New Frontiers of Monetary Sanctions and Criminal Justice Debt
Call for Papers for 2020 Special Issue

Guest Editor: Karin D. Martin (University of Washington)

The early scholarship on monetary sanctions has reached a general consensus on several fronts. Monetary sanctions have been shown to exact sizable personal and social costs for people, often exceeding the bounds of proportionality in punishment. These sanctions are ubiquitous in American criminal justice. They occur at every jurisdictional level and can be originated by nearly any criminal justice entity therein, rendering the types and nature of monetary sanctions complex and idiosyncratic while simultaneously exacerbating and reifying disparities found throughout the criminal justice system.

As these findings become increasingly known to policymakers, and as reform efforts are emerging around the country, the literature on monetary sanctions is at an important inflection point. We have a basic understanding of the status quo in descriptive terms, but knowledge about mechanisms and broader repercussions is lacking. In order to further scholarly knowledge on this topic, new inquiries are needed to address more sophisticated sets of questions. This special issue is devoted to advancing new theoretical and methodological inquiries into monetary sanctions.

Papers may focus on any aspect of monetary sanctions. Papers that do any of the following are especially encouraged:

1. Propose or engage a theoretical basis for understanding modern monetary sanction use. (What do relevant theories say about the deterrent or criminogenic effects of these sanctions? What frameworks can usefully compete with the notion of punishing poverty?)
2. Identify impacts of monetary sanctions beyond those directly related to financial strain. (How does criminal justice debt affect attitudes about the criminal justice system and governance more broadly? Does this form of debt operate differently from others in terms of its effect on political participation, social engagement, family dynamics, or motivation?)
3. Explore the revenue rationale undergirding expanded use of monetary sanctions. (How has this rationale been articulated by legislators and other policymakers and with what consequences for budgeting, allocations, and collection efforts? How well do the empirics support the notion that monetary sanctions are indeed a reliable source of state revenue?)
4. Examine the process of policy change, impetus, and resistance in the domain of monetary sanctions and/or criminal justice debt. (Are there lessons from other domains in criminal justice or beyond that suggest likely pitfalls or possibilities as the field progresses?)

The selected contributors will be invited to submit a full-length manuscript (up to 40 pages, inclusive of supplemental materials) by February 1, 2020. The papers will then be sent out for peer review, and authors will receive their reviews by mid-March 2020. Revised manuscripts and their corresponding editorial memos must be received by May 1, 2020. Manuscripts accepted for publication will appear in the special issue, which is tentatively slated to be published in October 2020.
Submission Guidelines and Details

Prospective contributors should submit a proposal of no more than six, double-spaced pages, including supplemental materials (tables, figures, references, etc.). In addition, contributors must include some preliminary analyses (up to two, double-spaced pages in length), including data descriptions, sample sizes, tables, figures, preliminary models, etc. Text must be in 12-point, Times New Roman font, and all submissions must include 1-inch margins on all four sides, with pages numbered sequentially. Submissions should be prepared using the ASA Style Guide (Fourth Edition).

Proposed paper submissions should be uploaded as a single document and received no later than 5 PM PST on December 15, 2019 to http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/sop. You must note that your submission is for the “Monetary Sanctions” special issue.