Updated: September 2026

ISABELLA ELENA CASTILLO, M.A.

Ph.D. Candidate (ABD) • Health Policy Research Scholar
411 N. Central Avenue, Suite 600, Phoenix, AZ 85004
isabellacastillo@asu.edu • www.isabellaecastillo.com • LinkedIn

EDUCATION

Exp. 5/2027 **Ph.D. in Criminology and Criminal Justice**
Arizona State University
Dissertation Title: "The Hidden Strain: Understanding the Health Implications of Policing on Families with Autistic Loved Ones"
Dissertation Committee: Drs. Danielle Wallace (Chair), Kay Varela, and Joseph Schafer

5/2023 **M.A. in Criminology and Criminal Justice**
University of Maryland
Thesis Title: "Dissecting the Dark Figure of Disablist Violence: Intersectional Variations in Reporting across Disability Types"
Thesis Committee: Drs. Brooklynn Hitchens (Chair), Rachel Ellis, and Min Xie

5/2021 **B.A. in International Studies & B.A. in Italian**
Indiana University
High Distinction and Departmental Honors
Minors: Criminal Justice and Psychology

Additional Academic Training

2024-2027 **Health Policy Research Scholar, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation**
2024-2025 **Watts Inclusive Design Scholar**
2024 **International Summer School for Policing**

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Disability
Health and Wellbeing
Impact of Criminal Justice System on Families
Mixed Methods
Perceptions and Feelings of Safety
Police Behavior and Training
Public Safety and Emergency Response
Race and Ethnicity

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed (n=7)

Maguire, E., **Castillo, I.E.**, & Werstler, S. (2026). Inaction as illegitimacy: Crowd perceptions of police during the 2024 Copa América Stadium Breach. *Policing & Society,* 1-17. https://doi.org/10.1080/10439463.2026.2723087

Wallace, D., & **Castillo, I.E.** (2026). Do the police see individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities as dangerous? *Societies, 16*(4), 121. https://doi.org/10.3390/soc16040121

Wallace, D., Tapp, K., Parry, M., & **Castillo, I.E.** (2025). Parents' and caregivers' perspectives on what the police should and shouldn't do during interactions with autistic individuals. *Police Practice and Research: An International Journal, 27*(4), 1-21. https://doi.org/10.1080/15614263.2025.2563624

Webb, L., **Castillo, I.E.**, Holingue, C., Testa, A., Wallace, D., & Jackson, D.B. (2025). Police contact and mental health among adolescents with autism: Findings from the UK Millennium Cohort Study. *Journal of Adolescent Health, 77*(5), 1-9. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2025.05.022

Roberts, R., **Castillo, I.E.**, White, D. R., & Schafer, J. (2025). Police cynicism: A state-of-the-art literature review. *Policing: An International Journal, 48*(2), 421–442. https://doi.org/10.1108/PIJPSM-08-2024-0142

Castillo, I.E. (2024). Disability's dark figure of violence: Reporting variations across intersections of disability type, race, ethnicity, and sex. *Criminal Justice and Behavior, 51*(10), https://doi.org/10.1177/00938548241262489

Hitchens, B. K., Miller, J. C., Payne, Y. A., Sun, I. Y., & **Castillo, I.E.** (2023). More than race? Intragroup differences by gender and age in perceptions of police among street-identified Black men and women. *Law and Human Behavior, 47*(6), 634–653, https://doi.org/10.1037/lhb0000544

Manuscripts Under Review (n=4)

Wallace, D., **Castillo, I.E.**, & Hedberg, E. C. Understanding the paths between disability-related impairment, use of force, and serious injury or death in serious use of force incidents by the police. Under review at *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency.*

Lakshman, M., **Castillo, I.E.**, Hollie, K., Belcher, H. M. E., & Fix, R. Marked by the stop: How disability and internalizing symptoms shape adolescent stigma and trauma post-police contact. Under review at *Youth & Society.*

Terpstra, B., Schafer, J. A., Hibdon, J., **Castillo, I.E.**, Williamson, S., & Forai, K. Intrinsic and Extrinsic Strategies to Improve Law Enforcement Officer Retention: The Perceived Roles of Compensation, Officer Well-Being, and Agency Culture. Under review at *Policing: An International Journal*.

Jones, T., Schafer, J. A., Huebner, B., Slocum, L., & **Castillo, I.E.** Balancing safety and support: PSCP and patrol officer discretion in calls with frequent callers and emotionally disturbed persons.

