

# Seth Watts, PhD

Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice & Criminology

Texas State University · San Marcos, TX

✉ [sbwatts@txstate.edu](mailto:sbwatts@txstate.edu)  [sbwatts](#)  [sethbwatts.com](http://sethbwatts.com) | Updated: 15 Feb 2026

## Education

### *Arizona State University*

PhD, Criminology and Criminal Justice 2024

MS, Criminology and Criminal Justice 2021

### *Bowling Green State University*

BA, Psychology 2019

## Academic Positions

Assistant Professor | Texas State University 2025-

### ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

Research Affiliate, [Texas Crime and Justice Center \(TCJC\)](#) | Texas State University 2025-

### PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Postdoctoral Researcher | Arizona State University 2024-2025

Graduate Research Assistant | Arizona State University 2020-2024

## Work in Progress

Watts, S., Orosco, C., & White, D. M. De-escalation Training: A Comparative Review of Tempe, ICAT, T3, and BSI. (Book chapter)

Watts, S., White, D. M., & Malm, A. AI in Policing: Capturing Police Performance (Good and Bad) in Routine, Rare, and Novel Events. (Book Chapter)

White, M. D., Watts, S., & Malm, A. (2025). An Evaluation of Truleo's AI-based Body-Worn Camera Analytics. (Preliminary findings: [pre-print](#))

## Publications

[Google Scholar Profile](#): total citations = 173, h-index = 7, i10-index = 6

#### PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

1. **Watts, S.**, del Pozo, B., White, D. M., & Malm, A. (2025) Implementation Science Natural Experiment: Does Automated Feedback Impact Officers' Perceptions? *Journal of Experimental Criminology*. (DOI)
2. White, M. D., **Watts, S.**, Malm, A., & Navarrete, G. B. (2025). Officer Acceptance and Use of AI-Driven Body-Worn Camera Footage Review. *American Journal of Criminal Justice*. (pre-print) (DOI)
3. White, M. D., Orosco, C., & **Watts, S.** (2025) Beyond Force and Injuries: Examining Alternative (and Important) Outcomes for Police De-escalation Training. *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 89, 102129. (DOI)
4. Brown, K., **Watts, S.**, Turner, P., & Wallace, D. (2025). How Does Proximity to Service Providers Impact Punitivity in Stop Outcomes for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness? *Journal of Crime and Justice*, 1-19. (DOI)
5. **Watts, S.**, White, M. D., Malm, A., & Perrone, D. (2024). Who is Fatigued? Examining Officer Attitudes Towards People Who Use Opioids, Naloxone, and Their Role in Responding to Opioid Overdoses. *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 95, 102308. (DOI)
6. **Watts, S.**, White, M. D., & Malm, A. (2024). Automating Body-Worn Camera Footage Review through AI: Preliminary Findings from a Multi-Site Randomized Control Trial. *Policing: A Journal of Policy and Practice*, 18, paae107. (pre-print) (DOI)
7. White, M. D., Monk, K., & **Watts, S.** (2023). A Half-Century Investigation of Police Officer Line-of-Duty Deaths: Putting Recent Trends in Long-Term Context. *Police Practice and Research*, 1-18. (DOI)
8. White, D. M., Orosco, C., & **Watts, S.** (2023). Can De-escalation Training Reduce Use of Force and Citizen Injury Without Compromising Officer Safety? *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, 1-26. (DOI)
9. White, M. D., **Watts, S.**, Orosco, C., Malm, A., & Perrone, D. (2022). Leveraging Body-Worn Camera Footage to Better Understand Opioid Overdoses and the Impact of Police-Led Naloxone Programs. *American Journal of Public Health*, 112(9), 1326-1332. (DOI)
10. Gaub, J., White, M., Malm, A., **Watts, S.**, & Brown, K. (2022). Investigation the Role and Utility of Body-Worn Cameras at the "George Floyd" Protests. *Policing: An International Journal*, 45(4), 633-647. (DOI)
11. White, M. D., Perrone, D., & **Watts, S.**, & Malm, A. (2021). Moving Beyond Narcan: A Police, Social Service, and Researcher Collaborative Response to the Opioid Crisis. *American Journal of Criminal Justice*, 46(4), 626-643. (DOI)
12. White, M. D., Malm, A., Perrone, D., & **Watts, S.** (2021). Narcan Cops: Officer Perceptions of Opioid Use and Willingness to Carry Naloxone. *Journal of Criminal Justice*, 72, 101778. (DOI)

#### STUDY PRE-REGISTRATIONS

Seth Watts, Michael D. White, & Aili Malm. "A Process and Outcome Evaluation of Automated Body-Worn Camera Review Technology in 3 Arizona Police Departments." Registered at OSF. Embargoed (pending results).

