8TH ANNUAL NATIONAL SAAK GRANTEES MEETING 2023 • WASHINGTON, DC

December 11–13

Challenges Accepted: Advancing the Response to Sexual Assaults and Other Violent Crimes













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SAKI TTA is led by RTI International, a global research institute dedicated to improving the human condition by turning knowledge into practice. With a staff of more than 6,000 providing research and technical services to governments and businesses in more than 75 countries, RTI brings a global perspective. SAKI TTA builds on RTI's expertise in sexual assault cases, forensic science, innovation, technology application, economics, DNA analytics, statistics, program evaluation, public health, and information science.

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WELCOME,

2023 National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Grantees Meeting Attendees!

On behalf of the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and the National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Team, we would like to welcome each of you to the 8th Annual National SAKI Grantees Meeting. We are excited to host this convening designed to enact improved policy and practice to resolve sexual assault and violent cold case crimes. Meeting attendees will receive direct assistance to address unsubmitted sexual assault kits; answer questions about effective testing strategies (including advanced DNA testing); and support the development of sustainable practices and policies for the investigation and prosecution of violent cold case crime investigations.

BJA and the SAKI TTA Team are committed to partnering with agencies to develop a coordinated multi-disciplinary response to cold case sexual assault cases and other violent cold case crimes. Our goal is to offer the required expertise and level of assistance for jurisdictions to establish effective and sustainable practices for collecting and processing forensic evidence, investigating, and prosecuting violent cold case crimes, and supporting survivors of violent crime including sexual assault.

During this 3-day meeting, you will have the opportunity to engage with your fellow SAKI grantees about current challenges and successes across state and local jurisdictions. Featured sessions include a presentation from the Nevada Attorney General's Office that will highlight the use of forensic genetic genealogy to aid in the resolution of a 40-year-old homicide. Topics of interest include behaviorally informed suspect interviews, ethical considerations and prosecutorial strategies for sexual assault and sexually motivated homicide cases, ways to enhance law enforcement response to victims, lawfully owed DNA, cell phone analysis, DNA methodologies, and more. The final day of the event will focus on trauma-informed victim interviewing. Attendees will also have the opportunity to meet with representatives from BJA and the SAKI TTA Team during an "Office Hours" session.

We thank each of you for attending this meeting and contributing your vision, knowledge, and experience to resolving nationwide challenges. We look forward to your participation, ideas, and insight as we build new relationships, foster collaborations, and derive best practices for an improved national response to sexual assault and violent crime.

Respectfully,

Angela Williamson, PhD Supervisor, Forensics Unit FBI Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP) Liaison

Kevin J. Strom, PhD SAKI TTA Project Director

Patricia Melton, PhD SAKI TTA Co-Project Director

REMEMBERING JIM MARKEY

On April 30, 2023, the field lost a true legend when Jim Markey passed away following a long illness. Throughout his amazing career, Jim worked tirelessly to improve law enforcement initiatives, specifically with sexual violence cases. Jim's passion for sexual assault response reform was boundless, exceeded only by his humility.

Jim spent 30 years as a police officer for the City of Phoenix, including 14 years overseeing the sexual assault and cold case unit—experience that applied directly to his role working with investigative units in other jurisdictions. Under his leadership, Phoenix Police Department sexual assault detectives investigated more than 7,000 sexual assaults, including more than 80 serial sexual assault cases. He would go on to develop and supervise the Department's first Cold Case Sexual Assault Team, which investigated



more than 3,500 unsolved sexual assault cases, resulting in 1,000 DNA hits. The Cold Case Team received several awards, including the Arizona Attorney General's Award for its innovation and close collaboration with the Maricopa County District Attorney's Office, all of which were driven by Jim. As a certified Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board instructor, Jim would go on to help train more than 1,000 law enforcement personnel.

Jim worked with the SAKI Training and Technical Assistance team since the project's inception in 2015, serving as the lead law enforcement expert. His passion and vision were instrumental in turning an ambitious effort that sought to address our nation's backlog of unsubmitted sexual assault kits into a highly successful program. Jim provided training, guidance, and support assistance to agencies across the country. He was an expert in designing and performing police investigative unit assessments, helping agencies review their policies and practices and improve investigations. Jim was well ahead of his time in understanding the importance of a victim-centered approach, working collaboratively with forensic scientists, victim advocates, prosecutors, and sexual assault nurse examiners (SANEs) to do everything in their power to support victims and solve cases. He was not satisfied with the status quo, and he sought to instill a mindset where each and every sexual assault victim and case would be investigated thoroughly and to completion. Jim was also a go-to expert for the Bureau of Justice Assistance, National Institute of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime, Office on Violence Against Women, Department of Defense (DOD), and many other federal and state agencies. After his retirement, he was appointed to numerous boards and organizations dedicated to preventing sexual assault. From 2016 to 2020, Jim was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Defense to the DOD Advisory Committee on the Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Military.

To know Jim was to love him. He had a wonderful way of making everyone feel at ease and connected, even individuals he was meeting for the first time. He was gracious, supportive, disarming, and a gentle soul. He also had a great sense of humor and was always willing to make a person laugh, even if it meant poking fun at himself. But make no mistake, Jim was someone

who served as a mentor to so many in the field of sexual assault, including seasoned investigators. Jim was a proud law enforcement veteran as well as a natural empathetic educator and mentor at heart-as someone described his work with grantees, "Jim may have educated on a topic a million times, but when a site hits that topic for the first time, Jim is always able to recognize what they are going through and work with them." Jim loved being a police officer, but he also understood the need for improvements in the field and was driven to help as many agencies as he could. At the end of the day, Jim understood that his role was to support victims and to pursue justice on their behalf. He never lost track of that goal.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 11 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

8:00-9:00	Registration		
9:00–9:30	Opening Remarks		
	Presenters: Dr. Angela Williamson, Supervisor, Forensics Unit/FBI ViCAP Liaison, Bureau of Justice Assistance Carey Hendricks, JD, Policy Advisor, Forensics Unit, Bureau of Justice Assistance Mila Hago, State Policy Advisor, Bureau of Justice Assistance Karhlton Moore, Director, Bureau of Justice Assistance Event Emcee: Derek Coats, Senior Law Enforcement Specialist, RTI International		
9:30–10:15	Molly Jane Matheson Case		
	Presenter: Tracy Matheson, <i>Molly's Mother, Founder of Project Beloved: The Molly Jane Mission</i>		
10:15-10:30	BREAK		
10:30-11:45	Charles Sullivan: A Multi-Decade Sexually Motivated Serial Killer		
	Presenters: Alissa C. Engler, JD, Chief Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Nevada Attorney General Michael C. Kovac, JD, Assistant Professor of Legal Writing, Penn State University Rick Bjelke, Cold Case Homicide Unit, Washoe County Sheriff's Office		
11:45-1:00	LUNCH (on your own)		
1:00-2:15	Workshop Sessions		
	Track A	Track B	
	BJA Programs Office: Best Practices for Managing Multiple SAKI Awards Presenter: Mila Hago, State Policy Advisor, Bureau of Justice Assistance	Office Hours BJA Performance Metric Tracking (PMT) SAKI Industry Partners SAKI TTA (Regional Team Members, Partners)	
2:15-2:30	BREAK		

