

2017 SCHOOL SAFETY TRAINING FORUM

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

In Alphabetical Order

DANIEL ANGLIN

Daniel Anglin is currently the Coordinator of Safe Schools for Virginia Beach City Public Schools. Working in the office of Safety and Loss Control, Mr. Anglin is tasked with developing and implementing the district's Emergency Response Plan, coordinating with public safety officials for both the school safety and for emergency shelters, delivering training on crisis management, and providing overall safety and security. Prior to his current position with Safety and Loss Control, he was an Assistant Principal and Student Activities Coordinator for Virginia Beach.

KATIE BARBOSA

Katie Barbosa spent eight years teaching middle school students before stepping out of the classroom into a division-wide role that provides support to schools and teachers. Currently she works for Hampton City Schools as an assistant principal. Ms. Barbosa formerly provided coaching and support to school teams on the implementation of PBIS, bullying prevention, and working with students from diverse backgrounds. She has also assisted teachers in the areas of classroom management and dealing with difficult student behaviors. Ms. Barbosa has an Educational Specialist degree in Administration and Supervision from Old Dominion University, a Masters of Arts in Teaching from Christopher Newport University, and a Bachelors of Arts in Political Science from Christopher Newport University.

BONNIE BAZEMORE

Bonnie began her career in education in 1970 as a first grade teacher in the York County School Division. After 17 years in the classroom, she moved on to administration, serving as an assistant principal, principal, and associate director of student services. Upon retirement 12 years ago, she had the opportunity to serve as a recruitment specialist for the York County School Division, as well as a mentor to first year teachers and a supervisor of teacher candidates from four different universities. Recently Bonnie served as an interim administrator in the role of director of student services and then as an interim middle school principal. Along with the wide experience in education, Bonnie brings an awareness of the challenges and rewards of working with law enforcement. She helped form and served as the first president of the Virginia State Police Association Auxiliary.

KENITA BOWERS

Kenita Bowers joined Richmond Public Schools (RPS) as the Director of Communications and Media Relations in 2015. Her responsibilities include leading the Office of Communications and Media Relations' efforts in implementing a strategic communications plan for developing methods of internal communications standardization, stakeholder engagement, marketing collateral and publication design, multimedia production, and special event coordination. Prior to joining RPS, Kenita served as the Director of Community Engagement, Legislative Affairs and Media Relations for Isle of Wight County Schools. Before going to Isle of Wight, she was the Community Affairs Media Coordinator and Producer for

the NBC affiliate WAVY-TV 10/WVBT FOX43 and an Adjunct Professor at Hampton University's Scripps Howard School of Journalism. Throughout her career, she has developed a results-driven reputation for creative branding tactics and media relations best practices. Kenita is a graduate of both Hampton University, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Media – Broadcast Journalism, and Norfolk State University, where she earned a Master of Arts Degree in Public Relations. She is the Vice President of Public Relations on the board of the local chapter of the National School Public Relations Association (NSPRA) and an active member of the Richmond chapter of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA). As an accredited public relations practitioner with over 15 years of experience, she has presented at local, regional, and national conferences.

JAMES CHRISTIAN

James Christian is the K-12 School Safety Coordinator for the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety in the Law Enforcement Division of the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). He collaborates with school divisions, law enforcement agencies, and numerous local, state, and federal partners to improve school safety, provide technical assistance, and facilitate training across the Commonwealth. Prior to working at DCJS he served in several capacities in public education—as a principal of a 6–12 alternative school, high school assistant principal, and special education teacher. He began his career in education as a wood-working, building trades, and automotive technology teacher at a private residential treatment center. Prior to working in education James was a paratrooper in the United States Army with an airborne division. He went on to work for the Chesapeake Police Department where he was assigned to the uniform patrol division as a police officer. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, Masters in Special Education, and an Education Specialist degree in School Administration and Leadership.

VICTORIA COCHRAN

In January, 2014, Governor Terry McAuliffe appointed Victoria Cochran to serve as the Commonwealth of Virginia's Deputy Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security. Immediately prior to her appointment, Ms. Cochran was Director for the Office of Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice Services in the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS). Since 2001, Ms. Cochran has worked as a criminal justice and mental health "boundary spanner," leading key stakeholder groups throughout the Commonwealth to develop programmatic, policy and process initiatives that enhance systems interoperability and improve outcomes for justice involving individuals with behavioral health issues. Her leadership was instrumental in establishing Virginia's first Crisis Intervention Team and the program's ensuing statewide expansion. Ms. Cochran is a licensed attorney who spent 17 years as a Public Defender in Southwest Virginia. Additionally, she served as adjunct faculty in the Radford University Department of Criminal Justice 2004–2010. Ms. Cochran received her B.A. from Oberlin College and

her J.D. from the Marshall Wythe School of Law at the College of William and Mary. She is a 2007 graduate of the Sorensen Institute's Political Leaders Program at the University of Virginia.

