



# 2024 CONFERENCE ON VIOLENT CRIME

JUNE 11-13, 2024  
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 11, 2024

Dear Conference Participant:

On behalf of Governor Glenn Youngkin and the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), welcome to the *2024 Conference on Violent Crime*. The Commonwealth of Virginia benefits when proactive law enforcement and criminal justice allies unite to focus on public safety concerns.

This gathering stands as a cornerstone of support for our dedicated law enforcement partners, committed to fostering secure communities across the Commonwealth. DCJS is pleased to partner with the Virginia Office of the Attorney General, the Department of Corrections, the Virginia State Police, the Virginia Fusion Center, and the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice. Together, we are excited to provide a forum where experts in the field of law enforcement and criminal justice come together to delve into violent crime trends, and explore current methods and strategies aimed at enhancing public safety statewide.

Our intent is for this conference to provide you with additional knowledge and tools needed as you return to your respective workplaces and continue to implement policies, practices, and initiatives that increase public safety and improve the quality of life of our communities.

We hope that you will use this opportunity to learn from each other, share best practices, and make valuable connections that support your challenging roles and responsibilities. The success of this work is based solely on your participation. 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 H. Miller  
Director

# AGENDA

TUESDAY, JUNE 11

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

**Presentation of Colors**  
Virginia State Police Honor Guard  
National Anthem

**Opening Remarks**  
Gary Settle, *Colonel, Virginia State Police*  
Chuck Slempp, *Chief Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Virginia Attorney General*  
Scott Booth, *Chief of Police, Roanoke City Police Department*

9:00 AM–10:30 AM **Nashville Covenant School Shooting** *Roanoke Ballroom C–F*

David Rausch, *Tennessee Bureau of Investigation*  
David Kennington, *Tennessee Police Department*

This presentation will discuss the impact of mass violence on officer well-being from the perspective of the 2023 mass shooting in Nashville, Tennessee. This presentation will also cover situational awareness, laying the foundation of the activities on the ground during the unfolding tragedy.

10:30 AM–10:45 AM **Break**

10:45 AM–12:15 PM **Star City Task Force** *Roanoke Ballroom C–F*

Thomas Lovell, *Roanoke Police Department*  
Kenneth Custer, *Roanoke Police Department*

The Star City Drug and Violent Crime Task Force is made up of the Roanoke City Police Department, the Roanoke County Police Department, the Salem City Police Department, the Vinton Police Department, and the Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation's Salem Field Office. The multi-agency task force was established July 1, 2022, and from then through the end of March 2024, the task force has seized the following: 12 pounds of Fentanyl, with an estimated street value of over \$534,000; 48 pounds of cocaine, with an estimated street value of more than \$2.1 million; 124 pounds of methamphetamines, with an estimated street value of over \$2.8 million; and 163 pounds of Marijuana, with an estimated street value of more than \$660,000. Presenters for this keynote will speak about how the task force started and lessons learned throughout the process.

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

1:15 PM–2:45 PM **BREAKOUT SESSIONS — PART I**

**1. Firearms Enforcement/Federal Adoption Training** *Appalachian*

Jason Kusheba, *Virginia Office of the Attorney General*  
Morgan Abbate, *Virginia Office of the Attorney General*  
Ryan Norris, *ATF Newport News Field Office*

The purpose of this workshop is to identify typical state cases brought forward for federal prosecution, to identify the corresponding federal charges, their elements, and sentencing guidelines as they compare to the Commonwealth, and to identify best practices associated with the documentation and investigation of firearms cases.

