

Abstract for Derek Neal's, University of Chicago and NBER, paper,

“The Impacts of Parole Supervision.”

(Joint with Luke Brinkman, Washington University in St. Louis, and Andrew Jordan, Washington University in St. Louis)

We study the impacts of a reform to post-release supervision in IL. The reform reduced the term of post-release supervision among lower-level offenders from 12 months to 6 months. We find little to no evidence that this reform increased rates of return to prison associated with new crimes. However, the reform reduced the 12-month rate of prison re-entries associated with technical revocations by roughly nine percentage points, which is more than 45 percent of the pre-reform baseline rate. We find similar results using differences-in-differences models, simple pre-post regressions, and competing risks models.