CHRISTINA CONOLLY

Christina N. Conolly, PsyD, NCSP, is the director for psychological services with Montgomery County Public Schools in Maryland. She is the former director for crisis intervention and safety for Waukegan Public Schools. She supervised the suicide prevention program, district mental health response team, district and school crisis plan development, and incident action planning for large-scale school events. She oversaw the district's bullying committee and efforts to develop policies, procedures, and curriculum used to combat bullying in the schools. Dr. Conolly has authored and coauthored several articles and a book on the PREPaRE school crisis prevention and intervention curriculum.

KIRK CUMPSTON

Kirk Cumpston completed a Bachelor's of Science degree in General Biology from Purdue University, and a Doctor of Osteopathy degree from the University of Des Moines, College of Osteopathic Medicine. After this, residency in Emergency Medicine at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and a fellowship in Medical Toxicology at the University of Illinois at Chicago, John H. Stroger Jr. Hospital of Cook County and Rush University Medical Center, in Chicago, IL. His first academic position was as the Medical Director of the New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center, and Assistant Professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine and College of Pharmacy at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center. Dr. Cumpston has been at Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center since 2006. Currently he is an Associate Professor in the Division of Clinical Toxicology, Department of Emergency Medicine, and Medical Director of the Virginia Poison Center. His primary scholarly interests are in medical toxicology. He works clinically as an emergency medicine physician and provides outpatient and inpatient medical toxicology consultation. He is the Associate Program Director of the Medical Toxicology Fellowship and Director of the GME and medical student medical toxicology rotation at Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center.

GENE DEISINGER

Dr. Gene Deisinger is a Managing Partner and Co-Founder of SIGMA Threat Management Associates, a professional services firm involving internationally recognized experts in psychology and behavior, law, organizational development, security, and law enforcement. SIGMA provides threat assessment training and consulting services to clients worldwide. SIGMA helps clients evaluate threatening circumstances, manage situations, mitigate risk for violence, and enhance the safety and well-being of their communities. SIGMA serves a broad range of clients including educational institutions, governmental agencies, security and protective services agencies, corporations, and public figures. In February 2015, Dr. Deisinger was retained as the Threat Management Consultant for the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety. As an independent contractor, Dr. Deisinger provides training and consultation for schools, campuses, government, and law enforcement agencies across the Commonwealth of Virginia. Until his retirement in November 2014, Dr. Deisinger also served as Deputy Chief of Police and Director of Threat Management

Services for Virginia Tech, positions to which he had been recruited following the 2007 mass casualty incident at that campus. As executive officer for the Virginia Tech Police Department (VTPD), Major Deisinger provided leadership for law enforcement operations to support a safe and secure campus environment. In addition to his command responsibilities with VTPD, Dr. Deisinger also managed the university's multi-disciplinary threat management functions. Dr. Deisinger earned his doctorate in psychology from Iowa State University. He is a licensed psychologist, a certified health service provider in psychology, and, until his retirement, a certified law enforcement officer.

RACHEL DEPOMPA

Rachel DePompa is the investigative reporter for *WWBT NBC12* in Richmond, Virginia. She's been named best reporter in the Virginias by the AP for Broadcasters and has won numerous Murrow and Emmy awards. Rachel has worked at TV stations across Virginia including *WHSV* in Harrisonburg, *WCYB* in Bristol, and *WDBJ* in Roanoke. She was one of the first journalists on the scene of the Virginia Tech tragedy 10 years ago. Her stories have exposed complicated Ponzi schemes, corruption, and misuse of tax dollars, leading to several federal investigations with convictions.

