2019 CLEAR Conference Presenter Biographies
Day 1 Tuesday October 29, 2019 Violent Crime Dimensions

8:00 AM Welcome - Introduction of CLEAR Board of Directors
Kate Adams-Captain Sacramento County Sheriff’s Office - CLEAR National Training Director (LE)

8:15 AM Opening Flag Ceremony-Pledge of Allegiance - San Diego Police Department Honor Guard

8:25 AM Opening Remarks - Chief David Nisleit - San Diego Police Department

Chief Nisleit oversees the 8th largest police department in the nation. He is a graduate of the University of Redlands, Master’s Degree in Business Management and graduated the FBI National Academy. He began his career with SDPD in 1988, following his father’s footsteps, Ret. Captain Randy Nisleit. David has worked many of the Department’s patrol commands & has extensive investigative experience. His prior assignments include: Assist. Chief of Patrol Operations, Watch Command, Headquarters Front Counter, Homeless Outreach Team, Special Ops, Investigations II (Robbery, Ganges, and Homicide), Field Lieutenant, SWAT, Special Events, Narcotic Team 10, Sex Crimes, & IA. David serves as a liaison to the Downtown Redevelopment, Crime Commission, Community Relations Officers, LEAPS, Police Historical Association, Labor Relations, Gang Commission, San Diego Police Foundation, and the Chief’s Community Advisory Board. He is a member of the San Diego County Police Chiefs’ and Sheriff’s Assoc. Major Cities Chief’s Association, Police Executive Research Forum, IACP, STAR/PAL, SANDAG, and the SWAT Assoc. He has received numerous awards and citations which has included a Congressional Recognition in 2008. He has assisted in planning for several large events in San Diego: Super Bowl, Comic-Con, Rock n Roll Marathon, Balboa Park December Nights, LGBT Pride, IACP Convention, holiday events & major conferences. His father served over 35 years with the Department and retired as a Captain in 1999. His son, Ryan Nisleit, recently graduated from the San Diego Police Academy and is a patrol officer. He is a professor of criminal justice at the University of San Diego and Alliant University.

9:00 AM Award Presentation - Presented by: Chris Schkade, Christian Hardman, Vicki Aubrey, Curt Crum & Jack Gee

9:30 AM Presidents Message - Ben Dugan - CLEAR President - ORC & Corporate Investigations at CVS Health

Ben Dugan CFI, is the current President of the National Coalition of Law Enforcement and Retail and a Manager for the ORC Unit at CVS Health. Ben possesses over 25 years retail loss prevention experience ranging from Big Box, Catalog, Pharmacy and Specialty retailers. Ben is certified as an expert in Organized Retail Crime and Diversion by the U.S. Department of Justice and directed the first ever ORC Civil Rico case. He holds additional certifications as a Law Enforcement Instructor, Certified Forensic Interviewer (CFI) and in E-Commerce Investigative Methodologies.

10:00 AM New CHP ORC Interdiction Team - Sgt Brandon Shipwash, Lt. Adam Smith, & Lt Kevin Domby, CHP

Brandon Shipwash is a Sergeant with California Highway Patrol. He has served 19 years with the California Highway Patrol. He spent 9 years working and supervising in investigations. He was an Investigator and Supervisor with the Foreign Export and Recovery Team, working auto theft cases involving organized crews that steal cars in the US and take them out of the country. He is also a POST Instructor for investigations and a Warrant Service Team Supervisor.