Academic Books in Progress (n=1)

Maguire, E., Kapuria, M., & **Castillo, I.E.** Understanding crimes against women in India: Patterns, challenges, and solutions.

Manuscripts in Progress (n=3)

Schafer, J. A., Huebner, B., Slocum, L., Jones, T., & **Castillo, I.E.** The craft of call taking and dispatching: How public safety communications personnel's discretionary decisions shape emergency response and police decisions.

Castillo, I.E., Wallace, D., Schafer, J., & White, D.R. Engaging the Autistic Community and Organizational Climate: Perspectives of Police Leaders.

Castillo, I.E. & Wallace, D. Fear of Contact: How Policing Impacts the Health and Wellbeing of Families. Book chapter for the *Oxford University Press Book on Crime & Health*.

Professional Reports (n=2)

Schafer, J., Slocum, L., Huebner, B., Spanoudakis, K., Jones, T., & **Castillo, I.E.** (2025). "Gatekeeping Justice: The Role of Communications Personnel in Shaping Public Safety Outcomes." Report prepared for the Safety & Justice Challenge under the MacArthur Foundation.

Schafer, J., Hibdon, J., & **Castillo, I.E.** (2024). "Recruitment, Retention, and Promotion: Lessons from High-Success CALEA Agencies." Report prepared for The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

External

2026 Vulnerability and Policing Futures Research Centre, *Funded Place at the 8th International Law Enforcement and Public Health Conference*, £615.

2024-2027 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, *Health Policy Research Scholar*, $90,000.

Internal

2026 ASU School of Social Work Scholarly Opportunities for Advancing Research (SSW SOAR) Seed Grant, *Co-PI with Dr. Danielle Wallace*, $15,658.

2026 ASU Graduate College 2026-2027 Q1 Travel Award, $500.

2026 ASU Graduate Student Government (GSG) 2025-2026 Individual Travel Award, $950.

2024-2025 Inclusive Design for Equity and Access Scholarship. $10,000.

2024 Graduate College 2024-2025 Q1 Travel Award, Arizona State University. $300.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Arizona State University
School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Graduate Research Assistant

August 2023 – Present **Danielle Wallace, Ph.D.**
Notable Projects
- Understanding the paths between disability-related impairment, use of force, and serious injury or death in serious use of force incidents by the police
- Do the police see individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities as dangerous?
- Parents' and caregivers' perspectives on what the police should and shouldn't do during interactions with autistic individuals

August 2025 – May 2026 **Edward Maguire, Ph.D. (Public Safety Innovation Lab)**
Notable Projects
- Understanding crimes against women in India: Patterns, challenges, and solutions
- Inaction as illegitimacy: Crowd perceptions of police during the 2024 Copa América Stadium Breach

May 2023 – July 2025 **Joseph Schafer, Ph.D.**
Notable Projects
- Gatekeeping Justice: The Role of Communications Personnel in Shaping Public Safety Outcomes, funded by the MacArthur Foundation Safety & Justice Challenge
- Recruitment, Retention, and Promotion: Lessons from High-Success Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) Agencies
- Engaging the Autistic Community and Organizational Climate: Perspectives of Future Police Leaders

University of Maryland
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Graduate Research Assistant

May 2022 – July 2022 **Brooklynn Hitchens, Ph.D.**
Notable Projects
More than race? Intragroup differences by gender and age in perceptions of police among street-identified Black men and women

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Arizona State University
School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Course Instructor

- Introduction to Substantive Criminal Law (CRJ250)
- Research Methods (CRJ302)
- Statistical Analysis (CRJ303)
- Inequality, Crime, and Criminal Justice (CRJ304)
- Criminology (CRJ309)
- Police Accountability (CRJ409)

Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions Office of Inclusive Design
Course Creator

- I designed a fully accessible, open-access, five-module course entitled "Disability Inclusion: What Public Service Leaders Need to Know," aimed at bridging the gap between disability inclusion and public service leadership within and outside ASU.

University of Maryland
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Graduate Teaching Assistant

- Introduction to Criminal Justice (CCJS100)

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

Castillo, I.E. (2026, June). *Disability, Policing, and The Hidden Strain Project*. Camp Connections, Bloomington, IN.

Castillo, I.E. (2024, October). *Accessible Social Media: Tips and Tricks for Promoting Equity and Inclusion*. Disability and Criminal Justice Working Group, Virtual.