Twitter: @RachelDePompa — Facebook: Rachel DePompa NBC12

FRANCINE C. ECKER

Francine C. Ecker was appointed by Governor Terry McAuliffe as the Director of the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services in April of 2014. In this position Ms. Ecker is responsible for the overall operations of the Commonwealth's criminal justice planning agency including the administration of over 350 million dollars in state and federal criminal justice funds. Prior to her appointment as agency head, Fran was the Senior Policy Advisor for Strategic Planning for the National Criminal Justice Association, where she consulted with federal, state, and local government in the areas of criminal justice planning, evidence-based program development, and organizational management. From 2003–2010 she served as a Division Director at DCJS, where she was responsible for the Corrections, Juvenile, and Victim Services Sections of the agency, as well as for Department training activities. Ms. Ecker has over 25 years of management experience in state and local government. Throughout her career in government service, and previous work as the Executive Director of a rural victim services program in the New River Valley, she has been instrumental in the design, development, and implementation of state and local criminal justice programs. Ms. Ecker currently serves on the Governor's Task Force on Prescription Drug and Heroin Abuse, the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Advisory Committee, the Virginia Drug Court Advisory Committee, the Executive Committee of the Virginia Center for Behavioral Health and Justice and as a member of the Board of the Virginia Center for Policing Innovation and the National Criminal Justice Association. Ms. Ecker earned her B.S.W. in Social Welfare in 1978, and Ed.M. in Counseling Psychology in 1981 from Temple University. She resides in Goochland County.

SHELLIE EVERS

Shellie Evers currently serves as the School and Campus Safety Training and Conference Coordinator and Grant Monitor for the Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety. She has planned, developed, and/or facilitated hundreds of conferences and trainings in all areas of K-12 school safety including active shooter, anti-bullying, climate improvement, emergency planning, gang prevention and awareness, human trafficking, mental health awareness, social media, suicide prevention, threat assessment, trauma informed care, and legal issues. Before coming to DCJS in 2012, Mrs. Evers spent 16 years in Hanover County Public Schools where she was responsible for emergency planning, facility use, energy conservation, as well as safety related training and sustainability. After successful coordination and evaluation of multiple Federal grants, certification as an Incident Command System (ICS) Instructor and Liaison Officer, she began mentoring other school divisions desiring to enhance safety and emergency planning protocols. Mrs. Evers' resume includes grant monitoring, management, and peer review, as well as planning and facilitation of 17 all-hazards exercises, tabletops, functional and full scale, as well as over thirty crisis team building and specialized training sessions for school system personnel and first responders. She is a certified Master Exercise Practitioner (MEP), has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business from Averett University and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Norwich University.

MARK FOWLER

A native of Wales, United Kingdom, Mr. Fowler has a love and a passion for education with over 27 years as a teacher and administrator on both sides of the Atlantic. He started his education career in Cardiff in 1985, when he received his Post Graduate Certificate in Education from Cardiff College in the UK. He came to the United States and received his master's degree from James Madison University in 1990, and his Post Masters Certificate in Administration and Educational Leadership from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2004. He has 12 years of experience as a high school administrator, working 11 of those with fellow presenter Officer John Kimenhour. He has in-depth knowledge and experience in all aspects of high school administration and presents on a regular basis for DCJS on SRO and school administration roles and relationships.

SHANNON FREEMAN

Shannon Freeman works in the Office of the Attorney General of Virginia as the program coordinator for Virginia Rules, a state-specific law-related education program for middle and high school students. The purpose of Virginia Rules is to educate young Virginians about Virginia laws and help them develop skills needed to make sound decisions, avoid breaking laws, and become active citizens of their schools and communities. Ms. Freeman coordinates instructor training, develops resource materials, manages the interactive website at www.virginiarules.org, and develops and maintains partnerships to strengthen the program and enhance its usage statewide. Before joining the Office of the Attorney General in 2014, she spent nine years as the Ombudsman for the Virginia Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund (CICF), assisting victims of crime as they navigated the CICF claims process and leading the agency's training team. She was also one of the program coordinators for the Virginia Victim Assistance Academy and helped manage the state's Crisis

Response Team. Prior to her CICF tenure, she spent over nine years with the YWCA of Richmond, central Virginia's largest crisis center for sexual assault and domestic violence victims, coordinating training, outreach and media relations, and managing volunteers. Ms. Freeman has a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Virginia Tech and has completed coursework towards her Master's Degree in Public Administration at Virginia Commonwealth University.

TERESA GOOCH

Teresa P. Gooch joined the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services' senior management team in 2011. She is currently the director of the Law Enforcement division. Ms. Gooch has extensive experience in and knowledge of law enforcement and the criminal justice system. She was a career employee with the City of Richmond, Virginia Police Department, serving as the Assistant Chief of Police responsible for coordinating all operational activities for Uniformed Operations, Investigative Operations, Organized Crime, Research and Planning, Personnel and Training, and Administrative Operations. Prior to her role as Assistant Chief of Police, she served as an Interim Chief of Police, Deputy Police Chief, Police Captain, and Police Lieutenant. Ms. Gooch managed all aspects of police operations and has extensive experience interacting with other police and law enforcement agencies, public officials, community officials, and the media. Ms. Gooch earned a Bachelor's degree in Administration of Justice from Guilford College, and a Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Virginia Commonwealth University. She has completed ongoing professional training from Harvard University, Boston University, and the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Institute.

