

Jordan Pedalino

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Professional Summary

Criminal justice policy expert specializing in sexual violence prevention and survivor advocacy. Over a decade of experience developing trauma-informed practices, coordinating multidisciplinary collaborations, and shaping policy reforms. Designed and led citywide initiatives that improved responses to sexual assault while bridging research and practice through data-driven policy recommendations and legislative advocacy. Committed to advancing survivor-centered justice, criminal justice reform, and public safety response coordination.

Education

Ph.D., Louisiana State University (Sociology, 2025)

Dissertation: *Sexual Assault Survivors Interactions with Law Enforcement*.

Advisor: Dr. Heather O'Connell

M.S., Loyola University New Orleans (Criminology and Justice, 2018) Summa Cum Laude

Thesis: *What Strains Impact College Students' Substance Abuse?*

Advisor: Dr. Kelly Frailing

B.A., Loyola University New Orleans (Criminal Justice, 2016) Magna Cum Laude

Consulting

March 2024 - February 2025 | Medical Advocacy Memorandum of Understanding for Orleans Parish

January 2025 - March 2025 | Proposal review for the 2025 National Sexual Assault Conference

April - August 2024 | Accreditation Monitor for Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault

April 2024 | Grant application review for the Office of Criminal Justice in Orleans Parish

2024 Legislative Session (February - June) | Act No. 548 & Act No. 570, signed and effective

October 2023 - October 2024 | Co-developed Louisiana Sexual Assault Advocate 40-hour online training

Employment

Sexual Assault Project Specialist, New Orleans Health Department

March 2023 - Present

- Serve as primary coordinator of the City's comprehensive response to addressing sexual assault. Work with partner agencies to coordinate approaches to addressing sexual

assault incidents and achieve outcomes that promote community health and unify the city's approach to sexual assault.

- Organize and coordinate the New Orleans Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Community Action Coalition, and the New Orleans Campus Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Working Group.
- Facilitate the New Orleans City Sexual Violence Advisory Response Committee to oversee the implementation of City-wide sexual assault policies.
- Facilitate the New Orleans Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). Collaborate with law enforcement, DA Prosecutors, Forensic Medical Examiners, advocates, LA State Crime Lab, universities, businesses, etc. to improve regional response to sexual violence and hold offenders accountable. Create and adjust city ordinance and law. Facilitate monthly meetings and multidisciplinary team case reviews.
- Facilitate The New Orleans Domestic Abuse Fatality Review in compliance with the Louisiana legislation.
- Coordinate, organize, and produce yearly reports for the Domestic Abuse Fatality Review Team.
- Conduct trainings and outreach to engage with partner organizations and the community around response to and prevention of sexual assault.
- Support partner agencies to develop best practices and policies for working with individuals affected by sexual assault.
- Recruit, train and manage volunteer support to leverage existing resources.
- Conduct regular evaluation of projects and produce reports to demonstrate effectiveness of approaches and programs. Monitor city-wide data related to sexual assault incidents and create public-facing reports.
- Maintain knowledge of current laws impacting survivors of sexual assault and work with agencies to ensure policy compliance with federal, state and local laws.
- Respond to public health and safety emergencies as part of the Health Department's emergency response efforts, including Hurricane Francine, Super Bowl 2025, and Mardi Gras 2023-2025.
- Coordinate cross-agency response efforts, ensure compliance with emergency protocols, and provide crisis intervention services to affected populations.
- Mentor and oversee interns and student trainees.

Adjunct Professor, Loyola University New Orleans

January 2022 - Present

Classes taught: Juvenile Delinquency, Women & Crime, Drug Criminalization in the U.S.

- Develop, deliver, review and approve instructional materials including syllabi, curricula and lesson plans using educational best practices.
- Create a classroom environment where students feel comfortable to participate and learn. Support student learning process through feedback and individual consultation.
- Collaborate with other faculty members to create course structures, lesson plans and assessments based on departmental regulations and requirements.

