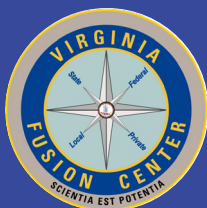


2023 CONFERENCE ON VIOLENT CRIME

JUNE 5–7, 2023
THE HOTEL ROANOKE AND CONFERENCE CENTER
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA





COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

The Honorable Jackson H. Miller
Director

Tracy Louise Winn Banks, Esq.
Chief Deputy Director

1100 Bank Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 786-4000

June 5, 2023

Dear Conference Participant:

On behalf of Governor Glenn Youngkin and the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2023 Conference on Violent Crime. The Commonwealth of Virginia is fortunate to have proactive law enforcement and criminal justice partners come together to address public safety issues.

DCJS is proud to partner with the Office of the Attorney General, the Virginia Department of Corrections, the Virginia Department of State Police, and the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice. We are collectively excited to offer this training opportunity that will positively affect our citizens.

This annual conference continues to set the tone as we explore topics that specifically affect Virginia and the challenges faced by law enforcement and criminal justice professionals. This event provides participants the opportunity to gain additional knowledge and tools to utilize as you return to your communities and continue to implement policies, practices, and initiatives that increase public safety and the perception of public safety, and to improve the quality of life of our communities.

I hope you will use this opportunity to learn from each other, share best practices, and make valuable connections that support you in your challenging roles and responsibilities. Enjoy the conference and please let us know how we can further support your efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jackson H. Miller".

Jackson Miller
Director

AGENDA

MONDAY, JUNE 5

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM **Welcome and Opening Ceremony** *Roanoke Ballroom CD*

Presentation of Colors

Virginia State Police Honor Guard

Rachael Baxley, *National Anthem*

Opening Remarks

Caren Sterling, *Deputy Director, Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Virginia State Police*

Chuck Slemph, *Chief Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Virginia Attorney General*

Jerome Stokes, *Deputy Chief, Roanoke City Police Department*

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM **Buffalo Strong: The Role of the Prosecutor After a Racially Motivated Mass Shooting** *Roanoke Ballroom CD*

John Flynn, *District Attorney, Erie County, New York*

On May 14, 2022, an 18-year-old man, motivated by hate and white supremacist ideology, drove across New York State to commit a planned attack to kill African American citizens in the City of Buffalo, New York. The gunman, armed with a modified assault weapon and protected by tactical gear, livestreamed his attack as he repeatedly shot innocent people at Tops Friendly Markets on a Saturday afternoon. Ten victims were killed and three people were injured in the mass shooting. A community suffered from the trauma of the violence and the temporary closure of the grocery store, which had become a crime scene.

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM **Break**

10:45 AM – 11:45 AM **Federal Hate Crimes** *Roanoke Ballroom CD*

William Lopez, *Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation*

This presentation is an overview of hate crimes investigated by the FBI, to include differences between hate crime and hate incidents, as well as a few case examples.

11:45 AM – 12:15 PM **Operation Bold Blue Line and Operation Ceasefire**

Mark Fero, *Director of Crime Reduction Initiatives, Office of the Attorney General*

Operation Bold Blue Line is the Governor's plan to reduce homicides, shootings, and violent crimes across the state. The plan is to do this by supporting existing law enforcement with funding for trainings and new equipment. Operation Ceasefire is a program to promote firearm safety and gang prevention throughout the country. Its purpose is to educate offenders about state and federal firearms laws, and Operation Ceasefire's role in enforcing the same as well as offering assistance to ex-offenders who want change and need help turning away from crime and violence.

