



Thursday, May 26, 2022

5:00 PM (ET)

Loew Auditorium, Black Family Visual Arts Center (Room 104)

Livestream Link: <https://dartgo.org/morganwilliams>

Co-sponsored by the Department of Economics

## **Police Force Size and Civilian Race**

### **Speaker:**

**Morgan C. Williams, Jr.**

Assistant Professor of Economics

Barnard College, Columbia University

### **Host:**

**Andrew Samwick**

Sandra L. and Arthur L. Irving '72a P'10 Professor of Economics

Chair, Department of Economics

Past Director, Rockefeller Center

### **Moderator:**

**Herschel Nachlis**

Research Assistant Professor of Government

Policy Fellow, Rockefeller Center

Dartmouth College

### **Lecture Info:**

Morgan C. Williams, Jr. discusses the first empirical estimate of the race-specific effects of larger police forces in the United States. Each additional police officer abates approximately 0.1 homicides. In per capita terms, effects are twice as large for Black versus white victims. At the same time, larger police forces make more arrests for low-level “quality-of-life” offenses, with effects that imply a

disproportionate burden for Black Americans. Notably, cities with large Black populations do not share equally in the benefits of investments in police manpower. Our results provide novel empirical support for the popular narrative that Black communities are simultaneously over and under-policed.

#### Speaker Bio:



**Morgan C. Williams, Jr.** is an Assistant Professor of Economics at Barnard College of Columbia University. Using both applied empirical and theoretical techniques, his current research agenda examines the economic consequences of crime and incarceration policy for racial inequality in the United States—with topics ranging from the disparate impact of criminal history disclosure requirements among formerly incarcerated workers to policing reform. Morgan's research has been published in journals such as the *American Economic Review: Insights* in addition to enjoying support from the Russell Sage Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Policies for Action Initiative. Morgan is an affiliate of the Columbia University Population Research Center. Prior to joining the faculty at Barnard College, Morgan completed the New York University Provost's Postdoctoral Fellowship through the Robert F.

Wagner Graduate School of Public service. He received his Ph.D. in Economics from the City University of New York Graduate Center, M.P.H. from the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, and B.A. from Morehouse College.

#### Host Bio:



**Andrew A. Samwick** is the Sandra L. and Arthur L. Irving '72a, P'10 Professor and Chair of the Department of Economics at Dartmouth College. In the field of economics, he is most widely known for his research on the economics of retirement and has testified three times before Congressional committees on his research. He is a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research and has served on the Census Scientific Advisory Committee. He has also served on technical panels for the Social Security Advisory Board and as a consultant for the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation on the assumptions and methods they use to make long-term projections. His other research interests include saving, taxation, executive compensation, and education finance.

From 2004 – 2019, Samwick served as the Director of the Nelson A. Rockefeller Center for Public Policy and the Social Sciences at Dartmouth. The Rockefeller Center aims to educate, train, and inspire the next generation of public policy leaders. As director, Samwick oversaw the creation and development of several innovative programs that integrate the curricular and co-curricular elements of a student's education, including the First-Year Fellows Program, the Class of 1964 Policy Research Shop, and the Management and Leadership Development Program. In November 2009, Samwick was selected as the New Hampshire Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

## Moderator Bio:



**Herschel Nachlis** is Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Government and Policy Fellow in the Rockefeller Center for Public Policy and the Social Sciences at Dartmouth.

He studies and teaches American politics, law, and public policy, focusing on health policy, regulation, and political institutions. His work has been published in journals including *JAMA: The Journal of the American Medical Association* and *Studies in American Political Development* and public outlets including *The Washington Post* and *STAT*.

He received his PhD and MA in Politics and Social Policy from Princeton and BA in Political Science from Macalester.