

Christian Jordan-Michael Howell

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Department of Criminology
University of South Florida
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Sarasota, FL 34243

Education

- 2021 Ph.D. Criminology, University of South Florida
Tampa, Florida
Dissertation: *Self-protection in cyberspace: Assessing the processual relationship between thoughtfully reflective decision making, protection motivation theory, cyber hygiene, and victimization*
- In Progress M.S. Cybersecurity Intelligence and Information Security, University of South Florida
Tampa, Florida
- 2017 Digital Forensics Graduate Certificate, University of South Florida
Tampa, Florida
- 2016 M.A. Criminology, University of South Florida
Tampa, Florida
Thesis: *The restrictive deterrent effect of warning banners in a compromised computer system*
- 2014 B.A. Criminal Justice and Criminology, East Tennessee State University
Johnson City, Tennessee
Honor's Thesis: *The media's effect on the public's reaction to international versus domestic terrorism*

Academic Positions

- 2022–Present Assistant Professor
Department of Criminology, University of South Florida
- 2021–2022 Assistant Professor
Intelligence and National Security Studies, The University of Texas at El Paso
- 2019–2022 Associate Director
Evidence-Based Cybersecurity Research Group, Georgia State University
- 2018–2022 Adjunct Instructor
M.S. Cybersecurity, University of South Florida

Research Interests

Cyber Crime
Information Assurance

Cyber Intelligence
Risk Assessment

Cyber Security
User Security

Peer-Reviewed Articles*Cybersecurity Publications (By Relevance)*

- Kamar, E., **Howell, C. J.**, Maimon, D., & Berenblum, T. (2022). The moderating role of thoughtfully reflective decision-making on the relationship between information security messages and smishing victimization: An experiment. *Justice Quarterly*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07418825.2022.2127845>
- Howell, C. J.**, Maimon, D., Burruss, G., Perkins, R., Ouellet, M., & Wu, Y. (2022). Risk avoidance behavior on darknet marketplaces. *Crime & Delinquency*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00111287221092>
- Maimon, D., **Howell, C. J.**, & Burruss, G. (2021). Restrictive deterrence and the scope of hackers' reoffending: Findings from two randomized field trials. *Computers in Human Behavior*, *125*, 106943. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2021.106943>
- Howell, C. J.**, Fisher, T., Muniz, C., Maimon, D., & Rotzinger, Y. (Accepted). A depiction and classification of the stolen data market ecosystem and comprising darknet markets: A multidisciplinary approach. *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*.
- Maimon, D., **Howell, C. J.**, Perkins, R., Muniz, C., & Berenblum, T. (2021). A routine activities approach to evidence-based risk assessment: Findings from two simulated phishing attacks. *Social Science Computer Review*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08944393211046339>
- Maimon, D., **Howell, C. J.**, Jacques, S., & Perkins, R. (2020). Situational awareness and public wi-fi users' self-protective behaviors. *Security Journal*, *35*, 154–174. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41284-020-00270-2>
- Ouellet, M., Maimon, D., **Howell, C. J.**, & Wu, Y. (2022). The network of online stolen data markets: How vendor flows connect digital marketplaces. *British Journal of Criminology*, *62*(6), 1518–1536. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/azab116>
- Maimon, D., **Howell, C. J.**, Moloney, M., & Park, Y. (2020). An examination of email fraudsters' modus operandi. *Crime & Delinquency*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0011128720968504>
- Howell, C. J.**, Burruss, G., Maimon, D., & Sahani, S. (2019). Website defacement and routine activities: Considering the importance of hackers' valuations of potential targets. *Journal of Crime and Justice*, *42*(5), 536–550. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0735648X.2019.1691859>
- Howell, C. J.**, Maimon, D., Cochran, J., Jones, H., & Powers, R. (2017). System trespasser behavior after exposure to warning messages at a Chinese computer network: An examination. *International Journal of Cyber Criminology*, *11*(1), 63–77. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.495772>
- Perkins, R., Ouellet, M., **Howell, C. J.**, & Maimon, D. (2022). The illicit hacking ecosystem: A network analysis of website defacement groups. *Social Science Computer Review*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1177/08944393221097881>