**2. Cycle of Gang Violence** *Buck Mountain*

Brendan Bartley, *Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice*

Most gang classes focus on gang recognition and identification, which is exceptionally important for law enforcement, parole and probation, corrections, and social services personnel. These courses will often touch on gang violence, but that is rarely the focus. "Cycle of Gang Violence" prioritizes recognition and understanding the cycle of violence between rival gangs, violence toward governmental personnel and the public. Gang violence is not random and

*Continued*

# A G E N D A

TUESDAY, JUNE 11 (CONTINUED)

1:15 PM–2:45 PM

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS — PART I *(Continued)*

combatting it requires a special understanding. The focus of this course is developing an understanding of how and why gangs commit acts of violence. To accomplish this goal, the instructor will provide case studies of several violent criminal street gangs from the Newport News area. One case will demonstrate a violent gang's willingness to target law enforcement and prosecuting attorneys. The result of these cases was the clearance of 23 previously unsolved homicides and the prevention of three homicides. Through these cases, the attendees will learn how gang violence can begin with simple verbal altercations and escalate to multiple shootings and homicides.

### **3. A Decade of Mass Violence: Understanding our Missteps to Ensure Successful Victim Recovery**

*Pocahontas*

Julia Fuller-Wilson, *Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services*

Dawn Bush, *Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services*

Mass violence has become an increasing reality and, unfortunately, Virginia communities have been impacted by many critical incidents over the past several years. What can we learn from past mass violence events? 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 utilize case examples from previous mass violence responses in Virginia and discuss what has worked and what lessons we have learned to create a more victim-centered response. We will discuss the Victims Crisis Assistance and Response Team (VCART) program and how this statewide program assists victims in Virginia following criminal mass casualty events or critical incidents. Lastly, we will identify strategies that promote resilience and recovery for survivors.

### **4. Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) Program Introduction**

*Shenandoah*

Joseph Abrusci, *International Association of Chiefs of Police*.

The Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) program was developed by National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) with input from the International Association of Chiefs of Police's Technical Advisory Panel and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police. ARIDE was created to address the gap in training between the standardized field sobriety tests and the Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) Program. ARIDE is intended to bridge the gap between these two programs by providing officers with general knowledge related to drug impairment and promoting the use of DREs in states that have the DEC Program. One of the most significant aspects of ARIDE is its review and required student demonstration of the SFST proficiency requirements. The ARIDE program also stresses the importance of securing the most appropriate biological sample to identify substances likely causing impairment.

### **5. Real-Time Crime Centers**

*Mill Mountain*

Richard Thweatt, *Newport News Police Department*

Rhett Henley, *Newport News Police Department*

Real-Time Crime Centers (RTCC) are hubs where police ingest and analyze surveillance, intelligence, and data from a number of sources in real-time. Real-Time Crime Centers are often equipped with walls of monitors with live feeds from camera networks. Analysts are often able to access a wide variety of surveillance technologies, including automated license plate readers, gunshot detection, predictive policing, and face recognition. Unlike fusion centers, RTCCs tend to be focused on local level activities and a broader range of criminal investigations.

2:45 PM–3:00 PM

## **Break**

3:00 PM–4:30 PM

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS — PART II

### **6. Case Explorer – Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA)**

*Appalachian*

Ed Bane, *Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA)*

Rusty Hale, *Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA)*

Case Explorer, a web-based case management and deconfliction system designed specifically for law enforcement, focuses on facilitating information sharing within and among law enforcement agencies. Case Explorer is provided free of charge to all law enforcement agencies through a grant to the Washington/Baltimore HIDTA from the Office of National Drug Control Policy. Case Explorer provides law enforcement agencies with first-class case management

*Continued*

3:00 PM–4:30 PM

### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS — PART II** *(Continued)*

and deconfliction services. The event deconfliction component interacts with other event deconfliction systems through its Partner Deconfliction Interface (PDI), providing nationwide coverage. Its target/investigative component deconflicts with other case systems through the El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC). Case Explorer allows users to control and manage their case information. The case management component focuses on people, places, cyber, phone, currencies, weapons, drugs, vehicles, and other articles. Case Explorer users are able to create associations between entities, relate cases to one another, print case reports, and upload a variety of different file formats to keep everything in one place and make it easier to manage their case. Case Explorer’s event deconfliction component increases officer safety by identifying potential “Blue on Blue” conflicts. Upon receipt of information about planned events, including, but not limited to buy/bust operations, search and seizure warrants, and surveillances. Case Explorer immediately alerts involved parties of possible operational conflicts with other high-risk events that are scheduled to take place within a specified geographic proximity and time frame. Case Explorer interfaces with other event deconfliction systems through the Partner Deconfliction Interface (PDI) to provide nationwide event deconfliction service.