Lt. Adam Smith, & Lt Kevin Domby, CHP

10:20 AM National Violent Crime Statistics (Retail) - John Clark - Principal & Founder, PCI Services

John Clark is a Consultant and Advisor, specializing in governmental compliance, regulatory affairs, as well as law enforcement and public safety initiatives. John currently serves as the Chief Executive of PCI Services LLC and Cannabis Compliance Company. These firms support Clients with the insights necessary in addressing the complexities of governmental compliance and business control strategies, supporting their efforts in managing risk and safeguarding their financial performance, brand and reputation. John is also the Managing Director and Co-founder of FFL Consultants, one of 7 consultancy firms sanctioned by the firearms industry trade association to support the firearms and ammunition industries licensed entities on a global scale. Lastly, John also serves as the CCO/CSO and Senior Advisor for Rizk Ventures, an investment firm focused on Venture Capital, Private Equity, Real Estate and Special Opportunities. Prior to his roles in business, John held various positions with federal and local law enforcement agencies and is a Combat Veteran, honorably serving in the US Air Force as a Non-Commissioned Officer. While serving his country, John earned degrees from the US Air Force Air University and Community College of the Air Force, earning a BS in Criminal Justice Administration and an AS in Industrial Security Management. John also actively serves as an advisor to several national and state level law enforcement and government agency affiliated organizations, focused on criminal justice activities, public safety and national security related matters.
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11:12:15 PM Growing Trends in Retail Armed Robberies - Lt Ralph Ohland - Texas Department of Public Safety

Lt. Ralph Ohland is a 16-yr veteran of the Texas Depart. of Public Safety (DPS), alumnus of The Virginia Military Institute Class of 1998, & a 5th generation law enforcement officer. He was assigned to the Texas Highway Patrol, & was later promoted to Sergeant in Narcotics & Gang Programs. He was promoted to Lieutenant supervising the first DPS Proactive Violent Crime Squad, located at the Texas Anti-Gang Center in Houston. He testified as an expert witness in numerous criminal trials involving gang members ranging from narcotics investigations to capital murder & has provided investigative and intelligence assistance & training to law enforcement agencies throughout the US, Mexico, Central America, & the Texas Border Prosecutors & University of Houston Law School. Ohland & his unit have conducted numerous investigations resulting in the apprehension & dismantlement of over 160 robbery crews responsible for over 850 robberies. Ohland & his unit have been awarded numerous citations for their work in prosecutions of violent career criminals. Ohland and his unit have been recognized by the Houston 100 Club, The Texas Gang Investigator’s Association, The Texas Department of Public Safety Officer’s Association, & The American Legion. In addition to being recognized by the Gulf Coast Criminal Investigator’s Association and the DPS Public Safety Commission, Ohland & his unit were presented with the Houston Crime Stoppers Johnny Klevenhagen award, named for the famed Texas Ranger, for their work in building the partnership which has led to the area’s success in robbery enforcement.

1:30-2:45 PM Lessons From an Active Shooter Event - Cathey Langley LPC- Vice President Asset Protection, Rite Aid Corp.

Cathy Langley, LPC is the Vice President Asset Protection for Rite Aid Corporation. Cathey is an Asset Protection Professional with over 30 years' experience at Rite Aid Corporation. She took on positions with increased responsibility, including Corporate Director Loss Prevention, Director of Asset Protection Analytics and most recently Senior Director Asset Protection. Cathy attended Business School in York, PA. She currently chairs the Loss Prevention Foundation Advisory Council, is on the Loss Prevention Research Council (LPRC) Board of Advisors, is a member of RILA and sits on the (R)Tech Advisory Council, and is Loss Prevention Certified (LPC).

2:50-3:35 PM Workplace Violence, Diffusing the Threat - Curt Crum, Past CLEAR President/Boise PD (ret.)

Curtis L Crum recently retired from the Boise Police Department in 2019 where he served and the Special Services Manager in the Criminal Investigation Division. He was part of the Organized Retail Crime Interdiction Team, Crime Prevention Unit Supervisor, & a Crime Prevention Specialist. Curt was awarded a bachelor’s of Science, Criminal Justice degree from Washington State University and attended the National Crime Prevention Institute at the University of Louisville. Curt is the Past President for CLEAR, as well as past President for the Idaho crime Prevention Association, and Past President for the Idaho Fraud Investigators Association. Curt was the Past-Vice Chairman for the Idaho Chapter of ASIS, Education Advisory Board Member for the International Security Conference. Curt is a certified POST instructor, was awarded Senior Manager of the Year, Boise PD, LE Partner of the year from the Sears Holdings group, and the Community Policing Award from the International Assoc. of Chiefs of Police.

