

Outstanding Book Award

The deadline for nominations is September 1, 2026.

Nominations sent to: John DeCarlo, jdecarlo@newhaven.edu

Copy nomination to: Kimberly D. Dodson, dodsonk@uhcl.edu

Eligibility criteria:

To be eligible for an award, the book must:

1. Make an extraordinary contribution to the study of crime and criminal justice.
2. Be published within three (3) calendar years prior to the meeting at which the award will be given. That is, books published in 1991, 1992, and 1993 are eligible for the 1994 award.
3. Not be an edited volume.
4. Not be a textbook. Exceptions can be made for textbooks that offer a new theoretical framework or otherwise make a significant advance in scholarship. The Chair of the Awards Committee will decide if a textbook meets this requirement.
5. Have at least one (co)author who is a current ACJS member in good standing at the time the book is nominated.

Nomination requirements: ACJS sends out an annual request for nominations for the Outstanding Book Award. Nominations must be provided electronically to the subcommittee chair by the established due date. Only the nominations that meet the eligibility criteria will be evaluated based on the selection criteria.

To be considered:

1. Books that have previously won the ACJS Outstanding Book Award are not eligible for nomination.
2. At least one of the book co-authors must be a current member of ACJS in good standing.
3. The nominators must be current members of ACJS in good standing.
4. Nominations for the Outstanding Book Award are restricted to members of the Academy. Individuals who are involved in the production of a book, or who have a financial interest in it, may not nominate that book for this award.
5. Self-nominations from authors are allowed.
6. The nomination should include the official nomination letter. The letter should provide specific information about how the nominated book fits the award criteria.

7. To be considered for the book award, the publisher, nominator, or author must provide electronic complementary copies of the books to all members of the Book Award Subcommittee. Deadline for submission is August 31.
8. If the number of nominated books exceeds six (6), the Awards Committee Chair will have the discretion of selecting the six (6) most promising books for consideration by the Book Award Subcommittee.

Selection criteria: The subcommittee for this award shall examine the nomination letters and the CV against the eligibility criteria and nomination requirements, as listed above. Only nominations that meet the eligibility criteria and nomination requirements will be considered for the award.