#### **7. Investigating Violent Crimes Against Children**

*Buck Mountain*

Heather Linville, *Suffolk Police Department, Virginia*

This course offers a brief examination of the investigative process and techniques essential for uncovering and prosecuting violent crimes perpetrated against children. Participants will explore the complexities of investigating various forms of violence, including physical abuse, sexual assault, homicide, and abduction, with a focus on safeguarding the well-being of young victims throughout the investigative journey.

#### **8. Sex Trafficking 101**

*Pocahontas*

McKayla Burnett, *Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services*

The media does a great job at misinforming us about what human sex trafficking looks like. We are led to believe that trafficking always involves big trucks, kidnapping, and transporting children across state lines. As a result, countless victims go unidentified each year. In this session, participants will learn what sex trafficking really looks like in Virginia and how it affects our communities. Ms. Burnett will go over the grooming process and share case examples of adult and juvenile victims.

#### **9. Operation Ceasefire Prosecutorial Programs**

*Shenandoah*

Fuller Cridlin, *Commonwealth Attorney, Lee County, Virginia*

Gregory Hopkins, *Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services*

Lee County Commonwealth Attorney Fuller Cridlin will showcase his Ceasefire Grant which highlights addressing violent crime in rural Virginia. CA Cridlin will provide an overview of his Ceasefire Grant, local crime trends, prosecution efforts, rural issues and prosecuting crimes in southwest Virginia. He will also highlight multi-jurisdictional collaboration as Lee County, Virginia is adjacent to Kentucky and Tennessee.

#### **10. Lethality Assessment Protocol and The Address Confidentiality Program**

*Mill Mountain*

Ashley Manuel, *Virginia Office of the Attorney General*

Ebony McGill, *Virginia Office of the Attorney General*

The purpose of this presentation is to educate Law Enforcement and allied crime prevention professionals on indicators/risk factors for intimate partner related homicides; and how to utilize resources to assist survivors when responding to domestic violence related calls for service.