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

2:30-3:30	Workshop Sessions		
	Track A	Track B	Track C
	The FBI's Behavioral Analysis Unit (BAU): Services, Assistance Requests and Behaviorally Informed Suspect Interviews Presenters: SSA Nathan Whiteman, FBI BAU-3 MCS Kevin Hagan, FBI BAU-4 SSA Melissa Merola, FBI BAU-4	Achieving Justice at Trial: Ethical Considerations in Sexual Assault and Homicide Cases—Part 1 Presenters: Patti Powers, JD, Senior Attorney Advisor, AEquitas John Wilkinson, JD, Attorney Advisor, AEquitas	Application of OVC's Enhancing Law Enforcement Response to Victims (ELERV) Strategy Presenter: Amy Durall, Fellow, Office for Victims of Crime
3:30-3:45	BREAK		
3:45-4:55	Workshop Sessions		
	Track A	Track B	Track C
	The FBI's BAU: Services, Assistance Requests and Behaviorally Informed Suspect Interviews— Continued Presenters: SSA Nathan Whiteman, FBI BAU-3 MCS Kevin Hagan, FBI BAU-4 SSA Melissa Merola, FBI BAU-4	Achieving Justice at Trial: Ethical Considerations in Sexual Assault and Homicide Cases—Part 2 Presenters: Patti Powers, JD, Senior Attorney Advisor, AEquitas John Wilkinson, JD, Attorney Advisor, AEquitas	Site Coordinator 101 Presenters: Nikia Johnson, Forensic DNA Specialist, RTI International Sarah Savicki, SAKI Site Coordinator, Charlotte- Mecklenburg Police Department Kayla Bragg, JD, SAKI Site Coordinator, Montana Department of Justice

4:55–5:00 Day 1 Closing

Event Emcee:

Derek Coats, Senior Law Enforcement Specialist, RTI International

5:00–7:00 Networking Opportunity

RTI International abides by all cost principles and audit requirements set forth in 2 CFS § 200 and the Department of Justice 2022 Financial Guide. This is a "cash-bar"-only networking event with service provided by the Grand Hyatt Washington and is not sponsored by the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Training and Technical Assistance Project (2019-MU-BX-K011) or RTI International. Neither the U.S. Department of Justice nor any of its components operate, control, are responsible for, or necessarily endorse this event or any commercial entity or product that may be mentioned (including, without limitation, its content, technical infrastructure, and policies and any service or tools provided).

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12 8:45 a.m.-4:45 p.m.

8:45-9:00	Day 2 Overview		
9:00-10:00	DNA Updates & Considerations for Challenging Evidence		
	Presenter: Dr. Angela Williamson, <i>Supe</i> Assistance	ervisor, Forensics Unit/FBI ViCAP L	iaison, Bureau of Justice
10:00-10:20	DOJ's New Policing Guidance	for Sexual Assault and Domes	tic Violence
	Presenter: Fara Gold, JD, Attorney Advis	or, The Office on Violence Agains	t Women (OVW)
10:20-10:40	BREAK		
10:40-12:00	Workshop Sessions		
	Track A	Track B	Track C
	FBI Cellular Analysis Survey Team (CAST) Training Presenters: SSA Matthew Carman, FBI BAU SSA Billy Shaw, FBI BAU	Moving Forward to Overcome Barriers to Advancing Cases Presenters: Patti Powers, JD, Senior Attorney Advisor, AEquitas Mary Weston, JD, Supervisor, Cold Case/ GOLD Unit, Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office	Site Coordinator 201 Presenters: Cesar Tirado, Site Coordinator, Maricopa County Attorney's Office Kelly Wells, KySAKI Site Coordinator, Kentucky Office of the Attorney General Samantha Estes, DNA Collection Coordinator, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation Dr. Patricia Melton, SAKI TTA Co-Project Director, RTI International Misty Marra, Forensic DNA Specialist, RTI International Nikia Johnson, Forensic DNA Specialist, RTI International Jason Chute, Forensic DNA Specialist, RTI International
12:00-1:15	LUNCH (on your own)		

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

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1:15–2:45	Workshop Sessions		
	Track A	Track B	Track C
	FBI Advanced Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP) Training Presenters: Mandi Corrigan, Crime Analyst, FBI ViCAP Dr. Melissa Kavetski, Crime Analyst, FBI BAU-4 / ViCAP Audrey Hine, Crime Analyst, FBI BAU-4	Strategic Jury Selection in Current and Cold Cases of Sexual Assault and Homicide Presenter: Patti Powers, JD, Senior Attorney Advisor, AEquitas Discussant: Mary Glass, JD, SAKI Division Chief, Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office	Lawfully Owed DNA: Conducting a Comprehensive Census and Collaborative Collections Presenters: Lindsey Wade, Senior Law Enforcement Specialist, RTI International Orlando Salinas, DNA Collection Coordinator, Texas Rangers—Texas Department of Public Safety Susan Hormann, Owed DNA Unit Program Manager, Washington County Sheriff's Office
2:45-3:00	BREAK		
3:00–4:30	Success: Engaging Survivors A	After Serial Sexual Assault	
	Council Sarah Pederson, BSN, RN, Al Justice Coordinator Council	Force Coordinator, Georgia Crimi FN-C, SANE-A, SANE-P, Statewide or, Georgia's Criminal Justice Coo.	e SANE Coordinator, Criminal
4:30-4:45	Closing	-	
	Descenteres		

Presenters:

Dr. Angela Williamson, Supervisor, Forensics Unit/FBI ViCAP Liaison, Bureau of Justice Assistance

Dr. Kevin Strom, SAKI TTA Project Director, RTI International

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

9:00–9:15	Welcome and Introductions: SAKI TTA Trauma-Informed Training Team
	Presenters: Derek Coats, Senior Law Enforcement Specialist, RTI International Captain Jordan Satinsky, Montgomery County Police Department
9:15–10:15	Overview of Trauma-Informed Interviewing
	Presenters: Derek Coats, Senior Law Enforcement Specialist, RTI International Captain Jordan Satinsky, Montgomery County Police Department Marya L. Simmons, Founder and CEO, Shift in Notion Consulting, LLC Natasha Alexenko, Founder, Natasha's Justice Project Kelly Taylor, Forensic Healthcare Program Manager & Sexual Assault Care Coordinator, Womack Army Medical Center
10:15-10:30	BREAK
10:30-12:00	Mock Interviews
	Presenters:

Derek Coats, Senior Law Enforcement Specialist, RTI International Captain Jordan Satinsky, Montgomery County Police Department Marya L. Simmons, Founder and CEO, Shift in Notion Consulting, LLC Natasha Alexenko, Founder, Natasha's Justice Project Kelly Taylor, Forensic Healthcare Program Manager & Sexual Assault Care Coordinator, Womack Army Medical Center

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Tracy Matheson

Tracy Matheson is from Fort Worth, TX, and is president and founder of Project Beloved: The Molly Jane Mission. She has had the honor to serve on the Sexual Assault Survivor's Task Force for the state of Texas and is housed in the Office of the Governor. Her advocacy work has seen two victories in the Texas Legislature with the passage of Molly Jane's Law in 2019 and HB 4628 in 2023.

Prior to Project Beloved, Ms. Matheson worked as a teacher, realtor, and mission and outreach coordinator. However, her role as mom has always been her dream job and is one she cherishes.



She and her husband, David, are parents to Nick, who lives in Fort Worth with his wife,

Elizabeth; Ben, who lives at home and works at the zoo; and Max, who is completing his master's degree in economics at Texas A&M University. Ms. Matheson and her husband also have a daughter, Molly Jane, who should be 29. It is Molly's life that inspired Ms. Matheson to found Project Beloved and gave her the most important role—a momma with a mission. She has discovered her life's calling to do her part to change the conversation about sexual assault and empower survivors to find their voices.