DAVID GRANIRER

David Granirer is a counselor, stand-up comic, author, and founder of Stand Up For Mental Health (SMH), a program teaching stand-up comedy to people with mental health issues. Mr. Granirer, who himself has depression, is featured in the VOICE Award winning documentary *Cracking Up*. He also received a Life Unlimited Award from Depression Bipolar Support Alliance, a Welcome Back Award from the National Council of Behavioral Health, and a Champion of Mental Health Award. He has worked with mental health organizations in Canada, the U.S., and Australia to train and perform with SMH groups in dozens of cities. – www.standupformentalhealth.com

JIM HARRIS

Dr. Jim Harris is the owner of Opportunities Consulting Services and the Associate Director of the West Virginia Autism Training Center at Marshall University. He has worked with children and families throughout his career as an early interventionist, parent educator, educational consultant, and behavioral health therapist. Dr. Harris has presented at a variety of conferences from the local to the international levels on such topics as behavioral intervention, parenting, positive behavior support, trauma-informed care, organizational change, and many more. He is the creator of "10 Things You Need to Know About Kids", an audio program that helps parents and teachers be more effective in their work with children. He has also worked with a variety of public and private entities including the Fred Rogers Company, United States Department of Education, the Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children, and many more. For more information about Dr. Harris visit www.ocshelps.com.

ROB HEFNER

Rob Hefner is currently the Director of Training for the Virginia D.A.R.E. Training Center. He is also the past President of the Virginia D.A.R.E. Association. He has served on the board for over 11 years. He works as a D.A.R.E. / School Resource Officer for the Culpeper County Sheriff's Office and is assigned to Farmington and Yowell elementary schools. Officer Hefner is trained in all levels of the D.A.R.E. Program and is a certified Mentor. He is also a Certified Crime Prevention Specialist.

HAMLET HOOD

Hamlet E. Hood, Jr. is a retired Police Officer (Lieutenant, Ret.) from the Richmond, Virginia Police Department (RPD) where he served for over 29 years—from 1982 to 2012. During his time as a lieutenant, he served in several areas within the department, such as Sector Commander in the East End and Downtown and OIC of the Organized Crime Divisions Gang Unit. As a Sector Commander, he engaged communities by partnering with community leaders, identifying their problems and working cooperatively to resolve them. As the leader of the Gang Unit, he developed training presentations to address all groups who are responsible for youth in the community to address gang vulnerable youth and possible gang related issues in the community. He is presently a Gang Investigator and Trainer for the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Juvenile Justice, Investigative Unit, where he conducts Gang Awareness Trainings across the state.

TAYA JARMAN

Taya M. Jarman, APR, is an accomplished communications professional with several years' experience developing and implementing communication strategies that support organizational objectives. She is the Communications Director for the Virginia Department of Health Office of Family Health Services. In this role, Mrs. Jarman is responsible for developing guidelines and the overall strategy for the *VDHLiveWell* brand. Prior to VDH, she created the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles' (DMV) award-winning social media program. During her four years at DMV, she managed internal communications including its employee newsletter and initiatives. Before DMV, she was the spokesperson and Community Outreach Coordinator for Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). While at VDOT, she assisted with international media relations and credentialing Queen Elizabeth II's visit to Richmond and Jamestown. Mrs. Jarman has extensive experience as a strategic and creative thinker. She worked as a consultant for the Annual BET Award Show in Los Angeles, California where she facilitated multiple celebrity press conferences and organized media placement along the red carpet. Ms. Jarman graduated with a Master of Science degree in strategic public relations from Virginia Commonwealth University, where she studied abroad in China (Beijing and Shanghai). She also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in communication and leadership from Christopher Newport University and a graduate certification in general management public relations from the University of Maryland University College. She's a graduate of Leadership Metro Richmond and John Hopkins Bloomsburg School of Public Health, and a board member of the Public Relations Society of America, Richmond Chapter. She has also taught several public relations courses at Virginia State University and served as a guest lecturer at Howard University, Virginia Union University, Bowie State University, and North Carolina A&T.

