan-Lamar. *BRAG: A Qualitative Case Study of Credibility*. Presentation to the New Jersey Gun Violence Researcher Center Research Day, New Brunswick, NJ. May 2023.

**Szkola, Jason**. *Quantitative Findings on Credibility*. Presentation to the 79th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA. November 2023.

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## Teaching Experience

### **Adjunct Lecturer**

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York – New York, New York  
“Dimensions of Justice” (CJBA 120) (Spring 2018)

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York – New York, New York  
“Organizational Assessment” (PAD 704) (Fall 2018)

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York – New York, New York  
“Program Development and Evaluation” (PAD 745) (Summer 2019)

John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York – New York, New York  
“Dimensions of Justice” (CJBA 120) (Spring 2020)

### **Guest Lecturer**

Using Data for Advocacy (PAD 816) at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York  
New York, NY February 21<sup>st</sup> and March 7<sup>th</sup> 2018

Using Data for Advocacy (PAD 816) at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York  
New York, NY February 2017

Importance of Social Scientists (SOC320) at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, NY March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018

### **Invited Presentations**

**Szkola, Jason.** (2024) Gun Violence Trends in America. Lecture, Rowan University

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## **Grants**

### **Funded**

Co- Principal Investigator, “Developing and Examining an Evaluative Model for Holistic Violence Prevention Services.” Men Who Care of Germantown, Inc. \$15,000. 2024  
*Co-Principal Investigator*, June 2024 – December 2024

Co- Principal Investigator, “Developing and Examining an Evaluative Model for Responsive Trauma Based Therapeutic Services.” Temple University, \$15,000. 2024  
*Co-Principal Investigator*, September 2023 – September 2025

Co- Principal Investigator, “Developing and Examining an Evaluative Model of Violence Interruption in the Bronx.” Fund for a Safer Future, Invited Proposal. (Invited after Letter of Interest) \$197,596. 2024-2027  
*Co-Principal Investigator*, January 2024 – December 2027

Co- Principal Investigator, “Ecological Mediators and Moderators in Norm-Change Models of Violence Prevention – Comparative Case Studies of Philadelphia and Chester CeaseFire.” New Jersey Gun Violence Research Center. \$69,702. 2023-2025  
*Co-Principal Investigator*, October 2023 – June 2024

Co- Principal Investigator, “Philadelphia CeaseFire Baseline Study and Implementation Assessment.” Philadelphia Ceasefire. \$140,000. 2023-2024  
*Co-Principal Investigator*, May 2023 – December 2024

Co- Principal Investigator, “B.R.A.G. Qualitative Case Study of Credibility.” New Jersey Gun Violence Research Center, New Brunswick, NJ. \$4,939. 2023  
*Co-Principal Investigator*, March 2023 – June 2023

Co- Principal Investigator, “Impact of LGBTQ Institute for Family Therapy Evaluation Trained Clinicians on LGBTQ Identifying Foster Care Youth.” The LGBTQ Center. \$50,000. 2018

*Co-Principal Investigator*, January 2018 – June 2018

### **Under Review**

Co-Principal Investigator, “Modeling and Measure the Community Violence Interventions (CVIs) of New York State Office of Gun Violence Prevention.” National Institute of Justice. \$385,671.00. 2025-2027

*Co-Principal Investigator*

Co-Investigator, “An Implementation Guide and Evaluation of a Hospital-Linked Violence Intervention Program at a Level 1 Trauma Center” National Institute for Justice. 1,839,254.00 2025-2030

*Co-Investigator*

### **Not Funded**

Co-Investigator, “Police Athletic League and the Impact of Police-Youth Contact on Community Safety.” Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. \$399,990. 2018-2022

*Co-Investigator*

Co-Investigator, “A Systemic Review and Meta-Analysis of Anti-Violence Programs Using Violence Interrupters.” The National Gun Violence Research Collaborative. \$100,000. 2019-2020

*Co-Investigator*, 2019-2020

Co-Investigator, “Technical Assistance Center for NIJ CVIPI.” National Institute for Justice. \$5,000,000. 2024-2029

*Co-Investigator*

Co-Principal Investigator, “Developing and Examining an Evaluative Model of Hospital Based Violence Intervention in the Bronx.” Kaiser-Permanente. \$600,000 2024-2027

*Co-Principal Investigator*

Co-Investigator, “A new group of firearm owners: Firearm owners on the political left, their motivations for and practices around firearm ownership, and their positionality” Fund for a Safer Future. \$249,128.00 2025-2028

*Co-Investigator*

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## **Data Collection Projects**

### **Community Violence Prevention Project**

*Co-Principal Investigator*, March 2023 – Present

### **The Jail Mortality Project**

*Co- Principal Investigator*, March 2023 – Present

### **What is Credibility?**

*Principal Investigator*, July 2017-June 2022

### **Risk Terrain Modeling: Seasonality and Predictive Validity**

*Principal Investigator*, February 2018-January 2019

Eric L. Piza, Faculty Advisor

### **The Seasonality of the Law of Crime Concentration**

*Principal Investigator*, February 2018-January 2019

Eric L. Piza, Faculty Advisor

### **The Mayor's Action Plan for Neighborhood Safety**

*Senior Researcher*, August 2017 – November 2019

Jeffrey A. Butts, Principal Investigator

New York City Mayor's Office for Criminal Justice, Funder

### **Attitudes of Justice Professionals on Secure Detention for Youth**

*Co-Investigator*, October 2017-June 2018

Jeffery A. Butts, Principal Investigator

Annie E. Casey Foundation, Funder

### **Increasing In-House Evaluations of Police Practices**

*Co-Investigator*, July 2017 – January 2018

Eric L. Piza, Principal Investigator

### **The Effects of a Criminal Conviction on Online Dating Prospects**

*Co-Investigator*, April 2016 – May 2017

Douglas N. Evans, Principal Investigator

### **Effects on Stigma of Education in Prison**

*Co-Investigator*, March 2015

Douglas N. Evans, Principal Investigator

### **Group Differences in Emotional Intelligence**

*Principal Investigator*, February 2010

Trudy Festinger, Faculty Advisor

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## **Professional Experience**

### **Good Shepherd Services, New York, NY**

Senior Program Analyst – Youth Justice Programs, February 2017 – July 2017

### **Good Shepherd Services, New York, NY**

Program Analyst – Youth Justice Programs, October 2015 – February 2016

### **Police Athletic League, New York, NY**

Evaluation and Compliance Associate, August 2010 –September 2015

### **Police Athletic League, New York, NY**

Resource Coordinator / Social Work Intern, June 2008 – August 2010

### **Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts**

Teaching Assistant to Professor William DeAngelis, Fall 2005

### **Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts**

Teaching Assistant to Professor Kerry Dugan, Spring and Fall 2004

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## **Active Working & Advisory Groups**

## **Rockefeller Regional Gun Violence Research Consortium**

Rockefeller Institute of Gun Violence

Member-Scholar

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### **Historical Working & Advisory Groups**

#### **Cure Violence Evaluation Advisory Group**

*John Jay Research and Evaluation Center*

#### **New York State Violent Death Reporting System**

New York City Department of Health

#### **Mayor's Office to Prevent Gun Violence Advisory Group**

New York City Mayor's Office to Prevent Gun Violence

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### **Special Skills and Competencies**

- STATA
- ArcGIS
- Adobe InDesign
- QGIS
- Adobe Photoshop
- Carto
- SPSS
- NVivo

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### **Professional Organizations**

- American Evaluation Association
- American Society of Criminology
- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences