

# Danielle M. Thomas

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Doctoral Student

Department of Criminology ▪ University of South Florida ▪ Tampa, FL 33620

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## EDUCATION

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### University of South Florida (USF)

PhD ▪ Criminology

Anticipated 2026

Graduate Student Success (GSS) Fellowship

### University of South Florida (USF)

MA ▪ Criminology

2022

### University of South Florida (USF)

BA ▪ Criminology and Psychology

2020

Magna cum laude

## AREAS OF INTEREST

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Corrections ▪ Program Evaluation ▪ CJ Practitioner Decision-Making ▪ Employment and Crime

## PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

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Grosholz, J.M., **Thomas, D.M.**, Stone, S.S., Fogel, S., & Porcelli, T. “Nobody is really going to hire a 69-year-old man with a felony record”: Challenges finding employment for older, formerly incarcerated individuals. *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*.

Santos, M. R., Jaynes, C. M., **Thomas, D. M.** (2024). Informing the recruitment crisis in policing: Evaluating which incentives can entice the best candidates among college students. *Criminology & Public Policy*.

Santos, M.R., Jaynes, C.M., & **Thomas, D.M.** (2023). How to Overcome the Cost of a Criminal Record for Getting Hired. *Criminology*, 61(3): 582-621.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

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**Thomas, D. M.**, Grosholz, J. M., Dunn, W. (2024). Beyond the Verdict: Navigating the Long-Term Consequences of Wrongful Convictions on Reentry, Employment, and Identity. (Will be published in the Divisions of Corrections and Sentencing Lived Experience Issue).

**Thomas, D. M.**, & Grosholz, J. M. (2023). “Some Kind of Light at the End of the Tunnel”: Understanding the Importance of Prison Programming for Older, Life-Sentenced Incarcerated Men. In Handbook on Prisons and Jails (pp. 22-41). Routledge.

## GRANT APPLICATIONS

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### Awarded

2023 Jaynes, C.M., & Santos, M.R., **Thomas, D.M.** & Loughran, T.A. (2023). Informing the Employment Crisis in Criminal Justice: The Effect of Financial Incentives on Law Enforcement Officer Retention. USF, Center for Justice Research & Policy. \$10,000 – funded.

### Submitted

2022 Jaynes, C. (PI), Santos, M.R. (co-PI), Blount, R., **Thomas, D.M.**, Smith, K., (2022). Predictors of Desistance Among Those Who Were Formerly Incarcerated: A Longitudinal Investigation of Reentry Interventions. NIJ FY22 Research and Evaluation on Desistance from Crime (O-NIJ-2022-171220). National Institute of Justice / U.S. Department of Justice. \$562,450.

2022-2025 Jaynes, C. (PI), Santos, M.R. (co-PI), Blount, R., **Thomas, D.M.**, Smith, K., Oderinde, A., Cochran, J. *Aiding in Reentry (AiR): Comprehensive Support for Reentering Individuals Pre- and Post-Release*. Pathway Home 3 (FOA-ETA-22-04). U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. Funds Requested: \$1,463,830.00.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Research Assistant** ▪ USF. Supervisors: Dr. Chae Jaynes, Dr. Mateus Santos

Jan. 2021-present

**Research Assistant** ▪ USF. Supervisors: Dr. Jessica Grosholz, Dr. Sandra Stone, and Dr. Sondra Fogel

June 2021-Dec. 2022

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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\*nominated

### Awarded

Regina B. Shearn Scholarship - \$2,000 ▪ Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences 2024

\*Criminology Wall of Fame ▪ USF 2023

Alpha Phi Sigma Honor Society ▪ USF 2023

Scott Allen Memorial Travel Award ▪ USF 2022

Graduate Student Success Fellowship ▪ USF 2022-2026

### Submitted

Dr. Kimchi Student Travel Award ▪ American Society of Criminology (ASC) 2023  
\*Outstanding Thesis and Dissertation Award ▪ USF 2022