Michael C. Kovac

Michael Kovac is an Assistant Professor of Legal Writing at Penn State University. He is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania, Nevada, and California. Prior to joining Penn State Law in 2022, Professor Kovac was the Chief Deputy Attorney General for the Criminal Prosecutions Division of Nevada's Office of the Attorney General. In that position, he prosecuted and supervised the prosecution of criminal cases throughout Nevada. Before that, he worked for the same office as a deputy attorney general and senior deputy attorney general. He handled a wide variety of criminal cases, ranging from fraud to murder.



Professor Kovac also taught law and criminal justice courses for several other schools, including the University of Southern California, Gould School of Law, Arizona State University, the University of New Mexico (Gallup), Texas A&M University, and Nevada State College. Before that, he worked as a law clerk for several courts and as a probation officer.

Professor Kovac received his JD from Duquesne University School of Law, where he graduated in the top 10 percent of his class and was a member of the Duquesne Law Review. He received his MA in criminal justice, with distinction, from Arizona State University. He received his BS in education from the University of Pittsburgh (Johnstown).

Alissa C. Engler

Alissa Engler is the Chief Deputy Attorney General of the Criminal Prosecution Division with the Office of the Nevada Attorney General. In this role, she manages 16 Deputy Attorney Generals who prosecute a wide range of crimes, including homicide, financial fraud, securities fraud, insurance fraud, crimes occurring in state prison, and public integrity crimes. Prior to this role, she was appointed by Attorney General Aaron D. Ford as the Nevada Children's Advocate. In that position, she prosecuted crimes involving missing or exploited children,



including sex trafficking. She began her public service career in 2017 as a Deputy Attorney General in the Criminal Prosecutions Division. Before her role as a prosecutor, Ms. Engler worked in private practice, specializing in the areas of criminal defense, family law, and personal injury. She earned her JD in 2010 from Mitchell Hamline School of Law in Minnesota and her BA in political science from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point. She resides in Las Vegas with her husband and two children.

Rick Bjelke

Rick Bjelke has a combined 35+ years of experience as a law enforcement professional with the Reno Police Department and the Washoe County Sheriff's Office. He served as a deputy sheriff, training officer, K-9 officer/trainer, and undercover detective, as well as a police academy staff officer responsible for training officers in Northern Nevada.

After being promoted to Sergeant in 2001, Mr. Bjelke was assigned to several high-profile units at the Reno Police Department including the Regional Gang Unit, Hostage Negotiation Team,



Internal Affairs, Family Crimes/Stalking, and the Robbery/Homicide Division. He has conducted investigations involving domestic violence, stalking, police misconduct, gang-related crimes, homicides, suicides, accidental or suspicious deaths, workplace violence/ threats, and active shooting investigations.

In 2016, Mr. Bjelke joined the Washoe County Sheriff's Office as a detective assigned to the Cold Case Homicide Unit. He was responsible for re-opening and investigating homicides that had been unsolved for upwards of 40 years.

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SPEAKERS AND FACILITATORS

Natasha Alexenko

Natasha Alexenko is a victim and survivor of sexual assault. In 1993, she was a 20-year-old college student living in New York City when she was violently raped at gunpoint. She reported the rape to police and had a kit collected. After nearly a decade, Mrs. Alexenko's untested rape kit was finally processed, and her rapist, who roamed free for nearly 15 years, was brought to justice. In 2011, she founded Natasha's Justice Project to help end the national rape kit backlog and empower and assist survivors of sexual assault. Mrs. Alexenko is the author of the book *A*

Survivor's Journey from Victim to Advocate, in which she shares the arduous healing journey from victim to a national advocate for survivors. Mrs. Alexenko presently lives in New York City with her husband, Scott; her mother, Nevart; and their dogs, Piper and Toby.

Kayla Bragg

Kayla Bragg is the SAKI Site Coordinator for the State of Montana. She works for the Montana Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation, Special Services Bureau. She earned her bachelor's degree from Middle Tennessee State University and received her law degree from the Nashville School of Law. Before accepting the position as SAKI Site Coordinator, Ms. Bragg worked as an Assistant District Attorney in Tennessee. In her spare time, Ms. Bragg enjoys hiking with her husband and three dogs, and skiing.

Matthew Carman

Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Matthew Carman entered into duty with the FBI in 2004. Upon completion of new agent training, Special Agent Carman was assigned to the Atlanta Field Office, where he worked on health care fraud matters. He was transferred to the Violent Crimes/Fugitive Squad in 2006. In 2013, he was selected as an SSA at FBI Headquarters in the Cellular Analysis Survey Team (CAST). In 2015, SSA Carman returned to the Atlanta Field Office as a National Asset with the CAST Unit. In 2020, SSA Carman returned to the CAST Unit at FBI

Headquarters as a supervisor over training. Prior to joining the FBI, SSA Carman worked as a consultant for Cap Gemini Ernst & Young and was a deputy sheriff in Tuscaloosa, AL. He earned a bachelor's degree in general business from the University of West Alabama and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Alabama.







Jason Chute

Jason Chute is a Forensic DNA Subject Matter Expert in the Center for Forensic Science Advancement and Application at RTI International, where he supports the National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Training and Technical Assistance (SAKI TTA) program and serves as a lead coach for the Forensic TTA program. In this capacity, Mr. Chute provides guidance and expertise on evidence testing plans, DNA testing and analysis, and the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). Mr. Chute has over 20 years of experience in forensic DNA work, including several years spent

as a DNA analyst and CODIS Manager at the West Virginia State Police Crime Laboratory. Most recently, Mr. Chute served as the DNA Technical Leader and Director at the Marshall University Forensic Science Center, working with over 100 jurisdictions nationally for forensic casework, DNA databasing, and technical case review. Mr. Chute has expertise in advanced DNA testing considerations including forensic genetic genealogy, strategies to improve DNA laboratory workflows, implementation of new technologies (e.g., rapid DNA), and meeting accreditation expectations for validating new processes. As a Marshall University associate graduate faculty member, Mr. Chute has taught forensic DNA analysis and biochemistry coursework since 2007.

Derek Coats

Derek Coats is a Law Enforcement Specialist with SAKI Training and Technical Assistance (TTA). He currently assists in investigative strategies and training related to cold case sexual assault investigations. Mr. Coats worked in law enforcement for over 28 years with an emphasis in violent crimes investigations. Of that time, for 18 years he investigated robbery, sexual assault (both child and adult), and homicide, sex offender compliance, and served as an FBI Child Exploitation Task Force officer. For the last 5 years, he was a statewide SAKI investigator, supporting

site engagement activities across SAKI sites and providing expertise specific to improved sexual assault investigations techniques and strategies, including CODIS hit follow-up and prioritization. He has a strong background in working with victim engagement, applying resources, and locating hard-to-find individuals.

Mandi Corrigan

Crime Analyst (CA) Amanda (Mandi) Corrigan joined the FBI's Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP) in June 2020. She currently provides analytical support for the Central East Coast, which includes Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, DC, and West Virginia; she works with the developers and Program Manager for the ViCAP system. Prior to her ViCAP assignment, CA Corrigan was a management and program analyst with the FBI's Behavioral Analysis Unit-2, Surveillance and Aviation Sections, and Security Division.







CA Corrigan holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a minor in sexuality and gender studies from Mary Baldwin University in Staunton, VA. She also has a master's degree in psychology from American Public University in Charles Town, WV. She has been married to her husband for 11 years and has a son and daughter.

