

Appendix

Figure A1: Screenshot of Web-scraped Data

Case Details:

Name: [REDACTED] Date of Birth: [REDACTED]
Disposition: **Guilty - After Trial** Disposition Date: **29-NOV-05**
Case Number: **GS[REDACTED]** Case Type: **GS** Offense Date: **11/20/2005** Citation/Arrest Date: **11/20/2005** Case Status: **CLOSED**
Charged Offense: **Asl, Dom Bod Inju** Charge Type (F/M): **MISD** Amended Offense: Convicted Offense: **Asl, Dom Bod Inju** Convicted
Type(F/M): **MISD**
Concurrent With: Consecutive to:

Appearance Details:

Date: **11/29/2005** Judge: **Dumas, Gloria** Court Room: **Court Room 132 - Criminal Justice Center**
Attorney: **Eggleston, Autumn A** Reason: **Trial**

Incarceration:

Location: Years: Months: **6** Days: Percentage:
Suspended All But: **20 DAYS** SAB%: Day for Day?: **N** Hour for Hour?: **N** Report Date:
Suspended?: **N** No Work Default?: **N** Work Release?: **N** Work Release %: No Early Release?: **N**
Incarceration Special Conditions:

Court Costs:

Court Costs: **\$701.90** Court Fines: **\$.00** Total Owed: **\$701.90** Fines Special Condition:

Probation:

Type: Years: Months: Days:
Probation Special Condition:

Restitution:

\$.00
Notes:

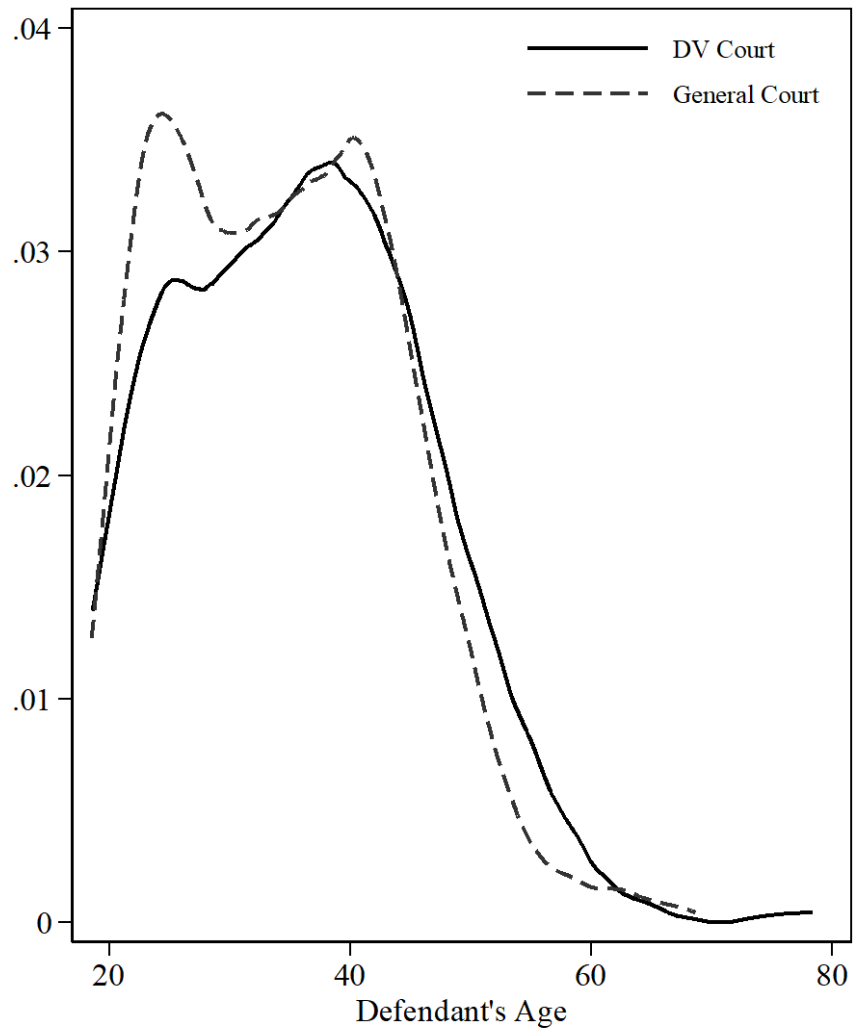
Note: The figure provides an example screenshot of data prior to web scraping. The data is taken from the Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County Criminal Court system and structured as one observation per case (or charge, depending on specification) filed from 2000 to 2018.