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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- Thomas, D. M.**, Santos, M. R., Jaynes, C. M. (2024, Mar 21). Addressing the criminal justice recruitment crisis: Analyzing factors that influence applications among college students. Academy of the Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL.
- Thomas, D.M.**, Jaynes, C.M., & Santos, M.R. (2023). Does Time Heal All?: Evaluating The Effect of Time Since Conviction on the Employability of Applicants with a Criminal Record. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology in Philadelphia, PA.
- Thomas, D.M.** (2023, March 4). Council of Southern Graduate Schools (CSGS) Conference. Downtown, Tampa, FL.
- Szempruch, J., Grosholz, J., O'Malley, R., & **Thomas, D. M.** (2022). The power of books: Understanding the Potential Transition from Physical to Digital Libraries. Presented on a roundtable at the American Society of Criminology meetings, Atlanta, GA.
- Thomas, D.M.** (2022). Evaluating the effectiveness of the LIFERS program at Sumter Correctional Institution. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology meetings, Atlanta, GA.
- Stone, S.S., Grosholz, J.M., Fogel, S., **Thomas, D.M.**, & Porcelli, T.N. (2022). Understanding the Connection Between Housing and Family Reunification Challenges for Older, Formerly Incarcerated Individuals. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology meetings, Atlanta, GA.
- Porcelli, T.N., Grosholz, J.M., Stone, S.S., Fogel, S., & **Thomas, D.M.** (2022). Elderly, Unemployed, and Disadvantaged: The Realities of Older, Formerly Incarcerated Individuals Seeking Financial Stability. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology meetings, Atlanta, GA.
- Grosholz, J.M., Stone, S.S., Fogel, S., **Thomas, D.M.**, & Porcelli, T.N. (2022). "Health is everything": Understanding health and healthcare challenges for formerly incarcerated individuals. Paper presented at the American Society of Criminology meetings, Atlanta, GA.
- Grosholz, J.M., Stone, S.S., Fogel, S., **Thomas, D.M.**, & Porcelli, T.N. (2022). Leaving Prison When Older: How Communities can Prepare for Older Formerly Incarcerated Individuals. Paper presented at the Palm Beach Reentry Summit, West Palm Beach, FL.
- Corts, M., Jaynes, C.M., **Thomas, D.M.**, Smith, K., Thakkar, S. (2022). Job Search Methodologies Among Those with and without a Criminal Record: A Nationwide Comparative Analysis. Paper presented at the *USF Summer Research Institute* in Tampa, FL.

**Thomas, D.M.**, Porcelli, T.N., Grosholz, J.M., Stone, S.S., & Fogel, S. (2022). Understanding the reentry experiences of older formerly incarcerated individuals. Paper presented at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences meetings in Las Vegas, NV.

### **INVITED TALKS AND COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS**

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Jaynes, C.M., Santos, M.R., **Thomas, D.M.**, Smith, K. (2024, April 26). Does Time Heal All? Evaluating the Effect of Time Since Conviction on Employability. Raising the Bar: Restorative Justice and Prison Reduction Symposium, Tampa, FL.

**Thomas, D. M.** (2024, April 2). Educational Pathways and Reentry in the Community. Noah Community Outreach Transitional Living. Tampa, FL.

**Thomas, D.M.** (2023, October 20). Criminal Justice Reentry Summit. Tampa, FL.

Santos, M.R., Jaynes, C.M., & **Thomas, D.M.** (2023, August 8). The Criminology Academy Podcast.

**Thomas, D.M.** (2023, June 9). LIFER's Program Graduation at Sumter Correctional Institutional. Bushnell, Florida.

**Thomas, D.M.** (2023, February 21). Tampa Reentry Roundtable Event – Moderator. The Downtown, Tampa, FL.

**Thomas, D. M.** (2022, October 29) Criminal Justice Reentry Summit. Tampa Preparatory School, Tampa, FL.

**Thomas, D.M.** (2022, June 24). Reentry Seminar. Zephyrhills Correctional Institution. Zephyrhills, FL.

**Thomas, D.M.** (2022, June 21). Reentry 2.0 Meeting. Via Zoom.

**Thomas, D.M.** (2022, April 5). Pasco County Reentry Alliance Meeting.

**Thomas, D.M.** (2022, March 30). Educational Pathways. Dr. Colby Valentine's CCJ 4010: American Correctional Systems Course. University of South Florida, Department of Criminology, Tampa, FL.

**Thomas, D.M.** (2022, February 7). Educational Pathways. Dr. Chae Jaynes's CCJ 4934, Seminar in Criminology: Aiding in Prison Reentry ("Bulls Air") Course. University of South Florida, Department of Criminology, Tampa, FL.

### **COURSES: TEACHING ASSISTANT (University of South Florida)**

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Domestic Violence

Introduction to Criminological Theories

Survey of the CJ System

Crime and Justice in America

Research Methods

### **SERVICE TO THE FIELD**

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**Ad-Hoc Manuscript Reviewer**

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS**

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**American Society of Criminology** ▪ Member of the Division on Corrections and Sentencing

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

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Directing a Reentry Program (Aiding in Reentry) in Florida Prisons (May 2024 – present) ▪  
Community Corrections Reentry Simulation (March 2023; October 2023) ▪ LIFELINE University  
Reentry Roundtable Summit (October 2022) ▪ Safe and Sound Hillsborough County Meeting (June  
2022) ▪ Tampa Bay Second Chance Reentry Roundtable Linking in Faith and Education (LIFE)  
Summit (April 2022 Summit – Pasco Hernando State College) ▪ Pasco County Reentry Alliance  
Meeting (February 2022 – June 2024) ▪ Executive Secretary Sumter Correctional Institution LIFERs  
Program (January 2020 – present)