

TAYLOR C. LEBENSFELD

tlebensf@asu.edu

EDUCATION

Arizona State University (2026) **PhD**

Law & Psychology

Chair: Laura Smalarz

Dissertation: *Too Confident to Be Believed: How Eyewitness Confidence and Contextual Information Shape Evaluations of Identification Accuracy*

Arizona State University (2022) **MS**

Law & Psychology with Distinction

Chair: Laura Smalarz

Thesis: *Do Evaluators of Eyewitness Evidence Believe Highly Confident Eyewitnesses are Poorly Calibrated When They Experienced Suboptimal Witnessing Conditions?*

University of California, San Diego (2019) **BS**

Cognitive & Behavioral Neuroscience with Highest Distinction

Magna Cum Laude

PUBLICATIONS

Lebensfeld, T. C., & Smalarz, L. (2024). Witnessing-condition information differentially affects evaluations of high- and moderate-confidence eyewitness identifications. *Cognition*, 250. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cognition.2024.105841>

Lebensfeld, T. C., & Smalarz, L. (2022). Cross-examination fails to safeguard against feedback effects on eyewitness testimony. *The Wrongful Conviction Law Review*, 3(3), 240-269. <https://doi.org/10.29173/wclawr80>

Yilmaz, A. S., **Lebensfeld, T. C.**, & Wilson, B. M. (2022). The reveal procedure: A way to enhance evidence of innocence from police lineups. *Law and Human Behavior*, 46(2), 164-173. <https://doi.org/10.1037/lhb0000478>

PRESENTATIONS

* = mentored student

Lebensfeld, T.C., Hacibektasoglu, D., Kovera, M.B., & Smalarz, L. (2026, March 12). *A prior filler identification, repeated exposure to the suspect, and administrator pressure to choose additively increase inaccurate subsequent lineup identifications* [Paper presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Annual Conference, Reno, NV, USA.

*Samarzja, R.C., **Lebensfeld, T.C.**, Aronson, E., Jones, J.M., Tesfamicael, N., Kovera, M.B., & Smalarz, L. (2025, May 1-4). *Perceptions of bias and pressure to choose in police*

lineups [Poster presentation]. Western Psychological Association 2025 Conference, Las Vegas, NV, USA.

*Andreev, J., Rath, H., **Lebensfeld, T.C.**, Aronson, E., Jones, J.M., Tesfamicael, N., Kovera, M.B., & Smalarz, L. (2025, May 1-4). *Examining the impact of administrator motivation and suspect bias on eyewitness identifications* [Poster presentation]. Western Psychological Association 2025 Conference, Las Vegas, NV, United States.

Lebensfeld, T.C., Aronson, E., Jones, J.M., Tesfamicael, N., Kovera, M.B., & Smalarz, L. (2025, March 13). *The effects of administrator motivation and lineup bias on eyewitness decision-making* [Paper presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Annual Conference, San Juan, PR.

Aronson, E., **Lebensfeld, T.C.**, Jones, J.M., Tesfamicael, N., Kovera, M.B., & Smalarz, L. (2025, March 13). *Social influence in double-blind lineups: Effect of motivation and lineup bias on administrator behaviors* [Paper presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Annual Conference, San Juan, PR.

Jones, J.M., Aronson, E., **Lebensfeld, T.C.**, Tesfamicael, N., Kovera, M.B., & Smalarz, L. (2025, March 13). *Blind lineup administrators' behaviors and eyewitness identifications* [Paper presentation]. American Psychology-Law Society Annual Conference, San Juan, PR.

*Samarzja, R. C., **Lebensfeld, T. C.**, & Smalarz, L. (April, 2024). *The influence of under-confidence on perceptions of less-than-highly confident identifications*. Poster presented at the New College Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects Symposium (Phoenix, AZ).

*Andreev, J., *Tomlinson, L. J., *Doneva, S., *Banister, N. V., **Lebensfeld, T. C.**, & Smalarz, L. (April, 2024). *Social influence in double-blind eyewitness lineup administration*. Poster presented at the New College Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects Symposium (Phoenix, AZ).

Lebensfeld, T. C., & Smalarz, L. (March, 2024). *Poor confidence-accuracy calibration can increase belief of eyewitnesses*. Paper presented at the American Psychology-Law Society annual conference (Los Angeles, CA).

*Martinez, H. M., *Morales, X. A., *Samarzja, R. C., *Nghiem, L. K., **Lebensfeld, T. C.**, & Smalarz, L. (April, 2023). *Testing the potential for social influence in double-blind eyewitness lineups*. Poster presented at the New College Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects Symposium (Phoenix, AZ).