Figure A2: Judge Rotation Example

| Judge | Week of Year (2004) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------|---------------------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|----|-----------|
| | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 25 | 26 |
| Brown | Yellow | | | | | | | | Yellow | | | Yellow | | | | |
| Faimon | | Yellow | | | | | | | | | | | Yellow | | | |
| Dumas | | | Dark Blue | | | | | | | | | | | Dark Blue | | |
| Moreland | | | | Yellow | | | | Yellow | | | | | | | | |
| Robinson | | | | | Dark Blue | | | | | | | | | | | Dark Blue |
| Ruben | | | | | | Yellow | | | | | | | | | | |
| Higgins | | | | | | | Yellow | | | Yellow | | | | | | |
| Evans | | | | | | | | Yellow | | | | | | | | Yellow |
| Mondelli | | | | | | | | | | | Yellow | | | | | |
| Ruben | | | | | | | | | Yellow | | | | | | | |
| Holt | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Yellow |

Note: The figure shows the rotation for part of 2004. The general sessions judges rotate through the jail docket on a pre-determined schedule, and they each preside over the jail docket for a one week period. Defendants are assigned to a judge based solely on their arrest day and time, not on the judge’s specialization or any court history they may have with the defendant. Selection into a particular judge is only possible if a defendant aligns their offenses and/or police officers time arrests with a particular judge’s schedule. The incentive for doing so is reduced due to the high probability of a continuance; if continued, the case is likely to be placed on the next week’s docket, changing the judge.

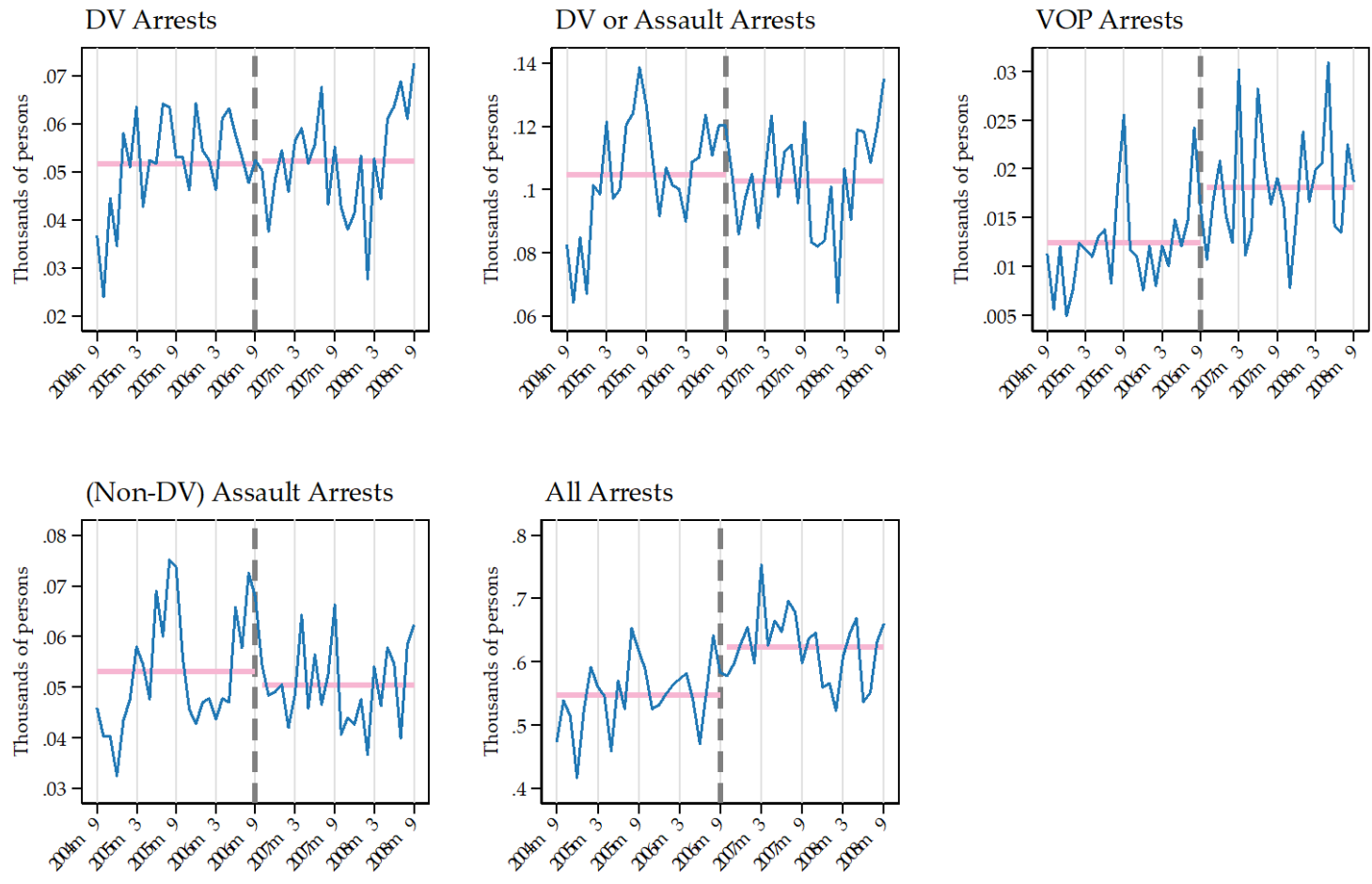
Figure A3: Distribution of Defendants' Age