Amy Durall

Amy Durall is currently a Fellow with the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC). The fellowship centers on law enforcement response to victims and law-enforcement-based victim services.

Prior to joining OVC, Ms. Durall served as a Senior Project Manager with the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Her portfolio included contributions to SAKI, Enhancing Law Enforcement Response to Victims, Law Enforcement-Based Victim Services, Documenting and Advancing Promising Practices in Law Enforcement Victim Support, and Research and Evaluation of Victims of Crime.

Ms. Durall has served as a Victim Services Director for two law enforcement agencies, with both agencies receiving national recognition for victim services during her tenure. She has also served on local and national committees focused on multidisciplinary and collaborative response to victims. Augmenting this direct practice experience, Ms. Durall founded Integrity Institute LLC to advance the prioritized focus on the rights, responses, and resources for individuals impacted by crime and crisis circumstances. She has served as a consultant on projects aimed at criminal justice system intersections and enhanced victim response and as a key member of assessment teams for law enforcement agencies exploring response to violent crime and engagement of crime victims with the criminal legal system.

Ms. Durall has enjoyed over 35 years of social service experience with a variety of populations, including youths and adults with developmental, emotional, and cognitive disorders; adults with mental health disorders; incarcerated adults; children and adults in protective services; and those who have experienced physical violence, sexual violence, criminal victimization, and crisis circumstances.

Ms. Durall holds a master's degree in psychology and was accepted into the Psi Chi Honor Society. She received specialized certification in the instruction of victimology, grantsmanship essentials, and crisis intervention training, and routinely provides consultation and training to law enforcement personnel, community service organizations, and allied partners of multiple disciplines.



Jay Eisner

Jay Eisner serves the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) as coordinator of the Georgia SAKI Task Force. Previously, Mr. Eisner served for 30 years in the DeKalb County Police Department and retired in 2021 as a Major and Support Services Division commander. His other assignments included Special Victims Section commander, Training Section assistant commander, Central Records commander, Domestic Violence Unit commander, full-time academy instructor, domestic violence investigator in the prosecutor's office, and officer, sergeant, lieutenant, and captain in the Uniform Patrol Division.



Mr. Eisner is a certified General, Firearms, and EVOC (Emergency Vehicle Operator Course) Instructor who has provided training to thousands of officers across Georgia. He has frequently presented at conferences conducted by, among others, the Georgia Commission on Family Violence, the Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and the National Organization of Victim Advocates. Mr. Eisner served on many non-profit boards for two decades, including terms as Chair for the DeKalb Domestic Violence Task Force, the DeKalb Police Athletic League, and the International Women's House (IWH) shelter for battered refugee and immigrant women. At IWH, he helped lead the initiative to raise over a million dollars and build a new shelter. Mr. Eisner has assisted in numerous statewide efforts to improve legislation and criminal justice response, most recently serving on the CJCC state expert committee for the Sexual Assault Response Team project.

Mr. Eisner was most recently honored as a "Champion for Change" by the Women's Resource Center to End Domestic Violence. His other award highlights include the Georgia CJCC's "Eagle Award for Law Enforcement" for service to victims of crime, the "Deborah McDorman" award for combating domestic violence, and the Georgia "Star of Life" award.

Mr. Eisner grew up in DeKalb County and attended Georgia State University and the University of Louisville, where he completed the Southern Police Institute course with honors. He has been married since 1994 to Tina Dillard, a DeKalb Police Sergeant who retired after serving 30 years and receiving two Medals of Honor.

Samantha Estes

Samantha Estes has served as the DNA Collection Coordinator for the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation since 2022. With a background in environmental and biological sciences and program management, she leads the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation's Lawfully Owed DNA Team within its CODIS Unit. The team primarily uses SAKI funding to identify and implement strategies to complete a statewide census of lawfully owed offenders and to determine procedures needed to pilot DNA sample collection, specifically around sex offender registrants and incarcerated individuals throughout the state of Tennessee.



Mary Glass

Mary Glass is the Chief of the SAKI Division of the Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office. She leads an eight-person vertical prosecution unit that is responsible for cases from occurrence, arrest, or CODIS hit until conviction. She coordinates her unit's efforts before the Grand Jury, at pre-trial, and in trial. She also acts as the liaison for her office, the New Orleans Police Department, University Hospital, the Louisiana State Police Crime Lab, and the multidisciplinary team for their jurisdiction. Ms. Glass has worked more than 25 years as a prosecutor. She



Fara Gold

Fara Gold is a former federal and state prosecutor, who currently serves as an attorney advisor for the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) with the United States Department of Justice (DOJ). Prior to joining OVW, Ms. Gold served as Special Litigation Counsel and Senior Sex Crimes Counsel for DOJ's Civil Rights Division for nearly 14 years, where she traveled throughout the country prosecuting bias-motivated crimes and law enforcement misconduct cases. Ms. Gold has national expertise in prosecuting sexual misconduct by law enforcement and



other government actors, and she has published several articles and conducts nationwide trainings in that regard. She was awarded the Attorney General's Award for Exceptional Service in 2014 (DOJ's highest honor) and the Attorney General's Award for Outstanding Contributions by a New Employee in 2012. She also received the DOJ Office of the Inspector General Collaboration Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Inspector General in 2023, the FBI Director's Award for Excellence in 2021, and the Assistant Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service in 2020. Before joining DOJ, Ms. Gold served as an Assistant State Attorney for the Broward County State Attorney's Office in Fort Lauderdale, FL, where she specialized in prosecuting sex crimes and child abuse. Ms. Gold also serves as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center where she teaches "Prosecuting Sex Crimes & Vindicating Constitutional Rights."

Kevin Hagan

Kevin Hagan joined the FBI as a Major Case Specialist (MCS) in March 2020. Prior to joining the FBI, he had a career in law enforcement with the Baltimore City (MD) Police Department, Howard County (MD) Police Department, and the Maryland – Office of the Attorney General. While with the Baltimore City Police Department, Mr. Hagan was a member of the Homicide Section as a detective, sergeant, and lieutenant, where he investigated and managed violent crime and death investigations. After retiring from Baltimore City, Mr. Hagan joined the Howard

County Police Department as a Cold Case Investigator where he conducted investigations on their unsolved homicides and suspicious missing person cases. At the Maryland – Office of the Attorney General, he conducted investigations on allegations of child sexual abuse committed by members of the clergy. Mr. Hagan obtained an undergraduate degree from Temple University in the field of criminal justice.

Mila Hago

Mila Hago is a State Policy Advisor at the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). In her role at the BJA Programs Office, Ms. Hago serves as the lead on the National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) portfolio, and oversees the Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence-Inventory, Tracking, Reporting (SAFE-ITR) Program and the North Carolina Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program. Prior to joining BJA in 2014, Ms. Hago worked as a grants manager at several nonprofit organizations in the

Washington, DC, metro area. Ms. Hago holds a BA in international relations from Syracuse University and an MA in public administration from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

Carey Hendricks

Carey Hendricks is a Policy Advisor with the Forensics Unit for the BJA. She has championed adult and child victims' rights nationally and served in leadership roles in victim service programs for over 20 years. In her role with BJA, Ms. Hendricks assists with managing the National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI); oversees the Prosecuting Cold Cases with DNA and the Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Inventory, Tracking, and Reporting (SAFE-ITR) programs; and serves as a representative for prosecutorial and sexual assault kit (SAK) working groups.

