




The Inaugural Issue

We are proud to introduce you to *Crime and Grits*, the official newsletter of the Southern Criminal Justice Association (SCJA). It will be published quarterly and archived on the SCJA website. *Crime and Grits* contains information on the SCJA's upcoming events and recent developments and highlights what makes the SCJA the favorite association among many, our membership and partners. If you have news, information, or suggestions, please email it to CrimeandGrits@gmail.com.

The SCJA Family Gathers at ASC!

Why wait until September 2019 to see your SCJA family? Join us in Atlanta this **Wednesday (November 14th)** during the annual American Society of Criminology conference. We'll be at **Braves All Star Grill (200 Peachtree Street)** from **4:00-6:00 p.m.**


Our Southern hospitality is in full effect! Food and drinks will be provided, and non-members are welcome. Bring your non-member friends and introduce them to the family. Can't wait to see you there!



SOUTHERN CRIMINAL JUSTICE
ASSOCIATION RECEPTION

ATLANTA

@ BRAVES ALL STAR GRILL



Wednesday, November 14, 2018 4 - 6 PM
200 Peachtree Street
Food & Drinks Provided - Non-Members Welcome - Casual

For Questions:
Andy Hansen
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Meet Your SCJA Officers and Board of Directors

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This Edition of *Crime and Grits* was brought to you by:

Julie Baldwin, American University
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Abigail Novak, University of Florida
Ráchael Powers, University of South Florida

Spotlight: SCJA Photographer and Lifetime Member

You may know Dr. Kania as the official SCJA photographer who has a smiling disposition and interest in capturing the best that SCJA has to offer. **As a member since the early 1970's, Dr. Kania has rarely missed an SCJA conference and considers it his favorite criminal justice organization.** Since 2005, he has worked at Jacksonville State University, specializing in enforcement policy, media and community relations, and criminal justice system management.



As a graduate student at the University of Virginia, Dr. Kania enjoyed the small feel of the SCJA's practitioner-oriented association and the opportunity to have one-on-one interactions with some of the most famous names in the field of policing research. He fondly remembers meeting Dr. Lawrence Sherman who had read a recent article of Dr. Kania's that inspired a current project at the time. One of his most treasured SCJA memories was in Biloxi, Mississippi, where he was struck by the sound of Chopin being played on the hotel piano. Little did he know, pianist was also a member at the conference. Her musical talents and intellectual prowess impressed him and, to him, embodies the joy of the SCJA. **Those intangible interactions would become a routine experience for him as he got to know the repeating SCJA membership year after year.**

Dr. Kania's passion for photography began when he was roughly 10 years old and was gifted a camera. Taking after his father and uncle, who was a professional police photographer, his passion for capturing the human experience grew into adulthood. **In the early years of his career, he would take his camera to conferences to take photos of his friends and colleagues.** In 1990 his reputation for photography had made its way to the SCJA president, who asked him to become the unofficial-official photographer. This ultimately developed into a proper title where he now provides the photos for all SCJA conferences and award ceremonies.

To thank Dr. Kania for his life-long commitment and service to the SCJA, the SCJA leadership has awarded Dr. Kania a lifetime membership to the association. Please join the Executive Board in honoring and thanking a man whose presence at SCJA has become a staple of our conferences and association life.

Thank you, Dr. Kania, for all that you do.

Law Enforcement Response to Hurricane Michael



After our SCJA conference left the Florida Panhandle, Hurricane Michael made its way through the region. Law enforcement officers across the Southeast were deployed to the Florida Panhandle to assist in Hurricane Michael relief efforts.

Sixteen states sent law enforcement officers and emergency management personnel through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, including officers from Mississippi and Louisiana. In total, over 1,800 sworn law enforcement personnel from

Florida were deployed to impacted areas. They provided additional assistance to members of the public and maintained public safety.

Thank you to all those who offered and provided assistance!

AJCJ Article Spotlight: Volume 42, Issue 4

In each newsletter, we'll be introducing you to one of the leading articles in the upcoming edition of the *American Journal of Criminal Justice*, our organization's journal. This month we've chosen to highlight the work of an SCJA member Albert Kopak entitled "Correlations of Program Success and Recidivism among Participants in Adult Pre-Arrest Diversion Program." Kopak's work, coauthored by Greg Frost, won the journal's annual article award competition in September and will be printed in the December issue.