Kernel Density Estimates

Avg age for defendants in DV courts = 36.3 and in General courts = 35.8.

Figure A4: Monthly Arrest Rate by Offense



Horizontal lines measure pre and post (2-yr period) avg.

Source: Arrest data (Male arrestees).

Table A1: Davidson County General Sessions Judges

| Judge | Division | | Gender | Race | Term Began | # of Jail Docket Cases (average conviction rate) | | | |
|--------------|----------|----|--------|------|------------|--|------------|-----------|--------------|
| | | | | | | Total | DV | VOP | DV & Assault |
| Brown | 5 | | M | W | 1982 | 730 (78%) | 130 (56%) | 53 (79%) | 251 (58%) |
| Dumas | 4 | DV | F | W | 1998 | 690 (76%) | 119 (47%) | 56 (86%) | 269 (58%) |
| Eisenstein | 2 | | M | W | 2004 | 291 (77%) | 45 (53%) | 9 (44%) | 80 (65%) |
| Evans | 9 | | F | W | 1996 | 720 (76%) | 110 (55%) | 49 (78%) | 230 (63%) |
| Faimon | 3 | | M | W | 1982 | 703 (73%) | 149 (48%) | 45 (67%) | 299 (57%) |
| Fishburn | 2 | | M | W | 1998 | 386 (77%) | 86 (55%) | 30 (67%) | 158 (62%) |
| Higgins | 7 | | M | W | 1980 | 684 (77%) | 111 (62%) | 48 (83%) | 224 (67%) |
| Holt | 11 | OP | M | W | 1998 | 747 (75%) | 119 (56%) | 56 (79%) | 249 (63%) |
| Mondelli | 6 | | M | W | 1990 | 755 (74%) | 169 (47%) | 47 (72%) | 330 (59%) |
| Moreland | 10 | OP | M | W | 1995 | 715 (75%) | 124 (48%) | 49 (84%) | 228 (59%) |
| Robinson | 1 | DV | M | W | 1990 | 711 (69%) | 133 (41%) | 57 (77%) | 256 (54%) |
| Ruben | 8 | | M | W | 1981 | 788 (81%) | 150 (57%) | 51 (75%) | 289 (66%) |
| Total | | | | | | 7920 (76%) | 1445 (52%) | 550 (77%) | 2864 (61%) |

Note: The table provides basic demographic details for the 12 Davidson County general sessions judges. Each judge is elected to an eight-year term in a division. The DV judges preside over DV courts. OP refers to two additional judges, Aaron Holt and Casey Moreland, who were not elected to DV courts but heard requests for protection orders. In our main empirical specification, we treat them as general sessions judges but explore how our estimates change if we examine each judge’s decision making separately.