3:50-5:00 PM Interviewing Victims of Traumatic Events - Detective Bryan Barlow - Chicago Police Department

Bryan Barlow, CFI, joined the Chicago Police Department in 2002 and was promoted to Detective in 2008, where he conducted a wide variety of investigations around the city. Currently, Barlow serves as a training coordinator and instructor for the CPD’s Bureau of Detectives, where he has researched, written curriculum and delivered training to new officers, newly promoted detectives and in-service department members on investigatory topics such as Interviewing Victims and Witnesses, Interrogation of Suspects and Trauma-Informed Interviewing, with a focus on interviewing sexual assault victims. Barlow is a member of the Advisory Board of the International Association of Interviewers, holds a B.A. degree from the University of Oklahoma and an M.B.A. from Loyola University Chicago, and is a veteran of the U.S. Army.
8:00-8:05 AM  **CLEAR Case of the Year Award**—Presented by: **Tony Sheppard—National Manager of Orc, CVS Health**

8:05-9:15 AM  **Major Case Study—Investigative Collaboration**—**Thomas Ostly, Alexander Nocon, & Karin Shaw**  
**San Francisco District Attorney’s Office**

Thomas Ostly is a member of the San Francisco DA’s Office Crime Strategies Unit (CSU). CSU is a multi-disciplinary team of prosecutors, analysts & investigators to resourcefully address chronic crime. CSU prosecutors work side by side with law enforcement partners, merchants, & the community to develop long lasting solutions to major crime issues. As the CSU member assigned to Southern and Tenderloin Police Districts, Mr. Ostly was tasked with the conception, development and implementation of innovative strategies that improve public safety through the efficient prevention, investigation, and prosecution of crime.

Alex Nocon, Sr Inspector for the SFDA’s Office, in the Crime Strategies Unit (CSU), addressing chronic crimes. He is a former AG, CA DOJ, Task Force Commander, leading multi-jurisdictional task force units conducting major investigations of organized & violent criminals & drug traffickers. He was a Task Force Commander and Special Agent Supervisor of the CalDOJ, Bureau of Investigations, SF Regional Office, Major Crimes Team, performing major investigations. He was a narcotics special agent, with the SF Metro & DEA Task Force. He worked major drug cases undercover for major domestic & international drug trafficking cases. He was a former investigator for the State of CA Dept of Consumer Affairs & the Dept of Ins. He was a Senior Trading Analyst for the Pacific Stock Exchange, Inc., for insider trading & stock/index option manipulation cases. He is the recipient of recognitions from CA DOJ, Assoc. of Special Agents, CHP, the CA Narcotics Officers Assoc.(CNOA), DEA, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), Santa Clara Co. Specialized Enforcement Team (SCCSET), West Contra Costa Co Chief’s Assoc., & DHS Investigations.

Karin Shaw is a sworn peace officer with the SFDA’s Office since 2007, assigned as an Inspector for the Juvenile Justice Center. She was assigned to the Special Prosecution Unit, investigating cases of child abduction, elder abuse, financial fraud, workers’ compensation fraud, & public corruption. In the Trial Prep Unit, she conducted numerous investigations pertaining to general felonies, domestic violence & sexual assault. She attended the prestigious National Computer Forensics Institute & certified in computer and cell phone forensics. She was also a member of the Electronic Crime Task Force working with the United States Secret Service and appointed as a Special Deputy U.S. Marshal. She holds degrees in Psychology and Criminal Justice Administration.

