

## Robert Rico, Ed.D.

The College for Health, Community and Policy  
One UTSA Circle  
San Antonio, TX 78249  
robert.rico@utsa.edu

---

### EDUCATION

**The University of Texas at Austin**, Austin, TX 2022

Doctor of Education:

Higher Education Leadership

Dissertation: *Restorative Justice and Student Conduct Leadership*

**The University of Texas at San Antonio**, San Antonio, TX 2004

Master of Public Administration:

Capstone Project: *Exit Paper: "The Administration and Evaluation of a San Antonio Juvenile Restorative Justice Program: Neighborhood Conferencing Committees*

**The University of Texas at San Antonio**, San Antonio, TX 2001

Bachelor of Arts:

Criminal Justice Major

**San Antonio Community College**, San Antonio, TX 1998

Associate Degree:

Criminal Justice Major

**Sam Houston State University**, Huntsville, TX 2005

Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas

Leadership Command College (LCC)

Law Enforcement Leadership Education

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**The University of Texas at San Antonio** **2006-present**

**Associate Professor of Practice & Director of Restorative Practices** **2019-present**  
**College for Health Community and Policy**

***Major responsibilities***

- I served as Coordinator of Restorative Practices from 2019-2021, then became Director in 2021.

- Design, develop, coordinate, and implement a comprehensive restorative justice practices program.
- Facilitate and support restorative justice offerings, including community gathering circles.
- Develop, implement, and host regular events and training sessions across the university to inform students, faculty, and staff about restorative justice practices.
- Facilitate conflicts using restorative justice processes such as victim-offender mediation, conferences, and circles.
- Collaborate with campus partners and with national and local organizations.
- Collaborate with members of the university leadership team on developing and administering programs, policies, and procedures.
- Chaired the Restorative Justice Steering Committee
- Chaired the President's Inclusive Excellence Scholarship Committee

**Associate Professor of Practice**

**2006-present**

**Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice**

***Major responsibilities***

- Design, develop, and teach large sections of undergraduate courses
- Teach courses via electronic learning platforms
- Served as Graduate Advisor of Record
- Served on the Faculty Senate
- Served on numerous committees and working groups
- Developed and coordinated the Criminal Justice Summer Camp
- Supervised practicum course for graduate and undergraduate students

**City of Boerne Police Department, Boerne, TX**

**1990-2011**

***Police Sergeant – Administrator***

***Major responsibilities***

- Developed policies and procedures
- Served as a School Resource Officer and Youth Crimes Investigator
- Developed and served as the inaugural program coordinator for the restorative justice program
- Participated in various community boards and school committees
- Fostered collaborations with community stakeholders to identify problem areas in neighborhoods and work on resolutions
- Developed community engagement practices that strengthen relationships and trust with the community and schools
- Developed and coordinated the following programs: Restorative Justice Program, School Campus Crime Stoppers Program, School Safety Patrol Program, Gang Resistance Education and Training Program

## TEACHING

---

<b>The University of Texas at San Antonio</b>	<b>2006-present</b>
---	---------------------

***Instructor and Course Designer***

*The American Criminal Justice System, three-credit course (2009-2015)*

*Introduction to Policing, three-credit course (2006-2015)*

*Investigations, three-credit course (2018-present)*

*Introduction to Forensic Science, three-credit course (2010-2013)*

*Juvenile Justice, three-credit course (2024)*

*Restorative Justice, three-credit course, developed course (2011-2025)*

*Police Community Relations, three-credit course (2009-2017)*

*Probation, Parole, and Intermediate Sanctions, three-credit course (2008)*

*Nature of Crime and Justice, three-credit course (2009)*

*Family Violence, three-credit course, developed course (2012-2019)*

*Contemporary Police Practices, three-credit course (2024-present)*

## PUBLICATIONS

**Rico, R. , & Taylor, Z. W. (2020).** Campus policing in the age of campus carry. In P. Somers & M. Valentine (Eds.), *Campus carry: Confronting a loaded issue in higher education* (pp. 81-94). Cambridge, MA: Harvard Educational Publishing Group.

Lang, G., Bailey, D., Curtis, K., **Rico, R.**, Patton, S. Karydas, J., ... Sepeda, E. (2016). Restorative discipline practices: A journey in implementation by a community of Texas educators. Austin, TX: Park Place Publications.

**Rico, R. (2015).** A classroom out of control opens up. In M. S. Umbreit, J. Blevins & T. Lewis (Eds.), *The energy of forgiveness: Lessons from those in restorative dialogue* (pp. 63-65). Eugene, OR: Cascade Publications.

## SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

**Rico, R.** “Restorative Justice: Building Relationships and Creating Caring Communities”, presented at the 2025 Whole Child Whole Community Conference, Communities in Schools San Antonio, November 5, 2025, San Antonio, Texas.