Table A2: Defendant Arrest and Jail Docket Timing

| Arrest Day and Time | Misdemeanor Jail Docket (first setting) |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Friday 4:01am – Saturday 4:00am | Wednesday |
| Saturday 4:01am – Monday 4:00am | Thursday |
| Monday 4:01am – Tuesday 4:00am | Friday |
| Tuesday 4:01am – Wednesday 4:00am | Monday |
| Wednesday 4:01am – Thursday 4:00am | Tuesday |
| Thursday 4:01am – Friday 4:00am | Wednesday |

Note: The table shows how arrest days and times correspond to a defendant’s first jail docket setting. If the case cannot be resolved at the first court date, the judge may continue the case, but the case may not be set beyond 10 days from the arrest. If the 10th day falls on a weekend, the next court date would typically be the following Monday.

Table A3: DV Judge Decisions in DV Cases

Panel A: *DV Cases in DV Court vs DV Cases in General Court*

| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| | Incarcerated | | Max Sentence Length | |
| DV Judge | 0.063** (0.020) | 0.055* (0.023) | 1.190 (10.468) | -0.903 (10.649) |
| N | 745 | 745 | 745 | 745 |
| R ² | 0.106 | 0.143 | 0.141 | 0.158 |
| Controls | | X | | X |
| Y Mean | | 0.932 | | 120.7 |

Panel B: *(DV Cases in DV Court vs DV Cases in General Court)*

– *(Non-DV Cases in DV Court vs Non-DV Cases in General Court)*

| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| | Incarcerated | | Max Sentence Length | |
| DV Case × DV Judge | -0.005 (0.028) | -0.011 (0.029) | -4.505 (11.487) | -5.147 (11.487) |
| DV Case | 0.125*** (0.013) | 0.134*** (0.014) | 92.261*** (4.846) | 91.040*** (5.004) |
| DV Judge | 0.062** (0.023) | 0.072** (0.022) | 2.578 (3.278) | 1.740 (3.522) |
| N | 5987 | 5987 | 5987 | 5987 |
| R ² | 0.061 | 0.090 | 0.183 | 0.188 |
| Controls | | X | | X |
| Y Mean | | 0.825 | | 41.77 |

Note: The table replicates the results in Table 3. Here, we report the estimates conditional on conviction. The regressions are estimated on the sample as described in the Table 3 notes. Results are significant at the + 10%, * 5%, ** 1%, and *** 0.1% level.

Table A4: DV Courts and Future Criminal Contact for Defendants

Panel A: *DV Cases in DV Court vs DV Cases in General Court*

| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
|----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | Any DV Charge <3 yrs | Any Assault Charge <3 yrs | Any Charge <3 yrs | DV-Related Felony <3 yrs |
| DV Judge | -0.031 (0.048) | -0.049 (0.048) | 0.052 (0.047) | 0.005 (0.055) |
| N | 745 | 745 | 745 | 745 |
| R ² | 0.115 | 0.082 | 0.145 | 0.126 |
| Y Mean | 0.349 | 0.460 | 0.824 | 0.340 |

Panel B: *(DV Cases in DV Court vs DV Cases in General Court) – (Non-DV Cases in DV Court vs Non-DV Cases in General Court)*

| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | Any DV Charge <3 yrs | Any Assault Charge <3 yrs | Any Charge <3 yrs | DV-Related Felony <3 yrs |
| DV Case × DV Judge | 0.004 (0.052) | -0.040 (0.057) | 0.040 (0.040) | -0.032 (0.052) |
| DV Case | 0.186*** (0.022) | 0.141*** (0.024) | -0.057*** (0.017) | 0.019 (0.021) |
| DV Judge | -0.014 (0.012) | 0.022 (0.019) | -0.001 (0.014) | 0.035+ (0.019) |
| N | 5987 | 5987 | 5987 | 5987 |
| R ² | 0.081 | 0.037 | 0.087 | 0.056 |
| Y Mean | 0.141 | 0.325 | 0.869 | 0.323 |

Note The table replicates the results from Table 8. In Table 8, the effects for future court appearances are estimated regardless of conviction. Here, we report the conditional estimates. The regressions are estimated on the sample as described in the Table 8 notes. Results are significant at the + 10%, * 5%, ** 1%, and *** 0.1% level.