9:15-10:15 AM  **Interview and Interrogation Techniques (External Subjects)**—**Wayne Hoover, Wicklander & Zulawski Associates**

L. Wayne Hoover, CF®., is Sr. Partner of Wicklander-Zulawski & Associates, Inc. (WZ) & the Executive Director of International Assoc. of Interviewers (IAI), an org. which partners with WZ to offer CF® prep training seminars. IAI administers the certification process for qualified investigators to be Certified Forensic Interviewers (CF®). He is a member of the CF® Advisory Board & Sr. Editor & Publisher for the CFInsider Journal. Serves on the Board of Int. Supply Chain Protection Org. (ISCP0), the Board of Trustees for Marmion Academy & a member of the International Law Enforcement Educators Trainers Association (ILEETA). Wayne has conducted hundreds of investigations for private & public sectors & led over 1200 seminars on Interview & Interrogation Techniques domestically & internationally. He has spoken at numerous national & international conferences including: ILEETA Conference, National Child Advocacy Conf. (NCAC), NRFL, RILA, Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA), Vistage (peer mentoring membership org. for CEOs & business owners), Young President’s Organization (YPO), Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLET), CLEAR, & numerous Chapters of the Assoc. of Certified Fraud Examiners.

11:00-12:00 PM  **California 2020 ORC Initiatives—Assemblymember Cooper, CA 9th Dist./Ann Marie Schubert, Sacramento DA**

Assembly member Jim Cooper represents California’s 9th Assembly Dist., which includes: Sacramento, Elk Grove, Galt, & Lodi. He serves on several committees, including: Public Employees Retirement & Social Security Committee, Gov. Organization Committee, & Ins. Committee. He serves as Chair of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 4 on State Admin & the Assembly Select Committee on Community Law Enforcement Relations & Responsibilities. He served as the Assistant Majority Leader & Assistant Majority Whip under then Speaker of the Assembly Toni Atkins. He has an extensive background in law enforcement & local gov. He served as a Capt. in the Sacramento County Sheriff’s Dept for 30 yrs. & spent 15 yrs. as Elk Grove’s founding mayor & councilmember. He established solid governing values, balanced the city’s budget, & built a city from the ground up. He has earned numerous awards, including the Bronze Star for Bravery for actions during the 1991 “Good Guys” hostage crisis. He spent 3 yrs. as the Dept’s spokesperson & spent nearly a decade working undercover narcotics & gangs investigating drug trafficking in Northern CA. Community service is a significant part of his life. He served on the boards of the Boys & Girls Club, Big Brothers Big Sisters, & Sacramento Children's Receiving Home. He grew up in Sacramento & is a graduate of the West Point Leadership Academy & FBI National Academy. He earned a Master’s degree in Organizational Leadership from Saint Mary’s College.

Anne Marie Schubert is a career prosecutor with 29 yrs. of law enforcement experience. As a Sacramento County prosecutor, she prosecuted some of the area’s most notorious & dangerous criminals, murderers, rapists & child molesters. One of Anne Marie’s passions is the pursuit of justice through DNA evidence & cold case prosecution. In 2002, she formed the Cold Case Prosecution Unit, & served as its first prosecutor. She is a nationally recognized in her knowledge of forensic DNA. The Sacramento DA’s office is proud to train & assist other law enforcement agencies across the country in the use of DNA & Investigative Genetic Genealogy to solve violent crime. She has created innovative community programs focused on helping children by combatting truancy, educating our youth, & honoring citizens who helped serve justice with the development of the Annual Outstanding Citizen Awards Ceremony. She has been recognized by her peers with the Prosecutor of the Year Award & the POST ICI Instructor of the Year Award. Anne Marie was elected Sacramento County’s District Attorney in 2014. She has been committed to working both in the courtroom & in the community to provide the highest level of public safety through prosecution, prevention and innovation.
Andrew Phipps is an experienced Loss Prevention professional with over 17 years in the industry. He has a proven and successful track record of managing loss prevention programs in high profile markets and corporate headquarters. He brings a unique perspective having experience in both high level field Loss Prevention management and leading a Complex Fraud/ORC division.