12:15 PM – 1:15 PM **Lunch** (*provided*) *Roanoke Ballroom AB*

1:15 PM – 2:45 PM **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

The Case for Evidence-Based Policing (EBP)

Appalachian Room

Adam P. Wojcicki, *Deputy Director, Virginia Center for Policing Innovation*

This interactive workshop is designed for law enforcement and public safety practitioners interested in applying Evidence-Based Policing (EBP) as part of their homicide and violent crime reduction efforts. The workshop defines Evidence-Based Policing (EBP) and explores how it can be applied as part of effective policing in today's dynamic and, at times, chaotic environment. The workshop is facilitated by Adam P. Wojcicki, Deputy Director of the Virginia Center for Policing Innovation (VCPI) and principal author of the Applied Evidence-Based Policing Practices: Homicide and Violent Crime Reduction (HVR) program developed by VCPI in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice, COPS Office. Tapping into a decade's worth of resources and experience delivering the HVR program throughout the nation, this workshop will share key concepts and guidance on using EBP as a practical tool for decision-making while recognizing the challenge of being a "good consumer of evidence" in today's policing environment.

A G E N D A

MONDAY, JUNE 5 (CONTINUED)

1:15 PM – 2:45 PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS *(Continued)*

Hospital-based Violence Intervention Programs: Treating

Buck Room

Ashley Xavier, *HVIP Manager, VHHA Foundation*

January Serda, *Hand-in-Hand Program Coordinator, Riverside Regional Medical Center*

Angela Parker, *Foresight Program Coordinator, Sentara Norfolk General Hospital*

Kamron Blue, *Safer Futures Program Coordinator, Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters*

Zanda Miller, *Bridging the Gap Program Manager, VCU Health System*

Hospital-based violence intervention programs (HVIP) are multidisciplinary programs that combine the efforts of medical staff with trusted community-based partners to provide safety planning, case management services, and trauma-informed care to violently injured people. The Virginia HVIP Collaborative began in 2019 with funding from the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association Foundation. With the support of DCJS Funding, there are currently five community violence HVIPs across the Commonwealth. The session will open with a brief presentation on what it means to treat violence as a public health issue, components of the HVIP model, what these programs hope to achieve and how they collaborate with local police agencies. The remaining time will be devoted to allowing the panelists to share what got them into HVIP work, why they view it as rewarding, the challenges of building and implementing a new program, and their hopes for the future of violence prevention.

Managing Media and Messaging

Pocahontas Room

Corinne Geller, *Public Relations Director, Virginia State Police*

In a world that moves at the speed of social media, effective media management and public relations have become a necessity for law enforcement agencies. With more than 22 years of crisis communications experience during many of Virginia's most high-profile criminal incidents, Corinne Geller will share strategies and lessons learned for media staging, messaging, social media usage, and public engagement.

Internet Crimes Against Children: Porn, Social Media and Internet of Things

Shenandoah Room

Stephen Anders, *Lieutenant, Bedford County Sheriff's Office/Southern Virginia ICAC*

Learn about the role of pornography in the exploitation of children, the effects of social media on youth, and new potential sources of evidence from IoT devices.

Juvenile Gang and Group Violence and its Impact on Positive Community Growth

Mill Mountain Room

Hamlet E. Hood, Jr, *Deputy Chief, Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice*

This presentation will identify how juvenile gangs, and unnamed juvenile related group violence, are changing, and how these changes can/will impact the positive growth of communities in Virginia.

2:45 PM – 3:00 PM

Break

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Photographer to Sexual Predator:

A Multi-Jurisdictional and Multi-Disciplinary Approach

Appalachian Room

Lindsey Coover, *Child Exploitation Task Force Detective, Henrico Police Department*

Elizabeth Scholla, *Case Investigator, Henrico County Child Protective Services*

This case study presentation will discuss how the defendant in this case was arrested on several child sexual abuse and child pornography charges involving several victims. The presenters will cover this case from the initial report through the court disposition.

Problem Gambling Link to Other Risks

Buck Room

Anne Rogers, *Problem Gambling Prevention Coordinator, Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, Office of Behavioral Health Wellness*

With recent expansion of gambling, gaming, and online sports betting in Virginia, attention has turned to anticipating increases in problem gambling. To identify prevention opportunities, the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services and their evaluation partner OMNI Institute collaborated with all 40 Community Service Boards

Continued

AGENDA

MONDAY, JUNE 5 (CONTINUED)

(CSBs) to conduct a statewide gambling and gaming needs assessment using: an environmental scan, a community readiness assessment, a survey of young adults ages 18–25, and adding a gambling question to the youth risk behavior survey. The survey of young adults included questions on gambling, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, mental health, suicide, and ACES. This session will include information on the findings from the statewide assessment on health behaviors. Along with the data, attendees will learn about some of the problem gambling prevention strategies that local CSBs are working on that attendees may want to tap into.