*Rodriguez, L., *Senatore, K., *Doneva, S., **Lebensfeld, T. C.**, & Smalarz, L. (April, 2023). *Do police practices that encourage choosing impair eyewitness memory?* Poster presented at the New College Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects Symposium (Phoenix, AZ).

*Villalobos-Lopez, A., *Blundell, B., *Reeder, I., *Anaradian, K., **Lebensfeld, T. C.**, & Smalarz, L. (April, 2023). *Do double-blind lineup administrators influence eyewitness decision-making?* Poster presented at the New College Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects Symposium (Phoenix, AZ).

Lebensfeld, T. C., & Smalarz, L. (March, 2023). *The effect of poor witnessing condition information on evaluators' perceptions of eyewitness identification confidence calibration.* Paper presented at the American Psychology-Law Society annual conference (Philadelphia, PA).

Lebensfeld, T. C., & Smalarz, L. (December, 2022). *Cross-examination fails to safeguard against feedback effects on eyewitness testimony.* Presented at the Innocence Project virtual conference Just Data: Advancing the Innocence Movement.

*Berger, S., *Trinh, A., *Rodriguez, L., *Barlow, R., *Salinas, B., *Villalobos-Lopez, A., **Lebensfeld, T. C.**, & Smalarz, L. (April, 2022). *Social influence from lineup administrators in double-blind eyewitness lineups.* Poster presented at the New College Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects Symposium.

Lebensfeld, T. C., & Smalarz, L. (March, 2022). *Estimator variables harm eyewitness credibility, especially when the eyewitness is highly confident.* Paper presented at the American Psychology-Law Society annual conference (Denver, CO).

Lebensfeld, T. C., & Smalarz, L. (March, 2021). *Confidence in context: Evaluations of verbal and numerical eyewitness confidence in the context of estimator variables.* Poster presented at the 2021 Virtual Poster Session of the American Psychology-Law Society.

Lebensfeld, T. C., Wilson, B. & Wixted, J.T. (March, 2020). *Evidence of innocence from a simultaneous lineup.* Poster presented at the American Psychology-Law Society annual conference (New Orleans, LA).

HONORS AND AWARDS

AP-LS Graduate Student Grant-in-Aid April 2024

GPSA Outstanding Mentor Award Spring 2024
Recognizes graduate and professional students who demonstrate excellence in mentorship

AP-LS Outstanding Student Paper Award March 2024
Awarded at the American Psychology-Law Society annual conference

AP-LS Student Travel Award March 2024
Awarded to top student research presentation proposals for the American Psychology-Law Society annual conference

AP-LS Outstanding Student Paper Award March 2023
Awarded at the American Psychology-Law Society annual conference

AP-LS Outstanding Student Paper Award March 2022
Awarded at the American Psychology-Law Society annual conference

Phi Beta Kappa, Honor Society Member Since June 2019

Provost Honors Winter 2017 - Spring 2019
Each academic quarter a GPA of 3.5 or higher was achieved

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Researcher & Lab Manager August 2020 - Present
Psychology & Law Lab, Arizona State University
Principle Investigator: Dr. Laura Smalarz, Ph.D.

- Investigating social influence on eyewitness identifications
- Developing research materials and procedures
- Collecting and analyzing data
- Managing all day-to-day lab operations, including participant scheduling, weekly lab meetings, hiring and training undergraduate research assistants

Research Assistant July 2019 – June 2020
Kovera Lab, John Jay College
Principle Investigator: Dr. Margaret Bull Kovera, Ph.D.

- Examining various topics in legal psychology, such as plea decision-making and phenotypic bias in lineups
- Coding participant behavior
- Guiding participants through research protocols for multiple studies

Psychology Honors Student Researcher September 2018 - June 2019
University of California, San Diego
Advisor: Dr. John Wixted, Ph.D.

- Investigating eyewitness memory using a novel identification confidence rating procedure
- Developing research materials and procedures
- Collecting and analyzing data

Undergraduate Research Assistant October 2017 - June 2019
Developmental Neuroscience Lab, UC San Diego
Principle Investigator: Dr. Leslie Carver, Ph.D.

- Examining reward anticipation in preschoolers using electrophysiological methods (e.g., event-related potentials (ERP))
- Administering developmental assessments using the Differential Abilities Scale (II)
- Training incoming research assistants
- Assisting with participant recruitment

- Collecting and entering data

WORK EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Research Assistant

May 2024 - Present

Federal Judicial Center - Research Division

- Conducting research for the federal judiciary