Jared Moore began his law enforcement career in the armed forces as an MP. He earned a college degree while working in the CA agriculture industry. He transitioned to the San Joaquin County DA’s office as an assistant Welfare Fraud investigator, & retired as a Police Officer for the City of Stockton. He sought out a career in the retail industry & worked at Sports Authority as a district asset protection manager where he learned the trade of ORC investigation using retail resources. He successfully merged police investigation & interview tactics with retail investigations in some of the largest cases the company had seen. Jared was later hired by Raley’s as an ORC investigator & district level supervisor. Jared credits his success as a loss prevention professional, & ORC investigator, to his ability to blend his law enforcement knowledge & skills with retail investigations & loss prevention concerns.

Sean Smith is in his 27th year with the Sacramento Co. Sheriff’s Depart. He has been assigned as a Detective to the Sacramento Valley Hi Tech Crimes Task Force, investigating cybercrimes such as online child enticement, child pornography, dark web narcotics vendors/cryptocurrency seizures, online fraud, business email compromises, online threats, & identity theft. He also conducts digital evidence examinations on mobile devices, computers, digital storage devices & internet websites. Sean is an instructor at the California DA Association, California Peace Officers Standards & Training Institute of Criminal Investigation courses on Human Trafficking, Homicide, Sex Assault, Child Abuse, & Hi Tech Crimes, California DOJ Advanced Training Center, & the Regional Counterdrug Training Academy in the areas of Hi Tech Crimes, Social Media/Internet Investigations, & Dark Web/Cryptocurrency Investigations.

Damon Mosler has been a San Diego County Deputy DA for over 27 years and is currently the Chief of the Economic Crimes Division. He has served as Chief of both the Narcotics Division (2003-2009) and Special Operations Division (2009-2013) as well as a law enforcement liaison (2013-2016) for the San Diego County Sheriff’s Department. He has taught on a range of topics including: case preparation, predator/club drugs, informant handling, 4th amendment law and body worn camera subject matter expert for the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

Rory Stollard is the Sr. Mgr of AP Invest. for Home Depot in Atlanta. 24 yrs. of LP experience in ORC. He helped grow & expand 3 ORC programs with Target, Toys R’ Us & Home Depot. He was a founder of Georgia Retail Association Retail Crime Alliance (GRAORCA) & recipient of GRAORCA’s Partnership of the Yr. Award for helping take down a multi-state ORC ring affecting GA & FL. He testified for State Senate hearings in CA on the need for ORC legislation & worked with eBay to start a program (Proact) to address stolen property sold online. He has testified for various state & local hearings addressing pawn shop law requirements & laws for buying stolen property. He was a criminal justice curriculum consultant for the GA Board of Education & advisor for college & universities criminal justice programs. He is a National trainer & speaker on topics including ORC, LE/private sector partnerships, & surveillance tactics. He has been recognized by Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd for involvement with their ORC training course & assisted the LP Foundation developing an ORC Investigations Certification Course. He has a bachelor’s degree from East Tennessee State University with a major in Criminal Justice and a minor in political science.

Capt. Kate Adams was hired by the Sacramento County Sheriff’s Office in 1994. In 2014, Kate became a watch commander for the Rancho Cordova Police Department/Sacramento County Sheriff East Division; moving into the Assistant Police Chief role in 2015. The joint command structure of Rancho Cordova & the County of Sacramento allowed her the unique opportunity to blend city and county services to better serve the community. In 2018, Kate was promoted to Captain & is the Commander of the Narcotics & Gang Task Force and the organizations Youth Services Unit. Kate holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice & Master’s Degree in Organizational Leadership. She is a graduate of the Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute (SLI) & LAPD Leadership Program (formerly West Point) as well as an adjunct professor for William Jessup University.
8:00-8:15 AM  CLEAR Community Service Award—Curt Crum, CLEAR Legislative Director, Ret. Boise PD

8:20-9:20 AM  Key Indicators of External Theft—Master Officer Howard Mergler, Fairfax County Police Department