Understanding Mass Violence and Promoting Survivor Recovery and Resilience

Pocahontas Room

Julia Fuller-Wilson, *State Crisis Response Coordinator/ Violence Against Women Program Administrator, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services*

Dawn Bush, *Outreach and Training Specialist, Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services*

Our worst-case scenario of an individual targeting our communities in the most unexpected ways has become an increasing reality. What do we know about those that commit mass violence? What do survivors need, both short and long term? How can we best plan and prepare for these kinds of nightmare scenarios happening in our communities? This session will discuss the current trends and research regarding the prevalence of mass casualty events and those that perpetrate these crimes. The presenters will utilize case examples of what has worked and what lessons they have learned in responding to mass violence events in Virginia. Most significantly, they will ensure that communities know what services and resources are available following a criminal mass casualty event or critical incident to best support survivors. Lastly, they will identify strategies that promote resilience and recovery.

Stalking and Counter Stalking

Shenandoah Room

Mark Wynn, *Founder, Mark Wynn Consulting, Nashville Metropolitan Police Department, Tennessee (retired)*

Stalking is often called the next phase in a violent relationship. This session will enlighten the participants to the growing crime of stalking in domestic/sexual violence incidents. The participants will have an improved understanding of stalking personalities and behavior, the impact on victims, level of danger, establishing probable cause, investigative tactics, understanding stalking with technology, countermeasures, prevention, and safety planning.

Project Safe Neighborhoods

Roanoke Ballroom CD

Heather Perez, *Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator, Michigan State University*

The Bureau of Justice Assistance-supported Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) program is a nationwide initiative which entails federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement officials, prosecutors, corrections, community leaders, and other stakeholders partnering to identify the most pressing violent crime problems in their communities. An array of evidence-based/informed strategies and solutions are selected to address data driven identified issues. Four Design elements guide PSN implementation: *Community Engagement; Prevention and Intervention; Focused and Strategic Enforcement; and Accountability*. Examples of successful partnerships, strategies and training, and technical assistance availability will be offered.

TUESDAY, JUNE 6

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM **Remarks** *Roanoke Ballroom CD*

8:45 AM – 10:15 AM **Domestic/Sexual Violence Intervention, Effective Investigation, Community Collaboration, and Response**

Roanoke Ballroom CD

Mark Wynn, *Founder, Mark Wynn Consulting, Nashville Metropolitan Police Department, Tennessee (retired)*

Law enforcement officers engage in dangerous encounters when enforcing the law or protecting and serving the public. Unfortunately, while officers respond to domestic disturbances, the lethality risks for them increases significantly. Notably, 2022 was one of the deadliest years for officers and deputies responding to incidents of domestic and sexual violence. This workshop will examine the officer safety considerations that arise when responding to a domestic violence call. In addition, the presenter will discuss the complexities and challenges facing officers when interacting with offenders, victims, and witnesses at the scene of a domestic violence incident. Additionally, the presenter will explore research and case studies to demonstrate the possible dangers of responding to the call. Steps for safely managing on-scene investigations of the domestic violence calls will also be discussed.

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM **Break**

A G E N D A

TUESDAY, JUNE 6 (CONTINUED)