## RESEARCH BRIEFS & TECHNICAL REPORTS

1. Orosco, C., White, M. D., & **Watts, S.** Can de-escalation training reduce use of force and injuries to citizens without risking officer safety? *Applied Police Briefings*. (PDF)
2. **Watts, S.**, White, M. D., Malm, A., Orosco, C., & Perrone, D. Understanding Police Involvement at Opioid Overdose Incidents Through Body-Worn Camera Footage. *Applied Police Briefings*. (PDF)
3. White, M. D., Orosco, C., & **Watts, S.** More than Use of Force: Examining Alternative Outcomes for Police De-escalation. *Applied Police Briefings*. (PDF)
4. White, M. D., **Watts, S.**, Malm, A. A Process and Outcome Evaluation of Automated Body-Worn Camera Review Technology in 3 Arizona Police Departments, 6-month interim report. *Arnold Ventures*.
5. **Watts, S.**, White, M. D., Malm, A., Perrone, D. (2023) The Tempe First-Responder Opioid Recovery Project, Year 4 Interim Evaluation Report. *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration*.
6. **Watts, S.**, White, M. D., Malm, A., Perrone, D. (2022) The Tempe First-Responder Opioid Recovery Project, Year 3 Interim Evaluation Report. *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration*.
7. White, M. D., **Watts, S.**, Malm, A., Perrone, D. (2021) The Tempe First-Responder Opioid Recovery Project, Year 2 Interim Evaluation Report. *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration*.
8. White, M. D., **Watts, S.**, Malm, A., Perrone, D. (2020) The Tempe First-Responder Opioid Recovery Project, Year 1 Interim Evaluation Report. *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration*.

## Grant Activity

Graduate Research Assistant & Postdoctoral Researcher

2020-2025

A Process and Outcome Evaluation of Truleo's Automated Body-Worn Camera Review Technology in Three Arizona Police Departments. Funded by: Arnold Ventures. 2024 - 2025 (\$501,238). Supervisor: Dr. Michael D. White

The Effect of Automated Body-Camera Review on Officers' Professionalism and Behavioral Outcomes. Funded by: Arnold Ventures. June – December 2023 (\$99,980; planning grant). Supervisor: Dr. Michael D. White

The Tempe First-Responder Opioid Recovery Project Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Arizona State University. Funded by: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services administration. 2020 – 2023 (\$400,000). Supervisor: Dr. Michael D. White

Technical Assistance Provider for the National Body-Worn Camera Pilot Implementation Program Center for Violence Prevention and Community Safety, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Arizona State University. Funded by: Bureau of Justice Assistance. 2020 – 2022 (\$800,000). Supervisor: Dr. Michael D. White

## Media

Salsgiver, J. (January 20, 2026) SMPD trains eligible officers in mental health. *University Star*. ([Link](#))

Salsgiver, J. (January 9, 2026). San Marcos sees decline in fentanyl overdoses. *University Star*. ([Link](#))

Goacher, D. (February 8, 2024). Tempe City Council Funds Project Addressing Opioid Overdose Response, Counseling. *Arizona State Press*. ([Link](#))

Watts, S. (September 16, 2022). Research Backs Police Response To Drug Overdoses. *Crime and Justice News*. ([Link](#))

White D. M., Perrone, D., Malm, A., & Watts, S. (September 16, 2021). The Tempe First-Responder Opioid Recovery Project. *Public Health Post*. ([Link](#))

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS<sup>1</sup>

Watts, S., White, M. D., & Malm, A. (November, 2025). Can AI-Driven Body-Worn Camera Review Improve Police Officer Professionalism? Findings from Three Randomized Control Trials in Arizona. *American Society of Criminology*. Sponsored by the Division of Experimental Criminology.