Sexual Assault Program Coordinator, New Orleans Family Justice Center

June 2017 - April 2022

- Directed the advocacy program for the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) grant to address backlog of rape kits in partnership with NOPD, OPDA and national experts.
- Developed and directed the Medical Advocacy program which provided 24/7 volunteer advocate response to survivors getting a Forensic Medical Exam at University Medical Center. Oversaw 1500+ medical advocacy calls and personally provided medical advocacy to over 300 survivors.
- Trained, scheduled and supervised up to 50 medical advocate volunteers.
- Developed a 40-hour training curriculum for volunteer advocates. Trained other sexual assault providers and outside agencies on sexual assault and domestic violence and trauma-focused response.
- Provide training and technical assistance to increase understanding and cultural competence of service providers to improve assistance to survivors.
- Conducted research including survivor focus groups, survey data collection, and reports.
- Collaborated with law-enforcement, DA Prosecutors, Forensic Medical Examiners, advocates, LA State Crime Lab, universities, businesses, etc. to improve regional response to survivors of sexual assault violence and hold offenders accountable.
- Supported over 1000 survivors and their loved ones to navigate systems including medical, criminal, and civil legal, Title IX, military, workplace and more.
- Connected survivors to community resources, services, and support networks. Provided crisis intervention for survivors and families. Performed intakes and safety assessments with survivors.

Research Assistant, Loyola University New Orleans

May 2016 - January 2018

- Assisted with academic research focusing on juvenile delinquency and sexual assault including researching, editing and preparation of manuscripts.
- Developed the production of academic journals through interviews and online archives.
- Prepared literature reviews and gathered and analyzed data.
- Prepared materials for submission to agencies and foundations that fund research.
- Supervised undergraduate students working on assigned research projects.
- Conduct administrative duties as needed.

Impact on Law Enforcement Response

- Trained 200+ officers in trauma-informed sexual assault investigations, enhancing survivor engagement and investigative effectiveness.
- Led multidisciplinary case reviews, identifying investigative gaps and advocating for reforms.
- Developed the NOPD's sex crimes training curriculum, ensuring officers use research-backed strategies.

- Shaped citywide policies and ordinances to improve law enforcement accountability and survivor protections.
- Provided technical assistance on best practices for handling sexual assault cases, improving coordination between detectives, prosecutors, and forensic examiners.

Methodological & Data Analysis Expertise

- Quantitative Analysis: Proficient in logistic regression, crime data modeling, and clearance rate analysis using UCR-based reporting.
- Qualitative Research: Experienced in conducting survivor focus groups and in-depth interviews with law enforcement to assess investigative challenges.
- Policy Evaluation: Applied research to assess the impact of law enforcement training, investigative protocols, and legislative reforms.
- Data-Driven Recommendations: Synthesized findings from mixed-methods research to propose improvements in law enforcement procedures and survivor support services.
- Applied statistical modeling to examine the impact of specialized units on sexual assault clearance rates across 161 jurisdictions.

Academic Publications & Presentations

Taylor, R., & Pedalino, J. (2020). From Victimization to Incarceration: IPV, Cycles of Abuse, Addiction, And Incarceration. In C. Marcum, L.M. Carter, L.M., And Blankenship, C.L. (Eds.)

Pedalino, J., & Frailing, K. (2018). General Strain Theory and Prescription Drug Misuse Among Honors Students. Journal Of the National Collegiate Honors Council.

Presentation: Victoria Stelfox, Jennifer Montero, **Jordan Pedalino**, and Kelly Frailing. (2016). Can general strain theory explain college students' prescription drug misuse? American Society of Criminology: New Orleans, LA.

- Jordan Pedalino won first place in the Graduate Student Competition at the 2017 LSU Shreveport Student Scholars' Forum for her presentation of this research.

Presentation: Brittany Grimes, **Jordan Pedalino**, and Kelly Frailing. (2018). A Content Analysis of Crime by the Elderly in Grace and Frankie. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences: New Orleans, LA.

Community Publications

Mardi Gras Guide and Tips for Sexual Assault in New Orleans

Creator, New Orleans Health Department

Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence Information and Resources

Creator, New Orleans Health Department

Help is Here: Guide for Survivors of Sexual Assault in New Orleans

Co-creator and editor of guide, New Orleans Family Justice Center & New Orleans Health Department

Selected Community Training, Workshops & Presentations

I have conducted over 250 hours of training to approximately 500 participants.