- 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM Copycat Mass Shooters** *Roanoke Ballroom CD*
Mark Follman, *National Affairs Editor, Mother Jones*
The phenomenon of mass shooters emulating previous killers has existed for many decades, but this so-called copycat problem has both accelerated and evolved in the era of digital media. Ever since the Columbine tragedy in 1999, high-profile attacks have drawn sensational news coverage, further motivating fame-seeking perpetrators. It is crucial to understand that shooter-focused news coverage and social media content do not cause a person to commit violence, nor is there scientific evidence that graphically violent entertainment does so. In the world of behavioral threat assessment, the more useful way to think about media influences is to recognize their possible association with warning behaviors—as potential additional clues to an individual heading down a dangerous path.
- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Lunch (provided)** *Roanoke Ballroom AB*
- 1:00 PM – 2:45 PM The STEM School Mass Shooting: Villains, Heroes, and Lessons Learned** *Roanoke Ballroom CD*
George Brauchler, *Former Chief Deputy District Attorney, 18th District, Colorado*
Shortly after lunch on May 7, 2019, three days before the end of the school year, two disgruntled students attempted to execute a classroom full of fellow students over a lie. Four firearms, hundreds of bullets, and a rehearsed story...all unraveled by five heroes. The analysis by the prosecutor, who also handled the Columbine High School mass murder and the Aurora Theater (Batman) mass murder, reveals failures of the system at multiple points and lessons learned.
- 2:45 PM – 3:00 PM Break**
- 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM Fighting Fentanyl** *Roanoke Ballroom CD*
Matt Griffin, *Professional Law Enforcement Training*
Fentanyl is quickly becoming one of the most dangerous and challenging drug-related threats to communities and law enforcement officials across the United States. Fentanyl is a synthetic opiate used as a surgical anesthetic or as a narcotic to treat chronic and severe pain. It is most used in cancer patients; however, over the last couple of years, it has been blamed for the death of thousands of Americans.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

- 8:00 AM – 8:15 AM Remarks** *Roanoke Ballroom CD*
- 8:15 AM – 9:45 AM Surviving a Serial Killer** *Roanoke Ballroom CD*
Holly Dunn, *Survivor, Holly K. Dunn, LLC.*
Holly Dunn shares her personal story of survival and how it has motivated and inspired her to reach out to others. Her understanding and compassion help her to relate to others who may be struggling with the horrific aftermath that accompanies sexual violence and assault. The only known survivor of a serial killer, she refuses to let it negatively affect her life by using her tragic experience for the good of others. Her personal mission and intense passion to be an advocate for women who have been victims of similar violence has led her to a life of public service and outreach. Ms. Dunn lends insight into her personal healing process and explains how she was able to continue her education and use her experience to jump full steam into a life of advocacy and community involvement.
- 9:45 AM – 10:00 AM Break**
- 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM Community Based Multi-Disciplinary Teams and Mitigating Targeted Violence: The Next Frontier** *Roanoke Ballroom CD*
Gene Deisinger, *President, Deisinger Consulting*
Members from a broad range of organizations (law enforcement, corrections, business, education, houses of worship, law, health care, etc.) are increasingly aware of subjects that may present an ongoing risk for concerning or violent behaviors. These may include (but not be limited to) incidents of targeted violence or terrorism impacting schools, campuses, workplaces, or other community settings. These individuals can be highly disruptive, not only in the school, campus, or workplace settings, but in the community at large. Incidents from around the world have underscored the ongoing need for collaborative and integrated strategies to prevent targeted violence where possible, and to mitigate risk of harm where necessary. More and more communities are developing community-wide approaches to identify, assess and manage potential threats in lawful and collaborative ways. This session will provide an overview of community-based threat management approaches and considerations for program implementation.

12:00 PM Main Conference Concludes

AGENDA

POST CONFERENCE — WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

Struggle Well: First Responder Wellness *presented by the Boulder Crest Foundation*

1:00 PM – 1:10 PM **Welcome to Struggle Well**

1:10 PM – 1:30 PM **Introduction to Struggle Well**

1:30 PM – 2:00 PM **Education**

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM **Regulation**

2:45 PM – 3:30 PM **Disclosure**

3:30 PM – 4:00 PM **Story**

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM **Service**

4:30 PM – 5:00 PM **Reflection and Journaling**

RESOURCES

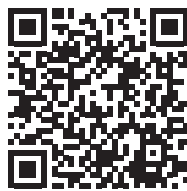
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DCJS Updates

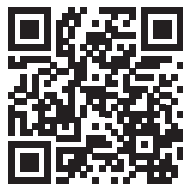
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