Watts, S., White, M. D., & Malm, A. (April, 2025). Perceptions, Use, and Impact of Truleo in Three Arizona Law Enforcement Agencies. *American Society of Evidence-Based Policing*.

Abrica, C., White, M. D., Malm, A., & Watts, S. (February, 2025). A process evaluation of AI-driven body-worn camera review: Assessing officer perceptions pre and post. *Western Society of Criminology conference*.<sup>P</sup>

Watts, S., White, M. D., & Malm, A. (November, 2024). How do Officers Perceive AI-based BWC Review Technology? Evidence from 6 Months of Survey Data. *American Society of Criminology*. Sponsored by the division of Policing.

White, M. D., Malm, A., & Watts, S. (November, 2024). Automating Body-Worn Camera Footage Review Through AI: Preliminary Findings from a Multi-Site Randomized Control Trial. *American Society of Criminology*. Sponsored by the division of Experimental Criminology.<sup>P</sup>

Watts, S. & White, M. D. (November, 2024). Collaborative Post-Overdose Outreach Efforts to Engage Homeless Individuals. *American Society of Criminology*.

White, M. D. & Watts, S. (June, 2024). Exploring the Drivers of Resistance to Police-Led Naloxone Programs. *American Society of Evidence-Based Policing*.

Gutierrez, S., Mathis, S., Sanuth, A., Watts, S., & Wallace, D. (February, 2024). Is Law-Violating Driving Behavior Race Specific? Mapping Rates of At-Fault Traffic Accidents by Race. *Western Society of Criminology*.<sup>P</sup>

Watts, S., White, M. D., Malm, A., & Perrone, D. (November, 2023). The Durability of Police Officers' Attitudes about Naloxone and Opioid Overdose Response: 'Narcan Cops' Revisited. *American Society of Criminology*.

---

<sup>1</sup>Presented by coauthor (P)

Watts, S., White, M. D., Malm, A., & Perrone, D. (November, 2022). The Tempe First Responder Opioid Recovery Project. *American Society of Criminology*.

White, M. D., Watts, S., Orosco, C., Malm, A., & Perrone, D (March, 2022). Myth busting Police-Led Naloxone Programs with Body-Worn Camera Footage. *Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences*.

White, M. D., Orosco, C. A., Watts, S., Malm, A., & Perrone, D (2020). The Tempe First Responder Opioid Recovery Project. *Southern Criminal Justice Association*.<sup>P</sup>

#### OTHER PRESENTATIONS

Watts, S. Repeatability, Reproducibility, and Replicability: Developing Transparent and Efficient Workflows. (November, 2025). Texas State University CJ “brown bag” series.

White, M. D., Watts, S., & Malm, A. (March, 2025). Perceptions, use, and impact of Truleo in three Arizona law enforcement agencies. Truleo’s AI Innovation Day.<sup>P</sup>

White, M. D. & Watts, S. (January, 2024). Making the Invisible Visible: Body-Worn Cameras as a Tool for Uncovering Bad (and Good) Policing. ASU CCJ Colloquium Series.

#### Teaching Experience

##### *Texas State University*

CJ: 4310 Special Problems in the Criminal Justice System (In-person) Spring 2026

CJ: 4310 Special Problems in the Criminal Justice System (Online) Fall 2025

#### Awards

American Society of Criminology, Division of Policing Outstanding Dissertation Award 2025

American Society of Criminology, Division of Policing Travel Award 2024

#### Activities and Service

##### GUEST LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS

“Graphics in Stata,” workshop at Arizona State University. September 20, 2024.

“Table-making in Stata,” workshop at Arizona State University. April 12, 2024.

##### CONFERENCES ATTENDED

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 2022

American Society of Criminology 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

American Society of Evidence-Based Policing 2024, 2025

## MANUSCRIPT REVIEWS

*Criminal Justice & Behavior*

*Journal of Drug Issues*

*Journal of Experimental Criminology*

*Journal of Harm Reduction*

*Police Practice and Research: An International Journal*

*Policing: A Journal of Policy and Practice*

*Policing: An International Journal*

## Professional Affiliations

American Society of Evidence-Based Policing

American Society of Criminology

Western Society of Criminology

## References

Available upon request.