# A G E N D A

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12

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- 8:30 AM–9:00 AM**    **Operation Ceasefire Updates**    *Roanoke Ballroom C–F*
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- 9:00 AM–10:30 AM**    **Ohio State University Terror Attack**    *Roanoke Ballroom C–F*  
Alan Horujko, *Ohio State University*  
Lt. Alan Horujko will share his personal experience as the first responding officer to a terror attack and eventual fatal shooting of the assailant in 2016. This debriefing is a multi-disciplined breakdown covering every level of the incident. Topics will include officer training, incident command, multi-agency response issues, post-incident mental health, campus safety alert notifications, student/staff/faculty response during incident, victim assistance programs, and collaboration with the FBI.
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- 10:30 AM–10:45 AM**    **Break**
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- 10:45 AM–12:00 PM**    **Domestic Extremism Updates**    *Roanoke Ballroom C–F*  
Rob Finch, *Proactive Consulting, Inc.*  
This presentation will focus on the newer extremist ideologies and groups ahead of the upcoming presidential election. In just the last three months, four brand new groups of national and international racially motivated individuals were involved in ideologically driven criminal activity. One of the groups is specifically targeting the 12–17-year-old demographic online and is involved in sextortion, self-harm, child sex abuse material, etc.
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- 12:00 PM–1:00 PM**    **Lunch** (*provided*)    *Roanoke Ballroom AB*
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- 1:00 PM–2:30 PM**    **Sovereign Citizen Updates**    *Roanoke Ballroom C–F*  
Rob Finch, *Proactive Consulting, Inc.*  
More law enforcement agencies are dealing with Sovereign Citizens after many years of them not really being as active as they were in the 2010s. With the significant uptick in financial scams and house squatting, it’s suddenly very trendy to use sovereign tactics and agencies are just not prepared. This sovereign citizen presentation also covers First Amendment Auditors since they are a huge nuisance and law enforcement (and government in general) is very under-trained on how to engage with them.
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- 2:30 PM–3:00 PM**    **Break**
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- 3:00 PM–4:30 PM**    **Breaking the Silence: Yanna’s Journey of Resilience and Advocacy**    *Roanoke Ballroom C–F*  
Lori Fiorino, *Orlando Police Department, Florida*  
Yanna, *Survivor*  
“Breaking the Silence: Yanna’s Journey of Resilience and Advocacy” offers a profound examination of Yanna’s story, beginning with her courageous disclosure of sexual abuse at age nine and the subsequent involvement of the Orlando Police Department in 2010. However, this pivotal moment was just the inception of Yanna’s remarkable journey, that got worse before better. Participants in this case study will be privileged to hear firsthand from Yanna, now a resilient adult, and the lead detective, Lori Fiorino, who spearheaded her case. Through exclusive interviews recorded in 2010, attendees will witness Yanna’s evolution from victim to survivor, along with crucial insights from Detective Fiorino, underscoring the criticality of raising awareness on child sexual abuse. This session promises invaluable lessons in trauma-informed approaches vital for law enforcement responses to sexual assault and other traumatic crimes. By engaging with this case study, attendees will refine their ability to recognize signs of child sexual abuse and comprehend the sensitive investigative protocols necessary for handling such cases with expertise. Join us on this journey as we delve into Yanna’s impactful narrative and uncover strategies to cultivate a more supportive and secure environment for survivors of child sexual abuse. Together, we will propel towards a future where our collective endeavors in awareness and prevention make a tangible difference in the lives of vulnerable children, ensuring a brighter and safer tomorrow for all.

# AGENDA

THURSDAY, JUNE 13

8:00 AM–8:15 AM	<b>Remarks</b>	Roanoke Ballroom C–F
8:15 AM–9:45 AM	<b>Major Events, Protest, and Special Guests – Using Behavioral Threat Assessment and Protective Intelligence to Keep Communities Safer</b> William Zimmerman, <i>Raptor Technologies</i>  This session will focus on understanding targeted violence and having a process to investigate, assess, and manage situations of concern.	Roanoke Ballroom C–F
9:45 AM–10:00 AM	<b>Break</b>	
10:00 AM–12:00 PM	<b>Domestic Violence Survivor</b> Jacqueline K. Peebles, <i>Survivor</i>  This presentation is the story of Jacqueline Peebles' life as she lived through 16 years of mental and verbal domestic abuse. She speaks about her experience with the Genieve Shelter and how they were able to assist.	Roanoke Ballroom C–F
12:00 PM	<b>Main Conference Concludes</b>	

## RESOURCES

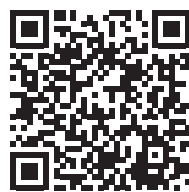
### Conference Page

[www.dcss.virginia.gov/resources-2024-conference-violent-crime](http://www.dcss.virginia.gov/resources-2024-conference-violent-crime)



### Training Page

[www.dcss.virginia.gov/training-events](http://www.dcss.virginia.gov/training-events)



Sort by VCSCS

### Staff Listing

[www.dcss.virginia.gov/virginia-center-school-and-campus-safety](http://www.dcss.virginia.gov/virginia-center-school-and-campus-safety)



### DCJS Updates

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Please note: Photos and/or videos from this event may appear on the DCJS website, social media sites, and in other agency materials.