Trauma-Informed Sex Crimes Response & Investigation

Police Recruit training, New Orleans Police Department Training Academy, 2018-2022

Healthy Relationships within the Homeless Population

Multiple sites including Ozanam Inn, Covenant House, Low Barrier Shelter, Harry Thompson Center, Travelers Aid, etc., 2018-2022

20-hour Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence Advocacy Training

New Orleans Family Justice Center, 2018-2022

20-hour Online Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence Training (built curriculum /moderate)

New Orleans Family Justice Center, 2018-2022

Trauma-Informed Sex Crimes Response Online Training (assisted with curriculum/moderate)

New Orleans Police Department, Sex Crimes Unit New Detective Training, 2018-2022

Serving Survivors Experiencing Homelessness

Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) National Conference, 2021

Non-fatal Strangulation

Multiple sites including Sexual Trauma Awareness Response, Louisiana State University, New Orleans Family Justice Center, Women with a Vision, Eden House, University Medical Center, etc., 2017- 2022

Human Trafficking 101 & Responding to Disclosures Workshop

Multiple sites including Odyssey House, Low Barrier Shelter, Eden House, Harry Thompson Center, Avenues Rehabilitation, Dillard University, Xavier University, Tulane University, etc., 2018-current

Sexual Assault in the Drug Rehabilitation Programs

Multiple sites including Avenues Recovery, Odyssey House, NOLA Detox, Bridge House/Grace House, Imagine Recovery, Eden House, etc., 2018- current

Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Title IX Response in Universities

All New Orleans local colleges and campuses (more than once at each) 2018- current

Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence 101 & Responding to Disclosures Workshop

Multiple sites including Jewish Family Services, Hagar House, Odyssey House, Jackson Barracks, Low Barrier Shelter, Eden House, Harry Thompson Center, Avenues Rehabilitation, Dillard University, Xavier University, Tulane University, etc., 2018-current

Selected Emergency Response Trainings

I have conducted over 190 hours of training to approximately 400 first responders.

Responding to Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence

911 Dispatch & Emergency Medical Services 2023- current

Sexual Assault 101: Considerations for Criminal Court

Criminal Court Judges and Staff 2025- current

Responding to Sexual Violence

New Orleans Parish Police Department 2025- current

Selected Professional Development

I have received over 600 hours of continuing education related to criminal justice, sexual assault, domestic violence, human trafficking, trauma and advocacy.

- National Domestic Abuse Fatality Review Training, 12 hours, 2024
- Louisiana Department of Health Emergency Response Training, 4.5 hours, 2023
- Restoring Collaborative Response: Human Trafficking in the Greater New Orleans, 10 hours, 2023
- Neurobiology of Trauma for Attorneys, Judges & Law Enforcement, 4 hours, 2020
- Tulane University Sexual Violence Symposium, 8 hours, 2020
- Jackie Campbell Lethality Assessment Training & Certification, 3 hours, 2020
- Identifying, Investigating & Prosecuting Domestic Violence Strangulation Cases, 35 hours, 2019
- Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Training, 16 hours, 2019
- Understanding and Supporting Clients with Trauma Histories, 2.5 hours, 2019
- Demystifying Sex Work and Cultural Competency Working with Sex Workers, 2 hours, 2018
- Sexual Harassment & Legal Rights for Survivors, 2 hours, 2018
- National Strangulation Expert Witness Training, 40 hours, 2017
- Human Trafficking 101, Train the Trainer Certification, 12 hours, 2017
- NOFJC Sexual Assault Advocate Training, 34.5 hours, 2017
- Domestic Violence Advocacy Training, 60+ hours, 2012 and 2015

- Sexual Assault Advocacy Training, 60+ hours, 2012 and 2015
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Professional Leadership

Coordinator, New Orleans Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) 04/01/2023- present
Coordinator, Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Action Coalition 1/1/2018- present
Coordinator, Greater New Orleans Campus Planning Group 06/15/2023- present
Coordinator, New Orleans Mayor's Advisory Committee on Sexual Assault 04/22/2023- present
President, Loyola University chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma (Zeta Beta, 2016-2019)
Board President. Hope Clinic, 701 Loyola Ave., New Orleans, LA 70113. (8/2019- 2/2022)
Presenter, Loyola University Honors Outstanding Presentation Day (2017)