- Burruss, G., **Howell, C. J.**, Maimon, D., & Wang, F. (2022). Website defacer classification: A finite mixture model approach. *Social Science Computer Review*, 40(3), 775–787. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0894439321994232>
- Burruss, G., **Howell, C. J.**, Bossler, A., & Holt, T. (2019). Self-perceptions of English and Welsh constables and sergeants' preparedness for online crime: A latent class analysis. *Policing: An International Journal*, 43(1), 105–119. <https://doi.org/10.1108/PIJPSM-08-2019-0142>
- Perkins, R., **Howell, C. J.**, Dodge, C., Burruss, G., & Maimon, D. (2022). Malicious spam distribution: A routine activities approach. *Deviant Behavior*, 43(2), 196–212. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01639625.2020.1794269>
- Wang, F., **Howell, C. J.**, Maimon, D., & Jacques, S. (Accepted). The restrictive deterrent effect of warning messages sent to active romance fraudsters: An experimental approach. *International Journal of Cyber Criminology*.
- Shadmanfaat, S., **Howell, C. J.**, Muniz, C., Cochran, J., Kabiri, S., & Fontaine, E. (2020). Cyberbullying perpetration: An empirical test of social learning theory in Iran. *Deviant Behavior*, 41(3), 278–293. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01639625.2019.1565513>
- Shadmanfaat, S., Richardson, D., Muniz, C., Cochran, J., Kabiri, S., & **Howell, C. J.** (2021). Cyberbullying against rivals: Application of key theoretical concepts derived from situational action theory. *Deviant Behavior*, 42(12), 1549–1564. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01639625.2020.1762452>
- Shadmanfaat, S., **Howell, C. J.**, Muniz, C., Cochran, J., Kabiri, S., & Richardson, D. (2018). The predictive ability of self-control and differential association on sports fans' decision to engage in cyberbullying perpetration against rivals. *International Journal of Cyber Criminology*, 12(2), 362–375. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3365618>

Other Publications

- Kabiri, S., Sharepour, M., **Howell, C. J.**, Wellen, H., Smith, H., Cochran, J., Shadmanfaat, S., & Andersen, T. (Accepted). Violations of emergent norms regarding COVID-19 mitigation and social hygiene practices: An application of Agnew's general theory of crime. *Crime & Delinquency*.
- Kabiri, S., Shadmanfaat, S., Andersen, T., Rotzinger, Y., **Howell, C. J.**, Smith, H., & Cochran, J. (2022). Personal control and antisocial coaching: A test of self-control and control balance theories. *Deviant Behavior*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01639625.2022.2092785>
- Kabiri, S., Shadmanfaat, S., **Howell, C. J.**, Donner, C., & Cochran, J. (2022). Performance enhancing drug use among professional athletes: A longitudinal test of social learning theory. *Crime and Delinquency*, 68(5), 867–891. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0011128719901111>
- Shadmanfaat, S., Kabiri, S., Miley, L., **Howell, C. J.**, Muniz, C., & Cochran, J. (2020). Performance enhancing drug use among professional athletes: Testing the applicability of key theoretical concepts derived from situational action theory. *Journal of Sport and Social Issue*, 44(4), 336–355. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0193723520919812>

Manuscripts Under Review

Howell, C. J., Maimon, D., Muniz, C., Kamar, E., & Berenblum, T. (Under Review). The effect of thoughtfully reflective decision making on user security behaviors in the cyber-environment: Findings from two field experiments. *Management Information Systems Quarterly*.

Kabiri, S., Wang, F., **Howell, C. J.**, Kamar, E., Sharepour, M., Shadmanfaat, S., & Cochran, J. (Under Review). Information communication technology and online harassment: Using criminological theory to understand offender decision-making. *Information Systems Research*.

Book Chapters

Perkins, R., & **Howell, C. J.** (2021). Honeypots for cybercrime research. In A. Lavorgna, & T. Holt (Eds.), *Researching cybercrimes* (pp. 233–261). Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-74837-1_12

Howell, C. J., & Burruss, G. (2020). Datasets for analysis of cybercrime. In T. Holt, & A. Bossler (Eds.), *The palgrave handbook of international cybercrime and cyberdeviance* (pp. 207–219). Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-78440-3_15

News Articles

Howell, C. J. & Maimon, D. (Accepted). Darknet markets are generating millions in revenue by selling your stolen data. *The Conversation*.