Prior to joining BJA, Ms. Hendricks served as Chief of Staff for the Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet. In her role, she oversaw a workforce of approximately 7,500 employees while providing criminal justice expertise and grant management guidance to the Cabinet Secretary, Justice Mary C. Noble (since retired).







Ms. Hendricks previously served as the SAKI Program Coordinator for the Kentucky Office of the Attorney General. There, she oversaw and directed the development and delivery of Kentucky's SAKI program. She served as a liaison for BJA, RTI International, and the FBI's Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP); additionally, she led the Kentucky SAKI Task Force.

Prior to her tenure with the Kentucky Office of the Attorney General, Ms. Hendricks served as the Interim Executive Director for Silverleaf Sexual Trauma Recovery Services. In this role, she oversaw the delivery of direct service support for sexual assault survivors, directed financial operations, oversaw communication activities and development, and served as a public spokesperson.

Ms. Hendricks has a strong and longstanding commitment to victim protection, service, and advocacy. She has served as a family advocate for a local spouse abuse program, provided legal representation to indigent clients for Kentucky Legal Aid, and worked as a family court prosecutor. She was also a founding partner of a civil litigation law firm where her efforts focused on family law representation and ensuring child safety while advocating for crime victims' rights in criminal and civil proceedings.

Ms. Hendricks is a native Kentuckian and grew up in a rural community. She earned a BA in psychology and an MA in community counseling from Eastern Kentucky University. She went on to earn a JD from the Louis D. Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville.

Audrey Hine

Audrey Hine joined the FBI's Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP) as a Crime Analyst (CA) in November 2019. She currently provides analytical support for law enforcement agencies in the West region (i.e., Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Nevada). Prior to her assignment in ViCAP, CA Hine was detailed as an FBI analyst to the U.S. Department of Justice's Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) at the OCDETF Fusion Center in Fairfax, VA, where she provided analytical support on drug trafficking, money laundering, gang,



and violent crime investigations. Prior to joining the FBI, CA Hine worked with the Fairfax County Police Department in their Major Crimes Division providing analytical support on cold case, homicide, sexual assault, crimes against children, and missing person investigations.

CA Hine holds a bachelor's degree in business management and criminology from George Mason University (Fairfax, VA), a master's degree in criminology from George Mason University, and a graduate certificate in advanced criminal investigations from John Jay College of Criminal Justice (New York, NY).

Susan Hormann

Susan Hormann is the Program Manager of the Owed DNA Unit at the Washington County Sheriff's Office in Hillsboro, OR. As the Program Manager, Ms. Hormann is responsible for tracking the grant progress, sending letters to individuals who lawfully owe DNA, and working with law enforcement partners. She is also the Forensic Consultant for the Washington County District Attorney's Office Cold Case Unit. Prior to this position, Ms. Hormann worked for the Oregon State Police (OSP) Forensic Services Division for 27 years and has a wide breadth

of knowledge regarding forensic analysis including experience in crime scene processing, biology screening, trace analysis, and blood alcohol analysis, as well as 18 years of experience as a DNA analyst. For her last 8 years with OSP, she was in management and held numerous positions including DNA Unit Supervisor, Quality Assurance Manager, Operations Manager, and Interim Division Director. After retiring from OSP, Ms. Hormann worked for 4 years as a Forensic Consultant for the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office on the District Attorney of New York (DANY) grant and the Portland Police Bureau SAKI grant.

Amy Hutsell

Amy Hutsell is the Program Director for the Sexual Assault, Child Abuse, and Human Trafficking Unit with Georgia's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. Ms. Hutsell and her team have competitively secured over \$19,000,000 in federal and private foundation assistance for the State of Georgia's criminal justice initiatives. She is a sought-after speaker for state and national training events and conferences. She oversees the Georgia Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Project, which provides technical assistance and best practices training to Georgia's 50 judicial

circuits and 159 counties. Ms. Hutsell chairs the State SART Expert Committee, which provides guidance in the development of resources, such as sexual assault guidelines and model protocols. One such resource, The Georgia SART Guide, is used across Georgia by law enforcement, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, victim advocates, prosecutors, and judges.

Ms. Hutsell also oversees the state Sexual Assault Kit project, which has successfully addressed the state's SAK backlog and developed a statewide SAK tracking system. She also established and now oversees the Georgia SAKI Task Force, which has provided answers to victims and families of cold case sexual assaults and sexually motivated homicides. In this capacity, she worked with the FBI, Texas Rangers, and local law enforcement in identifying Georgia cases associated with Samuel Little, identified as the country's most prolific serial killer.

Along with developing and overseeing the Georgia Coalition to Combat Human Trafficking and Agricultural Labor Trafficking Task Force, Ms. Hutsell is also responsible for the management of all state and federal grants providing direct service funding to sexual assault, child abuse, and human trafficking victim–serving agencies in Georgia.





Ms. Hutsell has over 16 years of experience in sexual assault and child sexual abuse services. She was the Assistant Director of the Gwinnett Sexual Assault Center and Children's Advocacy Center. She serves as a member of the Macon Girls' Coordinating Council and was previously a Court Appointed Special Advocate. She holds a certificate in genetic genealogy from the University of New Haven's Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Science.

Nikia Johnson

Nikia C. Johnson is a Forensic DNA Subject Matter Expert in the Center for Forensic Science Advancement and Application at RTI International. Prior to joining RTI, Ms. Johnson spent 19 years as a qualified analyst in forensic serology examinations and forensic DNA analysis at the Washington, DC, Metropolitan Police Department, the Washington, DC Department of Forensic Sciences, and Tetracore, Inc. Ms. Johnson's experience also includes serving as training coordinator and training manager overseeing training and development within a forensic biology

unit and within a multidisciplinary local government agency specializing in crime scene investigations, forensic science laboratory work, and public health laboratory work. Ms. Johnson obtained a BS in biology from the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore and received a MS in forensic molecular biology from the State University of New York at Albany.

Melissa Kavetski

Melissa Kavetski joined the FBI's Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP) as a Crime Analyst (CA) in April 2019. She currently provides analytical support for the Pacific Northwest region (i.e., Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington) and foreign countries. Prior to her assignment in ViCAP, CA Kavetski was a Research Fellow in the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education program and assisted with research projects in Behavioral Analysis Unit (BAU) 1 and BAU-4, most notably with the Serial Killer Collection project, the ViCAP

Inter-Rater Reliability project, and the BAU-4/ViCAP Survey. Additionally, CA Kavetski maintained part-time employment while serving as the Director of Research for a Miamibased company that conducts focus groups on various topics and was a Postdoctoral Associate at Florida International University (Miami, FL) from 2016 to 2019.

CA Kavetski holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and minor in sociology from St. Mary's University (San Antonio, TX), a master's degree in general psychology from Stephen F. Austin State University (Nacogdoches, TX), and a PhD in legal/experimental psychology from Florida International University.





Misty Marra

Misty Marra is a Forensic DNA Subject Matter Expert in the Center for Forensic Science Advancement and Application at RTI International, where she serves as a Forensic DNA Specialist on the National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Training and Technical Assistance (SAKI TTA) program. Ms. Marra serves as a main point of contact for East Coast SAKI sites and provides guidance and expertise on SAK inventory completion, evidence testing plans, DNA testing and analysis, and CODIS. Prior to joining RTI, Ms. Marra spent over 24 years as a forensic DNA analyst with a

focus on sexual assault, homicide, and property crime cases for state and local agencies. Ms. Marra has extensive experience supporting implementation of a multidisciplinary response to sexual assault and developing effective SAK-testing strategies, and has been instrumental in coordinating SAK-testing projects and technical review of outsourced SAK projects with agencies and crime laboratories across the United States. Ms. Marra obtained a BA in biology in 1995 from West Virginia University in Morgantown, WV, and received an MS in forensic science in 1998 from Marshall University in Huntington, WV.