REBECCA KAHILA

An educator with 35 years of experience as a teacher, school administrator, student services supervisor, and principal mentor, Rebecca Kahila is currently serving Virginia schools as a School Safety and Discipline Specialist with the Office of Student Services in the Virginia Department of Education. Building strong supports to ensure success for every student has been a cornerstone of Ms. Kahila's career. She has designed, implemented, and supervised e-learning initiatives, on time graduation initiatives, alternative instructional programming, English literacy initiatives, and student assistance programming in Virginia and in the United Arab Emirates. Her work focuses on reframing approaches to school discipline. She also writes children's books.

JOHN KIMENHOUR

John Kimenhour has been in law enforcement for 23 years. His first six years were spent serving as a Maritime Law Enforcement Officer in the US Coast Guard. Since then, he has been a police officer for 17 years with Chesterfield County Police Department. During his first three years he worked the midnight patrol. In January 2003, Officer Kimenhour started in the School Resource Officer (SRO) program in a middle school. Later he transferred to the largest high school in Chesterfield County with a student population over 2,400. He has also worked as an SRO at Community High Night School, Chesterfield's only alternative high school, and is currently at the high school where he began. Since 2014, he has instructed SRO classes throughout the state for DCJS. He was a guest speaker for the Attorney General's Office at the 2015 Virginia Triad 20th Anniversary Conference. He is a member of the Virginia Victim Assistance Network and National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO).

BOBBY KIPPER

Bobby Kipper is a best-selling author and national expert in the areas of youth and gang violence reduction. As the former director of Virginia's Gang Reduction Program, he headed one of the most successful gang reduction models in recent history. His experience covers over three decades of working in the critical areas of prevention and intervention of youth delinquency and crime. His work has been recognized by Congress and the White House and has been featured in communities across America. His model approach of prevention, intervention, enforcement and re-entry has been offered as a model for communities nationwide. His comprehensive planning model was first recognized by the International Association of Chiefs of Police in 2007. In 2009, he founded the National Center for the Prevention of Community Violence. His current best-selling book, *No Colors: 100 Ways to Stop Gangs from Taking Away Our Communities* was published in 2011 by Morgan-James Publishing in New York. As founder of the National Center for the Prevention of Community Violence, Bobby Kipper has extensive experience in the area of preventing youth and community violence nationwide. His background includes working on a number of key national initiatives with the White House, Congress, and the Department of Justice. In addition, he serves Virginia Department of Education as a School Safety and Discipline Specialist.

GERARD LAWSON

Dr. Gerard Lawson is an Associate Professor in the School of Education at Virginia Tech, past-president of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES), and past-president of the Virginia Counselors Association. Gerard earned his bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech, in Human Development, his Master's in Counseling from Longwood College, and doctorate in Counselor Education from the College of William and Mary, all in Virginia. He is a Licensed Professional Counselor, a National Certified Counselor, and an Approved Clinical Supervisor. Dr. Lawson was elected the 66th president of the American Counseling Association, and will serve in that office from July 2017–June 2018. Since joining the faculty at Virginia Tech, Dr. Lawson has published his research in prestigious journals including the Journal of Counseling and Development, Counselor Education and Supervision, and The Clinical Supervisor. He has presented at national and international conferences on a range of topics including counselor wellness, crisis response and resilience, and clinical supervision. Gerard is the Principle Investigator on \$1.6 million in grants from the National Institutes of Justice, to explore influences on the School to Prison Pipeline. He has been involved in training and consulting across the country to help keep kids in the classroom, and out of the courtroom. Dr. Lawson was instrumental in helping to coordinate the counseling response to the tragic shootings at Virginia Tech in 2007, and he is the principle author of Virginia Tech's first Disaster Mental Health Plan. He chaired the ACA Taskforce on Crisis Response Planning and has authored several articles on counselor wellness and resilience, particularly when working in disaster mental health. Under his leadership, Virginia Tech's Counselor Education Program awarded the 2009 Robert Frank Outstanding Counselor Education Program Award, and in 2011 Dr. Lawson was selected as the American Counseling Association's Robert Rencken Professional Leadership Award. In 2012, he was awarded the John R. Cook Award by the Virginia Counselors Association, was awarded the inaugural Martin Ritchie Award for Advocacy in 2015, and in 2017 he was awarded the Virginia Tech College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Land-Grant Scholar Award.