Maimon, D., & **Howell, C. J.** (2020). The coronavirus pandemic moved life online – a surge in website defacing followed. *The Conversation*. Retrieved from <https://theconversation.com/>

External Grants

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| Pending | Information Assurance and Risk Reduction:
Using Evidence-Based Practices to Prevent Identity Theft and Mitigate its Consequences
Role: Co-Principal Investigator
Principal Investigator: David Maimon
National Science Foundation
\$1,198,759 |
| 2020–2022 | CyberTraining: EBCS-TMPS:
An Evidence Based Cybersecurity Training and Mentorship Program for Students
Role: Collaborator
Principal Investigator: David Maimon
National Science Foundation
\$298,189 |
| 2019–2021 | Open-Source Intelligence in Online Stolen Data markets:
Assessment of Network Disruption Strategies
Role: Collaborator
Principal Investigator: Marie Ouellet
Department of Homeland Security
\$350,000 |

Internal Grants

2018–2019 Doctoral Student Research Grant:
Exploring the Illicit Hacking Ecosystem
Role: Principal Investigator
University of South Florida
\$1,000

Teaching Experience

Graduate Courses

Criminal Law and Social Policy
Criminological Theory
Cyber Victimization
Cybercrime and Criminal Justice
Digital Evidence Recognition and Collection
Introduction to Digital Evidence
Network Forensics
Open-Source Intelligence Analysis
Research Methods
Technology Adoption and Crime

Undergraduate Courses

Cybercrime Investigation
Cybersecurity
Patterns of Criminal Behavior
Theories of Criminal Behavior
Statistics for Security Studies

Professional Training

Law enforcement training on intelligence and evidence gathering in darknet environments
Evidence-based cybersecurity training and mentorship program (NSF Funded)

Invited Consultations

Pasco Sheriff's Office Cybersecurity Symposium
Expert Panelist (2022)

NSF D-ISN Workshop: Building Community to Use Intelligence from Online Underground Markets
Expert Panelist and Co-Facilitator (2021)

The Cybersecurity Revolution by the Human-Centric Cybersecurity Partnership
Expert Panelist (2021 and 2022)

Conference Presentations

Pourbehzadi, M., Javidi, G., Sheybani, E., & **Howell, C. J.** (2022). Implementing AI in forecasting cybersecurity threats. Presented at Informs Conference on Security. Arlington, VA.

Howell, C. J., Fisher, T., Burruss, G., & Muniz, C. (2022). Identity theft prevention: An experimental evaluation of prospect theory. Presented at the Annual Conference on the Human Factor in Cybercrime. Clearwater, FL.

Howell, C. J., Muniz, C., Fisher, T., & Rotzinger, Y. (2022). Cyber hygiene and online victimization avoidance: Findings from a simulated smishing attack. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Atlanta, GA.

- Howell, C. J.,** Maimon, D., Ouellet, M., & Muniz, C. (2022). Darknet market disruption: A proactive approach. Presented at the American Criminal Justice Society Conference. Las Vegas, NV.
- Muniz, C., **Howell, C. J.,** & Maimon, D. (2022). Prospect theory and identity theft victimization: Findings from a simulated smishing attack. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- Perkins, R., Antonaccio, O., **Howell, C. J.,** & Maimon, D. (2022). The dissection of a hacking milieu: A multilevel network analysis. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- Muniz, C., & **Howell, C. J.** (2022). Online identity theft victimization. Presented at the Western Society of Criminology Conference. Honolulu, HI.
- Fisher, T., **Howell, C. J.,** & Maimon, D. (2022). Darknet market characteristics: An examination of longitudinal trends in the illicit online ecosystem. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- Howell, C. J.** (2021). Hacking archives as a source of cybercrime data: A validity check. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Burruss, G., & **Howell, C. J.** (2021). Measuring the human factor in cybercrime studies. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Perkins, R., Ouellet, M., **Howell, C. J.,** & Maimon, D. (2021). The social dynamics of website defacers. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Hoffman, C., Perkins, R., **Howell, C. J.,** Antonaccio, O., & Maimon, D. (2021). The attack trajectories of website defacers: A group-based analysis. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Wu, Y., Ouellet, M., Maimon, D., & **Howell, C. J.** (2021). The mobility of online stolen data markets: How vendor flows shape the digital marketplace structure. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Berenblum, T., Maimon, D., Muniz, C., Perkins, R., & **Howell, C. J.** (2021). Phishing the university: Findings from two simulated attacks. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Wang, F., **Howell, C. J.,** Maimon, D., & Jacques, S. (2020). The restrictive deterrent effect of warning messages sent to active romance fraudsters: An experimental approach. Presented at the Annual European Society of Criminology Conference. Virtual.
- Howell, C. J.,** Burruss, G., Holt, T., & Bossler, A. (2019). Are there cybercops: A latent class analysis of British police and the response to cybercrime. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. San Francisco, CA.
- Howell, C. J.,** Burruss, G., & Fisk, N. (2019). Understanding cybercrime: A theoretical approach. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. San Francisco, CA.