**Rico, R.** "Restorative Justice: Humanizing Conflicts and Building Community", presented at the 2025 Whole Child Whole Community Conference, Communities in Schools San Antonio, November 5, 2025, San Antonio, Texas.

**Rico, R.** "Restorative Justice: An Approach to Strengthen Relationships and Building Community", presented at the 2024 Whole Child Whole Community Conference, Communities in Schools San Antonio, November 15, 2024, San Antonio, Texas.

**Rico, R.** , Harris, N., & McMahon, S. "Campus RJ Implementation: Creativity, Inquiry, and Critical Appraisal", Workshop presented at the 8<sup>th</sup> National Association for Community and Restorative Justice, Chicago, Illinois, July 7, 2022.

**Rico, R.** "Restorative Justice: A Relational Approach to Reentry", Workshop presented at the Annual Conference for The International Community Corrections Association, San Antonio, Texas, September 16, 2018.

**Rico, R.** "Restorative Policing in The School Setting: A Relational Approach Towards Safer School", presented at TEXRP State Conference, Arlington Convention Center, Arlington, Texas, October 23-24, 2017.

**Rico, R.** , Sepeda, E., Morrison, L., & Karydas, J. "How Restorative Justice Can Impact Your Community", panel presentation at The SXSWedu 2017, JW Marriott, Austin, Texas, March 6-9, 2017.

**Rico, R.** "Introduction to Restorative Justice", Workshop presented at the 5<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Community and Restorative Justice, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, June 1-3, 2015.

**Rico, R.** "Introduction to Restorative Justice", Workshop presented at the 4<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Community and Restorative Justice, Toledo, Ohio, June 19-21, 2013.

**Rico, R.** "Introduction to Restorative Justice", Workshop presented at the 3rd National Conference on Community and Restorative Justice, Raleigh, North Carolina, June 8-11, 2011.

**Rico, R.** "Introduction to Restorative Justice", Workshop presented at the Texas Community Service Association Annual Conference, Fredericksburg, Texas, October 24-27, 2010.

**Rico, R.** , Armour, M. P., & Manelos, J. "Peacemaking Circles & Family Group Conferencing: Successful Restorative Justice Programs in Juvenile Courts", Panel presentation at the Robert O. Dawson Juvenile Law Institute, 23rd Annual Juvenile Law Conference, Westin Park Central, Dallas, Texas, February 18-20, 2010.

**Rico, R.** "Introduction to Restorative Justice", Workshop presented at the 2nd National Conference on Community and Restorative Justice, The University of Texas at San Antonio-Downtown Campus, San Antonio, TX, May 13-15, 2009.

## **THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO SERVICE**

Campus Climate Review Results & Recommendations Committee (2025 -present)  
Campus Expression & Policy Education Group (2025-present)  
Center for Dialogue and Deliberation Advisory Team (2024-present)  
HCAP Community Engagement Advisory Board (2024-present)  
Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards, Rowdy Care Group (2022-present)  
Leadership & Character Working Group (2024-2025)  
Coordinating Community Response Team (2024)  
Chair, Restorative Justice Steering Committee (2020-2023)  
Inclusive Excellence Advisory Board (2021-2023)  
Public Safety Advisory Board (2022-2023)  
President's Inclusive Excellence Scholarship Committee (2019-2023)  
Campus Climate Council (2021-2023)  
President's Initiative for Respectful Discourse Committee (2019)  
Hearing Officer, Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards (2021)  
Undergraduate Program Committee (2016-2017)

## **PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Leadership Northside, Champions for Northside Independent School District  
My Brother's Keeper San Antonio Collaborative Committee – UP Partnership  
Served on the Advisory Council, National Association of Community and Restorative Justice  
Served on the San Antonio Police Department, Investigative Standard Operating Procedures, and  
Citizen Review Panel  
Served on the Big Brothers Big Sisters, Juvenile Justice Council Advisory Committee  
Served as Program Coordinator for the Restorative Justice Program of Kendall County  
Served as President of the Kendall County United Way Board of Directors  
Served on the Board of Directors for the Kendall County Child Services  
Served on the Board of Directors for the Kids Advocacy Place in Kerr County

Served on the Committee for Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Task Force

### **SCHOLARSHIPS, HONORS, AWARDS, AND CERTIFICATES**

Nominee for the 2025 University Excellence Award for Community Engagement.

Association of College and University Educators (ACUE), Microcredential in Inclusive Teaching for Equitable Learning, 2021

Nominee for the 2019-20 President's Distinguished Achievement Award for Community Engagement as Non-Tenure Track Faculty.

Nominee for the 2019 President's Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching Excellence.

Nominee for the 2018 President's Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching Excellence.

Master Peace Officer Certification, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, 2000

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

National Association for Community and Restorative Justice (NACRJ)