CHRISTA MARKERT

Christa Markert is the Safety and Loss Control Specialist for Virginia Beach City Public Schools. She has worked as a teacher, an Instructional Technology Specialist, and as an Assistant Principal before moving to her current position in Safe Schools. The office is responsible for coordinating safe school initiatives, training, and preventative methods, planning and coordinating school safety audits, and acts as liaison with City Agencies including Virginia Beach Police Department's SRO Program.

JIM MCELLIGOTT

Jim McElligott was raised in Virginia Beach, Virginia. He double majored in Sociology and Political Science and received a Bachelors of Science degree from Virginia Tech in 1984. Mr. McElligott has been employed by the Virginia Beach Police Department since 1985. While in the Uniform Division, he was stationed at the Second Precinct and was involved in summer oceanfront operations, a precinct tactical squad, and served as a field training officer. He also became a state certified general instructor. In 1990, he was assigned to the Community Relations Unit where he was a D.A.R.E. officer. He was transferred to the Detective Bureau in 1994, where he was assigned to the Special Victims Unit (SVU) for over 10 years. While he was assigned to the SVU,

he investigated several hundred cases involving sex crimes, physical and sexual child abuse, and internet crimes against children. In 2004, Mr. McElligott was transferred to the Crime Prevention Unit to become the School Programs Coordinator. One of the many programs he oversees is the award winning *Every 15 Minutes* anti-drunk driving and alcohol awareness program. He was also the liaison to the Virginia Beach Crime Prevention Steering Committee. An important part of his work has been development of in-service training for the 27 school resources officers who are assigned to the middle and high schools in Virginia Beach. He also works with the implementation and coordination of the Virginia Rules legal issues program in all middle and high schools. He has been a recruiter for the police department, and he also coordinated the Virginia Beach Youth Police Academy. In addition, Mr. McElligott has been the liaison to the Detective Bureau where he provides crime prevention resources and assistance to the Bureau. In the fall of 2007, he was appointed to the board of directors of the Virginia Crime Prevention Association as a regional director. Also, in 2007, he received the Law Enforcement Award from the Virginia Beach Crime Prevention Steering Committee for exemplary efforts in crime prevention. The Hampton Roads Crime Prevention Association also presented him with the Crime Prevention Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award in 2007. In 2008, he received the John T. Hanna Award for Traffic Safety Activism from Drive Safe Hampton Roads. Over the years, Mr. McElligott has received two awards from MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) for outstanding continuing efforts in educating students in Virginia Beach about the consequences of underage drinking and driving. In 2009, he was elected Secretary of the Hampton Roads Crime Prevention Association. Recently, he was awarded the 2013 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award from the Veterans of Foreign Wars. In June of 2013, he was appointed to the board of directors of Drive Safe Hampton Roads, a regional traffic safety activism organization of over 300 members. Mr. McElligott held the position of board chairman from June 2014 until May 2016. In July of 2017, he received a master's degree in criminal justice administration from Troy University.

MARK MEDFORD

Sgt. Mark Medford has worked for the York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office since 1986 and now also serves as the State D.A.R.E. Coordinator. He has been teaching the county's D.A.R.E. Program since 1990. Presently he is a Sergeant in the Administrative Services Division. He is a dynamic teacher and motivator, bringing real life experiences into the classroom. He motivates his students to achieve and understand the impacts of his topics in their lives. He also inspires these students to develop good character and behavior traits that make our communities exceptional places to live. He serves as an inspiring role model for students and parents, and is an active participant in numerous community functions. He generates opportunities to interact with students and parents to reinforce the concepts that D.A.R.E. teaches in our classrooms. He has implemented various community events and has also generated a tremendous amount of community involvement. Sgt. Medford was chosen as Deputy Sheriff of the Year for the State of Virginia in 1997, received the Virginia D.A.R.E. Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010, and the Peninsula Crime Line Law Enforcement Officer of the Year in 2013. He has received numerous other awards and is an honorary member of the York Kiwanis Club. In November 1999, Medford ran for and won a seat on the York County School Board. He was re-elected in 2003, 2007, 2011, and again in 2015, and has served as both the Chair and Vice-Chair.

JAMES MERCANTE

James Mercante has been a marketing and public relations professional with the Richmond Police Department Public Affairs unit for eight years. Mercante's marketing experience includes two years as Event Producer for the *CBS College Tour* which crisscrossed the nation promoting *CBS* programs and sponsors. Following the tour, Mercante embarked upon a 14-year career in television news, which included newsrooms in New York, New Jersey and, after moving to Richmond in 2006, *WTVR CBS6* in Richmond. Mercante is a NY Emmy nominee, an awardee from the Richmond Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America and has also been honored with the Chief's Citation—the highest civilian award in the Richmond Police Department. His wife, Kerri O'Brien, is an investigative reporter and anchor at *WRIC 8News*. Mercante embraces the philosophy of always answering the question you wish they would have asked.