- Fontaine, E., Shadmanfaat, S., Cochran, J., Kabiri, S., **Howell, C. J.**, & Muniz, C. (2019). An empirical examination of social learning theory's utility in explaining cyberbullying perpetration in a cross-cultural sample. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. San Francisco, CA.
- Perkins, R., **Howell, C. J.**, & Dodge, C. (2019). Assessing the macro-level correlates of spam distribution using a routine activities framework. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. San Francisco, CA.
- Law, C., Richardson, D., Muniz, C., & **Howell, C. J.** (2019). Social disorganization and online sex work: An analysis. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. San Francisco, CA.
- Burruss, G., **Howell, C. J.**, & Maimon, D. (2019). Website defacer classification: A finite mixture model approach. Presented at the Annual Conference on the Human Factor in Cybercrime. Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- Howell, C. J.**, Burruss, G., & Maimon, D. (2019). Motivation matters: The predictive ability of routine activity theory on motivation specific forms of website defacement. Presented at the Annual Cyber Florida Conference. Tampa, FL.
- Perkins, R., Dodge, C., **Howell, C. J.**, & Burruss, G. (2019). Assessing the macro-level correlates of spam distribution using a routine activities framework. Presented at the Annual Cyber Florida Conference. Tampa, FL.
- Howell, C. J.**, Burruss, G., Maimon, D., Sahani, S., & Shah, A. (2018). The influence of cyber-threats on website defacement. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- Burruss, G., Maimon, D., Sahani, S., Shah, A., & **Howell, C. J.** (2018). Detering website defacement: Preliminary findings from a field experiment. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- Sahani, S., **Howell, C. J.**, Shah, A., Maimon, D., & Burruss, G. (2018). The impact of motivation on targets of web defacements. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- Shah, A., Maimon, D., **Howell, C. J.**, Sahani, S., & Burruss, G. (2018). Web defacement hacks and attackers' use of social media platforms: Preliminary findings. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- Richardson, D., **Howell, C. J.**, & Law, C. (2018). The influence of city-level structural factors on cyber prostitution. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- Law, C., & **Howell, C. J.** (2018). Online sex solicitation: An analysis. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Atlanta, GA.
- Perkins, R., **Howell, C. J.**, & Muniz, C. (2018). Cyber victimization: An analysis. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Atlanta, GA.

- Howell, C. J.,** Cochran, J., Meade, C., Kremling, J., Smith, M., Bjerregaard, B., & Fogel, S. (2017). The effect of contextual factors on capital sentencing outcomes. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Philadelphia, PA.
- Kleppe, A., Meade, C., **Howell, C. J.,** Cochran, J., Smith, M., Bjerregaard, B., & Fogel, S. (2017). County-level contextual factors and death sentencing outcomes. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Philadelphia, PA.
- Law, C., Cochran, J., **Howell, C. J.,** Meade, C., Kremling, J., Smith, M., Bjerregaard, B., & Fogel, S. (2017). The influence of contextual factors on capital sentencing outcomes for female offenders. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Philadelphia, PA.
- Dodge, C., **Howell, C. J.,** & Meade, C. (2017). The influence of contextual factors on arrest rates in North Carolina. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. Philadelphia, PA.
- Howell, C. J.,** Kabiri, S., Masoomah, S., & Cochran, J. (2017). Cyberbullying against rival athletes: A complementary model of self-control and differential association. Presented at the Annual European Society of Criminology Conference. Cardiff, Wales.
- Howell, C. J.,** Maimon, D., Cochran, J., Powers, R., & Jones, H. (2016). The restrictive deterrent effect of warning banners in a compromised computer system. Presented at the Annual American Society of Criminology Conference. New Orleans, L.A.