

# MICHAEL SIERRA-ARÉVALO

AUTHOR | PROFESSOR | SPEAKER

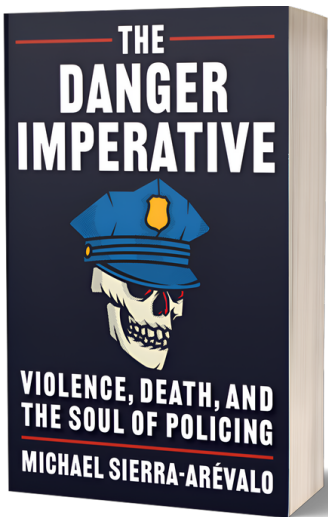


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**Michael Sierra-Arévalo** is an author and professor based in Austin, TX. He is a leading expert on policing, violence, and public safety whose work is widely featured in outlets such as *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post*, *GQ*, *NPR*, *Vox*, and more. He regularly speaks to public and expert audiences, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the American Bar Association (ABA), and Harvard University.

His new book, **The Danger Imperative: Violence, Death, & the Soul of Policing**, shows how police culture's singular focus on "officer safety" drives police violence. Drawing on over 100 interviews and 1,000 hours on patrol, this unflinching look behind the blue wall is vital for the public, policymakers, and police who want to understand not only how police violence happens, but also why.



Michael is faculty in the Department of Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin and is affiliated with the Policing Project at New York University School of Law and the Justice Collaboratory at Yale Law School. From 2020 to 2023, he served on the City of Austin's Public Safety Commission where he advised on police training and oversight. He holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from Yale University.

## PRAISE FOR THE DANGER IMPERATIVE:

**"The Danger Imperative should transform how we understand policing at its core."**

Monica C. Bell, Yale Law School

**Sierra-Arévalo "explains why the institution that is charged with keeping us safe can also cause so much harm."**

Bruce Western, Author of *HOMEWARD: Life in the Year After Prison*

**"A masterful contribution, from its harrowing opening pages to its clear-eyed conclusion."**

Christopher Uggen, Co-author of *LOCKED OUT: Felon Disenfranchisement and American Democracy*

## SPEAKING TOPICS:

**WHAT POLICE REALLY BELIEVE:** Police culture, training, & violence

**THE WAR ON COPS MYTH:** Police politics, public perception, & policy

**WATCHING THE WATCHERS:** Police misconduct, reform, & oversight

**THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC SAFETY:** Crime, violence, & the end of mass policing

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