Kopak's work explores "deflection" program data from Leon County Florida (adult pre-arrest diversion programs) to evaluate factors associated with successful program completion and avoidance of post-program recidivism. It indicates that a number of behavioral health items are predictive of program success and recidivism avoidance. It's a great work, clearly written, and contributes to a growing, but still underdeveloped area of research. As deflection programs become more common, it's likely that this work will grow in importance. Check it out in Issue #2 in December!

The Pensacola Conference Recap

The 2018 SCJA “Making a Difference about Crime and Justice” Conference was held in Pensacola Beach, Florida between September 12th and 15th. Word around the halls of academia is that it was another successful conference with engaging panels and enjoyable SCJA family interactions!

Notably, the conference had a record-breaking number of panels and roundtables (and tied our record number of poster presentations). This year, conference attendees received the beloved SCJA coffee cups and beach towels! Many put these to use, so please thank the past president, Dr. Marv Krohn, for selecting these goodies and creating the beach costume contest. Thank you, contestants, for giving us all a good laugh! On a serious note, the large panels tied to the them were a new addition to our programing and were a hit. Those research presentations will all be appearing in a future special issue of AJCJ.

Re-live the fun memories and forward to making more next year in Nashville, Tennessee.



2019 Conference: SCJA in Music City!



SCJA 2019 will be held September 10-13 in the beautiful DoubleTree by Hilton in downtown Nashville Tennessee.

Enjoy great networking, numerous receptions, student opportunities and special panels centered around the theme: "Improving the Efficiency and Quality of Criminology Research and Education."

Registration is just \$5 for students and \$50 for members. To submit an abstract go to www.southerncj.org Hotel information is also available via the website. Members may receive the conference rate of \$189 by following [this link](#) or by using "SCJ" as the code. This is an extremely good rate for Nashville (the typical cost would exceed \$300), so **reserve your room early!** (Note: the conference rate is available up to three nights before or after the conference, but Hilton is currently unable to provide a link for that discount. Just book your conference days and then email kristen.robillard@hilton.com asking her to extend your stay before or after the conference. It is unlikely that you'll be able to reserve additional days unless you do it early!).

See you in Nashville!

Join the SCJA Family!

There are numerous benefits to joining the Southern Criminal Justice Association! Among them are:

- Discounted rates at the best regional association conference!
 - o We only visit great locations including Nashville (2019), Pensacola Beach (2018), New Orleans (2017), Savannah (2016), and Charleston (2015).
 - o SCJA has a welcoming, friendly atmosphere suited for professional fellowship, networking, and research presentations.
 - o There are numerous social receptions and activities for faculty and students.
 - o Student members are eligible for a variety of financial awards such as the student poster competition and three other annual awards. In addition, the association hosts two networking meals for students to meet with board members and journal editors.
- Plus, members get a subscription to the *American Journal of Criminal Justice* and an electronic subscription to the *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*.

The cost of SCJA membership is a bargain at only \$15 for students and \$50 for faculty members. Three-year memberships are also available for \$140 and lifetime memberships for \$500.

Member states include Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, South Carolina, North Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, but you don't have to be a resident or work in those states to join – we welcome everyone!

Visit southerncj.org for more information. To sign up, just click on the membership tab and register! Paypal, credit card, and even good ole fashioned checks are accepted.

See you at our annual conference in Nashville September 10th – 13th!

Thoughts from the President

Fellow SCJA Members,

I appreciate you taking time to read this first edition of *Crime and Grits* and hope that you enjoy the efforts that the newsletter committee are making to keep you better informed about SCJA activities during the months between our conferences. I think Julie, Ráchael, and their committee did an excellent job of capturing the spirit and enthusiasm of SCJA. I asked that the inaugural issue reflect the hospitality that makes our conference so well attended every year-- modeling it after our association's unique blend of professionalism and panache (I guess this charge led the committee to select a picture from Marv's costume event in Pensacola rather than a presidential-looking photo for me). I look forward to seeing the next issue and how this newsletter will evolve in the future. In my sections of those future editions, I'll summarize our other 2019 initiatives focused on expanding our membership, modernizing our procedures and policies, and improving our already great conferences.



Please consider attending our ASC reception and registering for our 2019 conference. Nashville is one of my favorite cities and a great place for a conference. We expect to exceed the attendance records we set in 2018 and expand upon our use of large thematic panels.

If you have any questions about SCJA, please don't hesitate to contact me or any other board members.

John Stogner
University of North Carolina at Charlotte
Southern Criminal Justice Association President