Panel Presentations

Castillo, I.E. (forthcoming). *Behavioral Intervention and Support: De-escalation Techniques for Law Enforcement and Home & Crisis Management and Planning*. HANDS in Autism Developmental Disabilities and Autism ECHO Webinar Series, Virtual.

Castillo, I.E. (forthcoming). *Crisis Intervention Team and Mobile Crisis Assistance Team Explained*. HANDS in Autism Developmental Disabilities and Autism ECHO Webinar Series, Virtual.

Conference Presentations

Castillo, I.E. (forthcoming). *The Hidden Strain: Understanding the Health Implications of Policing on Families with Autistic Loved Ones*. American Society of Criminology, Chicago, IL.

Jones, T., Schafer, J. A., Huebner, B., Slocum, L., & **Castillo, I.E.** (forthcoming). *Balancing Safety and Support: PSCP and Patrol Officer Discretion in Calls with Frequent Callers and Emotionally Disturbed Persons*. American Society of Criminology, Chicago, IL.

Castillo, I.E., Wallace, D., Schafer, J., & White, D.R. (2026, September). *Engaging the Autistic Community and Organizational Climate: Perspectives of Future Police Leaders*. The 8th International Conference on Law Enforcement & Public Health, Leeds, UK.

Wallace, D., & **Castillo, I.E.** (2026, September). *Do the Police See Individuals with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities as Dangerous?*. The 8th International Conference on Law Enforcement & Public Health, Leeds, UK.

Castillo, I.E., Lakshman, M., Hollie, K., Belcher, H. M. E., & Fix, R. (2026, May). *Marked by the Stop: How Disability and Internalizing Symptoms Shape Adolescent Stigma and Trauma Post-Police Contact* [Poster]. Academy Health, Seattle, WA.

Wallace, D., Schafer, J., **Castillo, I.E.**, & White, D.R. (2026, February). *Engaging the Autistic Community and Organizational Climate: Perspectives of Future Police Leaders*. Western Society of Criminology, Denver, CO.

Castillo, I.E. (2025, November). *Autism, Safety, and the Life Course: Perspectives from Parents and Caregivers*. American Society of Criminology, Washington, D.C.

Castillo, I.E. (2024, November). *Autism and Police Use of Force: A Content Analysis of Fourth Amendment Violations*. American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.

Wallace, D., **Castillo, I.E.**, & Hedberg, E.C. (2024, November). *Understanding the Paths between Disability-Related Impairment Use of Force, and Serious Injury or Death in Serious Use of Force Incidents by the Police*. American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA.

Schafer, J., Hibdon, J., & **Castillo, I.E.** (2024, September). *Police Recruitment & Hiring: Lessons Learned from High-Success Agencies*. Midwest Criminal Justice Association, Chicago, IL.

Wallace, D. & **Castillo, I.E.** (2024, February). *Injury in Serious Use of Force Incidents by the Police and Disability-Related Impairment*. Western Society of Criminology, Long Beach, CA.

Castillo, I.E. (2024, February). *Race & Autism: An Intersectional Analysis of Fear of Police Contact among Parents and Caregivers*. Western Society of Criminology, Long Beach, CA.

Castillo, I.E. (2023, November). *Policing the Intersections: Parents and Caregivers' Fear of Police Contact with Autistic Loved Ones of Color*. American Society of Criminology, Philadelphia, PA.

Castillo, I.E. (2023, September). *Dissecting the Dark Figure of Disablist Violence: An Intersectional Examination of Reporting to the Police* [Poster]. 50th Anniversary Celebration of the National Crime Victimization Survey, Washington, D.C.

Castillo, I.E. (2022, November). *Reporting Violent Victimization to the Police: Ethnoracial and Gendered Variations across Disability Type* [Poster]. American Society of Criminology, Atlanta, GA.

SERVICE

To the Profession

Interim Executive Counselor (2026-2027), American Society of Criminology, Division of Health and Disability Criminology

Ad Hoc Reviewer
Criminal Justice and Behavior
Health and Justice
Police Quarterly
Sexuality Research and Social Policy
Youth & Society

To the University

2026 **Co-Facilitator**, Co-Response at ASU: A Collaborative Service Learning Initiative

2023-2025 **Creator and Facilitator**, ASU CCJ Graduate Student Writing Group

2022-2023 **Social Chair and Student Mentor**, UMD CCJ Graduate Student Representatives

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Society of Criminology

- Division of Health and Disability Criminology
- Division of People of Color and Crime
- Division of Policing
- Division of Victimology

Western Society of Criminology

Disability and Criminal Justice Working Group