Patricia Melton

Dr. Patricia Melton is a Senior Research Forensic Scientist in the Center for Forensic Science Advancement and Application at RTI International. She is the co-director of the BJA's National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) program and the director of the BJA Forensics TTA program. In this capacity, she coordinates and directs the activities and deliverables that provide the requested TTA to all active jurisdictions awarded under the BJA Forensics Program portfolio, including SAKI. Dr. Melton has been nationally

recognized for her work in sexual assault response—including developing TTA and educational strategies that promote creating policies focusing on sexual assault evidence to solve violent crimes. She is the author of *Enacting an Improved Response to Sexual Assault: A Practitioner's Guide to Successful Sexual Assault Response Reform.* Dr. Melton was a member of the National Institute of Justice–funded Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Reporting (SAFER) working group and contributed to the development of the National Institute of Justice's *National Best Practices for Sexual Assault Kits: A Multidisciplinary Approach* report. Her previous experience includes over a decade of experience in forensic DNA analysis and testimony as an expert witness. A focal point of her work has been to use research, training, and education to facilitate the adoption of recommendations and best practices that recognize the value of forensic evidence to resolve violent crime and improve community safety.





Melissa Merola

Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Melissa Merola joined the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) in 2001 and handled violent crime incidents as a field agent until she was assigned to the FBI's Behavioral Analysis Unit (BAU) in 2014. At the BAU, she provides behavior-based investigative and operational support to federal, state, local, and international law enforcement and fire service agencies in matters involving, but not limited to, fire setting, bombings, terrorism, missing or abducted adults, and unusual or repetitive acts of violence against



adults. SSA Merola is the senior member of the Arson & Bombing Investigative Subunit within BAU.

Prior to her work with ATF, she was a home-based therapist for minors who were judicially referred for mental health and/or substance use issues who were at risk of residential placement.

She has an MSEd in forensic psychology from John Jay College of Criminal Justice and an MA in counseling psychology from Fordham University. She is currently enrolled at Oklahoma State University in a doctorate program for forensic sciences.

SSA Merola is a participant or principal investigator in several research projects, including Deception in 911 Homicide Calls and Homicide Staged as Suicide Calls; Homicides with Crime Concealment Arsons; Homicide and Suicide: How Nudity Factors into This Determination; Considerations in Missing Adult Investigations; and Arson Homicides.

She is a member of the International Association of Arson Investigators, the International Association of Bomb Technicians and Investigators, the International Homicide Investigators Association, Mid-Atlantic Cold Case Homicide Investigators, and the Virginia Homicide Investigators Association.

Karhlton Moore

President Biden appointed Karhlton F. Moore as Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), effective February 28, 2022.

Prior to joining BJA, Mr. Moore served as the Executive Director of Ohio's Office of Criminal Justice Services, where he oversaw state and federal grants for law enforcement, victim assistance, juvenile justice, crime prevention courts, anti-trafficking efforts, reentry, corrections programs, and traffic safety. In that role, he led Ohio's grantmaking operations, advising the governor and the director of the Department of Public Safety on criminal justice



strategies. He also served as the facilitator for former Ohio Governor John Kasich's Task Force on Community-Police Relations, precursor of the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board, a multidisciplinary panel that establishes standards for law enforcement agencies as part of the state's effort to strengthen community-police relations. Mr. Moore also served on the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) advisory council and executive committee and was president of NCJA's board of directors. He also served on the steering committee of the Justice Counts initiative.

Sarah Pederson

Sarah Pederson currently serves as the Statewide Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Coordinator for the Criminal Justice Coordinator Council (CJCC). In this role, Sarah coordinates and supports existing and developing SANE programs throughout the state of Georgia. With Ms. Pederson's support, the CJCC promotes consistent, professional, and patient-centered medical and forensic response and treatment of sexual assault victims across the state. She also coordinates training to create opportunities for continuing education for SANE nurses and other disciplines



within the Sexual Assault Response Team. Ms. Pederson has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Kennesaw State University. In addition to holding credentials as a registered nurse and certified SANE-Adult/Adolescent, SANE-Pediatric, and AFN-C (Advanced Forensic Nursing Certification), Ms. Pederson is currently pursuing a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner degree from Georgia State University.

Patti Powers

Patti Powers, JD, joined AEquitas as a Senior Attorney Advisor after serving as a senior deputy prosecuting attorney in Washington State for 27 years, bringing extensive litigation expertise as a well-respected trial attorney to her role. As a prosecutor, she supervised the Sexual Assault–Domestic Violence Unit, where she prosecuted and tried a high volume of violent crimes—specializing in adult sexual assault, child sexual assault and abuse, sexual exploitation of minors, domestic violence, and related homicides (including complex litigation of high-profile,



as well as cold and current cases). Ms. Powers served on the domestic violence and child fatality review committees and was a member of the Washington State Technical Assistance Committee for Child Death Review Guidelines. After appointment, she served for 5 years as a highly qualified expert for the U.S. Army's Criminal Investigation Division, training U.S. Army criminal investigation agents and prosecutors at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and in Germany. She is the lead Attorney Advisor on SAKI.

Ashley Rodriguez

Ashley Rodriguez is a Program Manager within the Investigative Sciences Program in the Center for Forensic Science Advancement and Application at RTI International, where she has served as a Forensic Scientific Advisor on the National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Training and Technical Assistance (SAKI TTA) program since 2021 and as the Co-Project Director of the Forensics TTA program since January 2023. In both roles, Ms. Rodriguez supports law enforcement, prosecutors, and other criminal justice professionals seeking to improve the quality and

application of forensic science to enhance overall public safety. Prior to joining RTI, Ms. Rodriguez spent over 12 years working at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). The majority of her NCMEC career was spent as a Senior Forensic Case Manager, providing training and technical assistance to law enforcement and medical examiners and coroners working cases involving unidentified children. Ms. Rodriguez obtained a BA in psychology and cognitive science in 2007 from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville and received an MA in forensic psychology in 2008 from Marymount University in Arlington, VA.

Orlando Salinas

Orlando Salinas currently serves as SAKI Site Coordinator as well as the DNA Collection Coordinator for Texas Rangers at the Texas Department of Public Safety for the BJA's SAKI grants pertaining to expansion of the state DNA database through lawfully owed DNA collection. In 2020, Mr. Salinas performed a statewide DNA census for the state of Texas; lawfully owed DNA collections made from this census have resulted in 276 CODIS hits. Texas Department of Public Safety continues to work with Texas law enforcement agencies to improve DNA collection efforts and respond to CODIS hits from the identified population.

Jordan Satinsky

Captain Jordan Satinsky started in law enforcement in 1999. Presently, Captain Satinsky is the Director of the Montgomery County Police Department's Community Engagement Division. Over the course of his career, Captain Satinsky has worked as a homicide investigator, adult sex crimes investigator, child sexual and physical abuse investigator, a district investigator, and a member of a federal task force. Captain Satinsky has served as the creator and supervisor of the Montgomery County Police Department's Sexual Assault Unit. He also was responsible for

redeveloping its Domestic Violence Unit and the Elder/Vulnerable Adult Unit. Captain Satinsky further led the transition of several units of the police department to the Family Justice Center.