DONNA MICHAELIS

Donna Michaelis has been working in the area of school safety since 1985. She began her career as one of the first Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) officers in the Commonwealth of Virginia with the Chesterfield County Police Department. She also served as the county's first Child Safety Coordinator working in 37 elementary schools and 11 middle schools, developing the Success Through Education and Proactive Policing (STEPP) prevention curriculum. In 1998, she joined the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services as a youth safety specialist in charge of school resource officer training. She is currently a manager within the Law Enforcement Division of DCJS, overseeing Public Safety Training which also incorporates the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety and the Office of Campus Policing and Security. Throughout the years, Ms. Michaelis has worked with many state agencies to partner and collaborate for the school and campus safety professionals she serves. She has also worked on many Governors' initiatives to include 4SAFE VA, KIDSafe Virginia, Prevention Comes First, Governor McDonnell's School and Campus Safety Task Force, and most recently the Governor McAuliffe's Task Force on Combatting Campus Sexual Assault.

KIMBERLY MILLER

Kimberly A. Miller, PhD. is Cherokee, a licensed psychologist and an organizational consultant based in Colorado. Dr. Miller has provided a variety of consulting services to law enforcement agencies, non-profits, hospitals, treatment centers, banks and Native American organizations since 2004. Her concepts are designed to strengthen and improve not only the individual line-level employee skills but also work to improve supervision, management, and the entire organization. Dr. Miller's educational background includes a Bachelor's degree in psychology from Auburn University, a Master's degree in clinical psychology from Ball State University, and a Ph.D. in counseling psychology from Colorado State University. She has been published in several academic journals, has authored four book chapters, and presented at numerous national and international conferences. Dr. Miller also serves as a reviewer for a number of prominent academic journals, and has received several national and international awards. In addition to her academic credentials, Dr. Miller has significant experience in leadership and mentoring with over 20 years of supervision. Clinically, Dr. Miller has worked with diverse clients in both inpatient and outpatient settings. Her areas of expertise include: assessment, substance abuse, eating disorders,

meaning in life, and depression. She has received four grants for her research (two from The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)), which focused on the development and cross-cultural validation of a strength based measure of psychological well-being. Dr. Miller's research interests include strength based psychology and resiliency, culturally sensitive measurement development, job satisfaction, organizational development, psychological well-being, and the epidemiology and treatment of substance use and eating disorders in ethnic minorities.

JOHN MORE

John L. More, J.D. is President, CEO, and the senior legal instructor of Response Law, LLC. He is a nationally acclaimed speaker with 17 years of attorney experience as an insurance defense litigator, a great deal of that litigation experience involved defending schools and public agencies. He is a recognized expert in school and public agency law, and serves as a consultant and negotiator to numerous school districts and police departments. Dr. More is a sought after private trainer for school administrators and school resource officers, and has been providing legal instruction to Virginia educators and officers for the past 16 years. Dr. More's training provides practical, useful information that is scenario-based and backed by Virginia state law, giving law enforcement officers and school personnel methods and strategies they can use on the job.

JIMMY PEARCE

FSgt. Jimmy Pearce has 18 years of public safety experience. He is currently assigned to the patrol bureau with the Prince William County, Virginia Police Department where he is a shift supervisor. Jimmy was previously assigned to the special operations bureau where he was responsible for emergency and continuity planning, WMD counter-proliferation and response, infection and exposure control, and tactical emergency casualty care. He is an experienced law enforcement basic training, firearms, driver training and control tactics instructor. FSgt. Pearce is also an instructor with the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Center for Domestic Preparedness and The Department of Energy's CTOS Program. He instructs in the fields of active shooter and high threat response, CBRNE/hazardous incident response and tactical medicine. In addition to law enforcement experience, he spent 15 years in the volunteer fire service and in 2012, attained the rank of Assistant Fire Chief and Battalion Chief. Additionally, he spent several years on the West Virginia Regional Response Team where his responsibilities included CBRNE/HazMat, technical rescue and special operations response. FSgt. Pearce is a certified fire and explosion investigator, ATFE certified post blast investigator, hazardous materials technician and tactical emergency medical technician. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice and Fire Science from Shepherd University, and a Masters of Homeland Security in Public Health from Pennsylvania State University's College of Medicine.

