SHAWN D. BUSHWAY

Shawn D. Bushway is Professor of Criminal Justice in the School of Criminal Justice and Professor of Public Administration and Policy in the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy at the University at Albany. He earned a B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Notre Dame and a Ph.D. in Public Policy Analysis and Political Economy from the H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy and Management at Carnegie Mellon University. He is an Executive Counselor on the American Society of Criminology's Executive Board, and a member of the editorial boards of Criminology, Journal of Experimental Criminology, Journal of Quantitative Criminology, and the Journal of Research on Crime and Delinquency. He is also a member of the New York Permanent Commission on Sentencing.

Shawn has done research in three distinct areas: the relationship between work and crime, the effect of discretion in criminal justice processing, and the study of desistance/dynamic change. Occasionally, the areas intersect, such as his collection of studies on redemption. This work was driven by legal questions surrounding the appropriate role of criminal history records, particularly old criminal history records, in employment decisions. Shawn's analysis of long term hazard rates with co-authors Robert Brame and Megan Kurlychek helped to establish that first time youthful offenders eventually have the same levels of risk as non-offenders seven to ten years after their conviction.   These results have raised questions about the validity of lifetime bans against those with criminal history records. A recent paper with Dutch colleagues has extended this work for older offenders with multiple convictions in an international context, and another recent paper in Criminology with Brame and Kurlychek has focused on using long term hazards to describe the nature of desistance. They found the strongest support for a model in which people have constant rates of offending along with a substantial probability of near instantaneous desistance after the most recent offense. This model, if correct, changes the problem for employers from one where they have to wait for individuals to gradually desist to one where they need to identify individuals who have already desisted.