Captain Satinsky holds a BA from the University of Maryland at College Park in criminology and criminal justice. He also holds a master's degree in criminal justice from Boston University.







Sarah Savicki

Sarah Savicki has served as the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department's (CMPD's) SAKI Site Coordinator since 2017. During that time, she has been CMPD's point of contact for the fiscal year 2016, 2017, 2019, 2020, and 2022 grants and most recently the fiscal year 2023 (Purpose Area 6) grant. She not only works to ensure CMPD is meeting SAKI milestones, but also advocates for the grant's guiding principle: comprehensive, survivor-centered jurisdictional reform of sexual assault response in the community.

Prior to this important work, Ms. Savicki served in the community mental health area implementing a dialectical behavior therapy program and providing direct therapeutic programming and psychological consultation. She has both an undergraduate and master's degree in clinical psychology.

Billy Shaw

Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Billy Shaw entered into duty with the FBI in 2015. Upon completion of new agent training, Special Agent Shaw was assigned to the Chicago Field Office where he worked on foreign counterintelligence matters. He was transferred to the Violent Crimes/Cold Case Homicide Task Force in 2017. In 2019 he transferred to the Houston Field Office, where he was assigned to the Violent Crime and Major Offender Task Force. During this time, he also became certified as a Cellular Analysis Survey Team (CAST) Field Asset. In 2021, Special Agent

Shaw transferred to the Public Corruption Squad. In 2022, he was selected to be an SSA at FBI Headquarters in the Economic Crimes Unit; then in 2023 he was selected as an SSA at FBI Headquarters in the CAST Unit.

Prior to joining the FBI, SSA Shaw worked as a tax auditor for the State of Texas and was a Bank Examiner for the Department of Treasury. He earned a bachelor's degree in accounting and a master's degree in business administration, both from Texas State University.





Marya L. Simmons

Marya L. Simmons is the Founder and CEO of Shift in Notion Consulting, LLC, where she provides technical assistance and training to diverse audiences and communities on sexual assault, trauma-informed and victim-centered best-practice approaches, domestic violence, victim advocacy, human trafficking, strengthening multidisciplinary teams and leadership techniques, life skills and self-sufficiency, and supporting families of homicide victims.



Ms. Simmons has presented on both a national and international

level, she is a subject matter expert in victim advocacy with RTI International, and she obtained a master's degree in criminal justice administration from Tiffin University with honors. In her current role as the Director of Services at the Hope & Healing Survivor Resource Center, she oversees the daily operations of the battered women's shelter and provides leadership and management to all programs and services provided by the agency.

Previously, Ms. Simmons was the Operations Manager at Canopy Child Advocacy Center and the Victim-Witness Unit Supervisor at the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office, where she supported victims and witnesses throughout the judicial system process. Prior to joining the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office, she was a Justice System Advocate for victims of sexual assault at the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, where she supported survivors of sexual assault. Ms. Simmons is adept at working with diverse populations, providing crisis intervention, and supporting individuals who are diagnosed with chemical/alcohol dependency and mental health illnesses.

Ms. Simmons is a Registered Advocate with Senior Standing with the State of Ohio, was an active member of the Cuyahoga County Sexual Assault Response Team from 2011 through 2021, actively supported victims associated with Cuyahoga County's CODIS Task Force (Untested Rape Kit Initiative) from 2013 through 2018, and received the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office's Award for Distinguished Contributions to Victim Advocacy.

Kevin Strom

Kevin J. Strom, PhD, is a Center Director at RTI International, where he leads the Center for Public Safety and Resilience, which conducts research, technical assistance, and training across a range of topics related to policing, investigations, and violence prevention. His portfolio includes projects focused domestically in the United States as well as internationally. Dr. Strom has led projects for the U.S. Department of Justice, including work aimed at improving the response to violent crime through enhanced investigative practices and community partnerships. He currently



leads the National SAKI Training and Technical Assistance project, which supports state and local jurisdictions across the country in testing, investigating, and prosecuting cases associated with previously unsubmitted sexual assault kits. He also leads the National Case Closed Project, a nationwide effort designed to support law enforcement agencies in improving their violent crime clearance rates, with an emphasis on fatal and nonfatal shooting cases.

Kelly Taylor

Kelly Taylor is a registered nurse, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner, and Forensic Healthcare Examiner. She currently serves as the Forensic Healthcare Program Manager at a medical center in North Carolina. She began her career in emergency and trauma medicine in 2002, and her experience with both assault- and non-assault-related patients has built her expertise in forensic health care.

Ms. Taylor serves as an expert witness and consultant for both the prosecution and defense in sexual assault, physical assault,

domestic violence, and strangulation cases. In addition to clinical practice and program management, she instructs law enforcement, advocacy, and medical and legal professionals as part of a multidisciplinary approach to assault and abuse cases.

Ms. Taylor's areas of expertise include medical and forensic health care, evidence collection, forensic health care testimony, drug-facilitated sexual assault, intimate partner violence, strangulation, and the neurobiology of trauma/trauma-informed interviewing.

Ms. Taylor attended the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and studied a pre-nursing curriculum and graduated from the Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing in Charlotte, NC, in December 2001. She is certified as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner through the International Association of Forensic Nurses.

Cesar Tirado

Cesar Tirado has been employed by the Maricopa County Attorney's Office since 2007. For the first 10 years, he worked as a bilingual Victim Advocate for the Victim Services Division and was assigned to the Major Crimes I & II Bureaus. For the past 6 years, he has been the office's SAKI Site Coordinator. Mr. Tirado received his undergraduate degree in criminal justice administration at San Diego State University and his master's degree in public administration at Arizona State University.





Lindsey Wade

Lindsey Wade joined RTI International as a Law Enforcement Specialist assigned to SAKI Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) and Forensics TTA programs in 2023. Prior to this, she served as a Tacoma, WA, police officer for 21 years. During her career, she investigated sexual assaults, child abuse, missing persons, and homicides. In 2010, Ms. Wade first became aware of the issue known today as lawfully owed DNA when she discovered that serial killer Ted Bundy was not in CODIS. She worked with authorities in Florida to track down a sample of Bundy's DNA,

leading to its overdue entry into the national DNA database in 2011. In 2018, while serving as the Tacoma Police Department's cold case detective, Lindsey, along with other Tacoma police detectives and the FBI, solved two 32-year-old cold case child homicides thanks to advances in DNA technology, forensic genetic genealogy, and good old-fashioned police work. After retiring in 2018, Ms. Wade joined the Washington State Attorney General's Office as a Senior Investigator assigned to SAKI. She is a former member of the FBI Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP) National Advisory Board and teaches child abduction response and cold case investigations for the National Criminal Justice Training Center at Fox Valley Technical College, Grand Chute, WI.

Kelly Wells

As Kentucky's Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (KySAKI) Program Manager, Kelly Wells is responsible for ensuring the completion of project activities and milestones for the KySAKI grant. She serves as the central point of contact for the SAKI team, ensuring communication between local, state, and national agencies, providing training and technical assistance upon request, and developing educational materials to inform the public about KySAKI.

Ms. Wells has a BA in psychology and an MA in counseling psychology. She is also state certified in both batterer intervention and sex offender treatment. During her career of more than three decades in advocacy, Ms. Wells has worked in various law enforcement and prosecution-based agencies.