HEATHER PETERSON

Heather Peterson is an organizational and leadership development professional. She has 17 years of experience in educational training, organizational development, strategic planning, and consulting. Currently, Ms. Peterson works for Hampton City Schools as the Culture and Climate Coordinator. She has been with Hampton for

15 years. She spent 10 of those years supporting Title I schools. She focuses on assessing the climate in schools and the impact of communication and relationships. She develops and facilitates professional development in the areas of: working with students in poverty, effective communication, leadership development, conflict management, and team building. Ms. Peterson has presented at the following national conferences: National Even Start Conference, National Center for Families Learning, and Learning Forward. She has a Masters of Arts degree in Adult Education and Human Development from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication from George Mason University in Fairfax County, Virginia.

MELISSA REEVES

Dr. Melissa Reeves, Ph.D., NCSP, LPC recently served as President of the National Association of School Psychologists (2016–17). She is currently an Associate Professor at Winthrop University, South Carolina in the psychology department and school psychology graduate program, and a senior consultant with Sigma Threat Management Associates, PA. Dr. Reeves is a nationally certified school psychologist, licensed special education teacher, licensed professional counselor, and former district coordinator of social/emotional/behavioral services. She has over 20 years' experience working in public schools and a private school, in addition to providing mental health services in day and residential treatment settings. Dr. Reeves is a co-author of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) PREPaRE School Crisis Prevention and Intervention curriculum, former Chair of the NASP School Safety and Crisis Response Committee which provides consultation and support to school districts across the country after large scale crisis events including school shootings and natural disasters. She was a founding member of the Colorado Society of School Psychologists State-Wide Crisis Response Team, which trained school districts across Colorado in crisis response and was also a crisis responder to support students after Columbine. She travels both nationally and internationally training professionals in the areas of crisis prevention through recovery, threat and suicide assessment, the impact of trauma and PTSD on academic achievement, and cognitive behavior therapy in the school setting. She has conducted more than 200 workshops and presentations and works with schools on establishing a positive and safe school climate and has also provided consultation and staff development to professionals in the United States Department of Defense Educational Activity Schools located on various military installations. Dr. Reeves is co-author of four books and multiple publications.

DEBORAH ROMIG

Deborah Romig recently earned her Ed.D. in Leadership from the Department of Education at Virginia Commonwealth University. She served as a special education teacher of students with emotional disabilities at Manchester High School in Chesterfield County for eleven years. She has six years of experience as an assistant principal at Monacan High School and was recently named the associate principal of Monacan. She is passionate about instructional innovation, student leadership, and helping all students experience successful outcomes.

HORACIO SANCHEZ

Horacio Sanchez helps schools look into the science and biology/physiology behind what motivates, and sometimes challenges our students most. His energizing presentation will speak to your mind, touch your heart, and move you to a renewed sense of purpose and direction in working with children and people in general. He has been a teacher, school administrator, Mental Health Director and Consultant to the Department of Education in North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and other states. He is currently the president of Resiliency Inc., which provides behavioral solutions through award-winning mental health and educational programs. His approach combines brain-based science, research, and experience in the field of education into a framework that helps agencies and educators modify instruction in order to improve academic performance for all students, as well as designing educational climates that maximize student behavior and academic achievement.

JESSICA SMITH

Jessica Smith is a Resource Specialist for the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety in the Division Law Enforcement at the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. She manages the School Security Officer and Campus Security Officer programs, assists in curriculum development, aids in the execution of various School Audits and Surveys, and is responsible for the Center's website and social networking project. Prior to working at the Department, Ms. Smith was the Initiatives Coordinator for the Public Safety and Enforcement Division of the Virginia Office of the Attorney General where she spearheaded the Office's efforts in combating gang activity, group violence reduction, focused deterrence, drug diversion, bullying, and community outreach and education. She was also one of the Executive Producers of the anti-gang video, "The Big Lie: Unmasking the Truth Behind Gangs." Ms. Smith is a 2007 cum laude graduate of North Carolina State University, with a degree in Political Science, and is a 2017 graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University, receiving her Master's degree in Criminal Justice. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Public Policy with a concentration in Criminal Justice.

WEBBONES

Stephanie Saccone and Susan Martin founded webbones LLC in April 1999. Based in Richmond, Virginia, with principles and partners hailing from around the world, webbones enjoys its national and international ties. Stephanie Saccone and Susan Martin have years of experience in the Internet development business—backed by more years in traditional print and communications. They also partner with a remarkable group of web builders and graphic designers to make sure they satisfy clients' needs.