

Maryland Crime Research & Innovation Center

MCRIC

MCRIC Insights

Hello MCRIC Community,

We are excited to **welcome** two new members to our team! Pritesh Jain joins us as a Research Data Analyst. And Jocelyn (Joce) Evens joins us as a Project Manager.

At **MCRIC**, we are focused on providing research and data analysis to support public safety efforts across Maryland communities and beyond. In our **Project Spotlight** below, we are excited to highlight an important collaboration with the Annapolis Police Department to conduct a **data-informed workload analysis**.

We are also proud to share a new collaborative effort with the Center for Substance Abuse, Addiction, and Health Research (CESAR) to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of **law-enforcement assisted diversion** programs aimed at addressing the opioid epidemic in Maryland.

If you are interested in learning more about these projects, or want to discuss partnership opportunities to help address your public safety needs, you can reach us at: MCRIC-contact@umd.edu.

Bianca Bersani, PhD

Director, Maryland Crime Research and Innovation Center

Project Spotlight:

Law Enforcement Workload Analysis

Current nationwide challenges related to the recruitment and retention of police officers make insights on adequate staffing and resource allocation critical for law enforcement agencies. An effective way to understand and navigate these challenges is to undertake a **data-informed workload analysis**. MCRIC is engaged in research with the Annapolis Police Department to understand its workload related issues and identify opportunities. Continued on page 2.

Project Spotlight: Workload Analysis (continued)

The MCRIC research team - Dr. Bersani, Dr. Glazener, Sperry, Donohue, and Feeney - are combining multiple data points to garner a more complete picture of the current workload, considering the seasonal, geographic, and social factors that are unique to the city, as well as perceptions of specific challenges and opportunities that APD currently faces.

Effective resource allocation is crucial for law enforcement agencies to ensure public safety, maintain operational efficiency, and meet the needs of their communities.

The MCRIC research study will help APD make decisions on optimizing posts, shifts, patrol areas, and community outreach officer deployment, and estimate needs for additional workforce to support public safety services.



Dr. Bianca Bersani
MCRIC Director



Dr. Emily Glazener
Research Affiliate



Torri Sperry
CCJS



Frank Donohue
CCJS



Erika Feeney
CCJS

Welcoming New Members of the MCRIC Team



Pritesh Jain, BA, MBA, received his MS in Supply Chain Management from the University of Maryland, College Park.

He is a quantitative methodologist with expertise in data-driven analytics, data visualization, artificial intelligence and machine learning.



Jocelyn Evens, BA, completed her MA in Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Research interests include white collar and corporate crime, environmental crime, gender, and deterrence strategies.

Meet the full MCRIC Team [HERE](#)