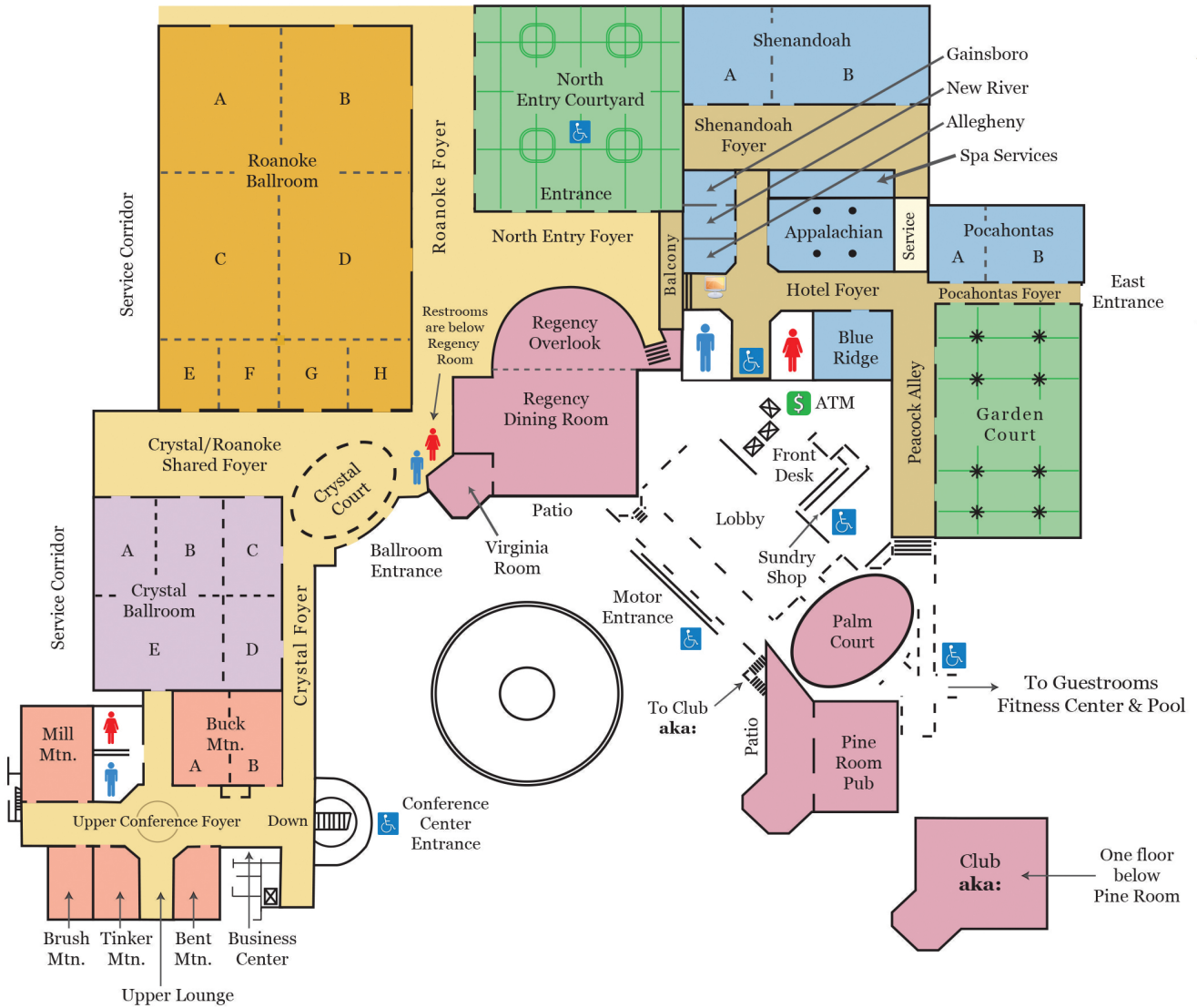
# CONFERENCE CENTER MAP



## THE HOTEL ROANOKE & CONFERENCE CENTER

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