Mary Weston

Mary Weston is the Supervisor of the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office's Cold Case/Genetic Operations Linking DNA (GOLD) Unit. She has been an assistant prosecuting attorney since 2006 and joined the Cuyahoga County Sexual Assault Kit Taskforce when it was formed in 2013. Currently, she is the Project Manager for the Taskforce, overseeing all aspects of cold case sexual assault and homicide investigations, making charging decisions, presenting cases to the grand jury, and litigating cases in court and on appeal.









Nathan Whiteman

Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) Nathan Whiteman is originally from outside Philadelphia, PA. Prior to his entrance on duty in May 2004, he was a teacher. He earned his bachelor's degree in Spanish education and his master's degree in Spanish from Millersville University of Pennsylvania. SSA Whiteman was assigned to the Atlanta Division of the FBI for 15 years; during this time, he investigated violent crimes and child exploitation. He managed the Metro Atlanta Child Exploitation Task Force, worked as an FBI crisis negotiator, and also served as a team leader for the



FBI Child Abduction Rapid Deployment Team. SSA Whiteman is currently a member of the FBI Behavioral Analysis Unit 3, consulting on violent crimes against children.

John Wilkinson

John Wilkinson is an Attorney Advisor with AEquitas and has 15 years of criminal litigation experience as both an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney and public defender in Fredericksburg, VA. Mr. Wilkinson has expertise in cases of homicide, gang and group violence, gun violence, major felonies, witness intimidation, human trafficking, domestic violence, sexual violence, and stalking. Mr. Wilkinson has broad training and technical assistance experience, including his work at the National District Attorneys Association, where he was Program Manager



for the Gun Violence Prosecution Program, Homeland Security Program, and Southwest Border Crime Program. Mr. Wilkinson also serves as the project lead for the BJA's Smart Prosecution: Innovative Prosecution Solutions Program.

Angela Williamson

Dr. Angela Williamson is the Supervisor of the Forensics Unit and the FBI Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP) Liaison at the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). Dr. Williamson also serves as the Forensic DNA Subject Matter Expert for the FBI's ViCAP and Behavioral Analysis Unit and assists law enforcement agencies across the country with active and cold case investigations. She developed and oversees the National Sexual Assault Kit and Cold Case Initiatives (SAKI/ NCCI), along with other forensics-based programs at BJA.



Dr. Williamson received her doctorate in molecular biology and biochemistry from the University of Queensland in Australia. She has over 18 years of experience as a forensic specialist working on complex criminal cases and missing and unidentified persons' investigations.

As a forensic scientist, Dr. Williamson worked in state and private forensic labs, and performed serological screening and DNA analysis on thousands of major crime cases. Prior to joining the Department of Justice, she held the positions of Director of Forensic Casework at Bode Technology (America's largest private forensic DNA laboratory) and Forensics and Unknown Victim Identification Project Manager at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. At Bode she worked thousands of sexual assault cases, homicides, human remains (e.g., missing, unidentified, mass disasters), and many high-profile cases (including the Zodiac serial killer and JonBenét Ramsey homicide). At the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Dr. Williamson oversaw forensic and biometric services, assisted in the identification of child homicide victims, and helped solve cold case homicides. She has extensive knowledge of current forensic practices and emerging technologies and routinely trains law enforcement in all aspects of forensics, including advanced DNA techniques for crime scene evidence. In 2018 and 2020, Dr. Williamson received the U.S. Department of Justice Assistant Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award for outstanding contributions to the mission and goals of the Office of Justice Programs. In 2019, Dr. Williamson received the International Homicide Investigators Association Award for Excellence for her role in the Samuel Little serial killer investigation.

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OFFICE HOUR REPRESENTATIVES

BJA Team

BJA Programs Office BJA Policy Office BJA Performance Metric Tracking (PMT) Team

SAKI TTA Team

RTI International AEquitas International Association of Chiefs of Police Wichita State University Joyful Heart Foundation RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network)

Sexual Assault Management System (SAMS) Portland Police Bureau

Industry Partners Bode Technology DNA Labs International Marshall University Sorenson Forensics

BJA SAKI TEAM



Angela Williamson, PhD Supervisor, Forensics Unit/FBI ViCAP Liaison



Mila Hago State Policy Advisor



Tiffany Johnston Grants Management Specialist



Carey Hendricks, JD Policy Advisor, Forensics Unit



Lauren Troy State Policy Advisor



Hannah Barcus BJA Contractor

SAKI TTA TEAM



Kevin Strom, PhD SAKI TTA Project Director



Patricia Melton, PhD SAKI TTA Co-Project Director



Madison Boden SAKI ViCAP Crime Analyst Assistant



Jason Chute Forensic DNA Specialist



Derek Coats Senior Law Enforcement Specialist



Dustin Driscoll Forensic Advisor



Ashley Rodriguez Forensic Advisor



Nikia Johnson Forensic DNA Specialist



Lindsey Wade Senior Law Enforcement Specialist



Misty Marra Forensic DNA Specialist



Hope Zagaria Forensic DNA Specialist

SAKI SITES



Alabama

Jefferson County District Attorney's Office

Mobile Police Department

Alaska

Alaska Department of Public Safety

Arizona

Maricopa County Attorney's Office

Phoenix Police Department

Pima County

City of Tucson Police Department

Arkansas

Arkansas Department of Public Safety

California

City of Fresno

City of San Jose

County of Kern

County of Orange

County of Riverside

County of Ventura

Colorado

Colorado Department of Public Safety

Connecticut

Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection

Delaware

Executive Office of the Governor of Delaware

District of Columbia

DC Metropolitan Police Department

Florida

City of Boynton Beach

City of Fort Lauderdale

City of Jacksonville

State Attorney's Office, Fourth Judicial Circuit

Town of Davie

Georgia

Fulton County

Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC)

Hawaii

Hawaii County of the Prosecuting Attorney

Hawaii Department of the Attorney General

Idaho

Idaho State Police

Illinois

City of Chicago

Indiana

City of Indianapolis

lowa

Iowa Department of Justice

Kansas

Kansas Bureau of Investigation

Kentucky

State of Kentucky

Louisiana

City of New Orleans, New Orleans Police Department

Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office

Maryland

County of Baltimore

Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention

Massachusetts

City of Boston

Plymouth County

State of Massachusetts

Michigan

Michigan Department of State Police

The City of Flint Police Department

Wayne County

Minnesota

City of Duluth Police Department

City of Minneapolis Police Department

County of Anoka

Minnesota Department of Public Safety

Mississippi

City of Jackson

Missouri

Missouri Office of the Attorney General

Montana

Montana Department of Justice

Nebraska

City of Omaha

Nevada

Nevada Office of the Attorney General

New Jersey

County of Ocean

State of New Jersey

New Mexico

City of Albuquerque

New Mexico Department of Public Safety

New Mexico Second Judicial District Attorney

New York

New York City Police Department

North Carolina

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department

City of Durham

City of Fayetteville

Durham County District Attorney's Office

Greenville Police Department

North Carolina Department of Justice

Ohio

City of Akron

City of Cleveland

Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office

Oklahoma

City of Tulsa

Oklahoma Office of the Attorney General

Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation

Oregon

City of Portland

County of Washington

Pennsylvania

Allegheny County The City of Philadelphia — Police

South Dakota

State of South Dakota

Tennessee

City of Memphis

Shelby County

Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

Texas

City of Austin

City of Denton

City of Irving

Dallas County

Texas Department of Public Safety

Utah

State of Utah

Virginia

Office of the Attorney General of Virginia

Washington

Washington State Attorney General

West Virginia

West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Department of Justice

NOTES