Master Police Officer Howard Mergler has 18 yrs. with the Fairfax County PD. He worked in Patrol before moving to a Criminal Selective Enforcement Team & then his district’s Neighborhood Patrol Unit (Bike Unit). He was a founding member of the County’s Tysons Urban Team and is the senior officer. He was a developer & lead trainer of the Department’s Christmas Anti-Theft Team (CATT) Training, preparing officers working in malls undercover to combat retail theft. He is the developer & lead instructor on Retail Theft for the Department. MPO Mergler recently accepted the position of 2nd Vice President for the Mid-Atlantic Organized Retail Crime Alliance (MAORCA). The Tysons Urban Team (TUT) is responsible for handling calls for service in the Tysons Corner area. TUT works within 2 large shopping malls across the street from each other. Combined they would be the largest mall in the United States. They work cases from the simplest juvenile shoplifter through organized retail crime cases along with complex credit card fraud, identity theft cases, robberies, and burglaries.


Christian has conducted numerous criminal investigations touching a wide spectrum of case types, provided testimony during criminal trials, & currently manages eBay’s PROACT program— in which he partners with retailers directly to investigate cases of Organized Retail Crime (ORC) and the sale of stolen goods. Christian also serves on the board of the Utah Organized Retail Crime Association (ORCA) & CLEAR.

Joe Hopkins Has 25+ yrs. as a police officer and 22 yrs. with LAPD. He is assigned to the Commercial Crimes Division (CCD) & has investigated cases involving crimes against persons, high profile burglaries & major fraud including embezzlement, real estate fraud & elder financial abuse. Joe supervises detectives in Cyber Crimes Section-Investigations, responsible for investigating Unauthorized Computer Access (Hacking), Business Email Compromise, Identity Theft & Grand Theft. Joe is CCD’s Community Business Coordinator & the Department liaison to numerous public/private partnerships such as an advisor to the International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators (IAFCI) Southern California Chapter & National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C). Hopkins is a Director of LEAPS-CAL, comprised of Law Enforcement & Private Security (LEAPS), Los Angeles Area Organized Retail Crimes Assoc. (LAORCA) & California Organized Retail Crimes Association (Cal-ORCA).

Ruben Banuelos is a US Army veteran with 18+ yrs. of investigative experience. He started in 2001 with the Monrovia PD. Ruben worked various assignments from Patrol, Fraud Investigations, DUI/Traffic Enforcement & SRO/DARE officer. Ruben received various awards including: the Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) Century Award & the Medal of Valor. After his law enforcement career, Ruben started a new venture with The Home Depot where he has worked various assignments of increasing responsibility to his current position of Senior ORC Investigator. Ruben has been recognized by several associations for outstanding ORC Investigations throughout his career with The Home Depot. Ruben is a board member of several ORC associations and currently sits as the International Advisor on ORC matters for the International Association of Financial Crime Investigators (IAFCI).

10:40-12:00 PM  Critical Incident Response—Public/Private Partnerships—Eraina Perrin, FEMA

Eraina Perrin is The Private Sector Liaison (PSL) for FEMA Region 6, in the National Preparedness Division, & works to identify & support opportunities to build cooperative relationships between public & private sectors. During disasters, the PSL is the point person for public sector issues, including information sharing, employee survivor support, supply chain, & best practices/lessons learned. She transitioned to PSL role in February 2017. In 2015-2017 She was the Situation Unit Leader for R6 Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT) Team 2. Her Resume demonstrates life-long public service: military veteran; firefighter/EMT; AmeriCorps Team Lead; state emergency management agency reservist; & volunteer for local Community Emergency Response Team, Medical Reserve Corps, Red Cross Disaster Action Team, & veteran’s emergency response teams. She has certification as an International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) & Georgia Certified Emergency Manager (GaCEM). She has a Master of Science (MS) in Emergency Management; summa cum laude, Epsilon Pi Phi and Phi Kappa Phi Honor Societies; Jacksonville State University and Bachelor of Science (BS) in International Business; summa cum laude, Strayer University.

12:00-12:15 PM  Closing Remarks—Ben Dugan, CLEAR President