



FBINAA Chapter Chat

Chapter Chat is a monthly communication bringing you all updates submitted by members and chapters!

Please submit each month what's happening among your fellow Chapter and Session mates such as Chapter News, Retrainers, Promotions, Retirements, Awards, and Passings.

December 2025 By Our FBINAA Members

Alabama Chapter News



Jay Fondren, NA Session 218

Retirements

On October 1, 2025, Major **Jay Fondren, NA Session 218**, retired from the Shelby County Sheriff's Office (AL) after almost three decades of law enforcement service to the citizens of Alabama. He also worked for the Leeds Police Department and the Pelham Police Department before joining the Shelby County Sheriff's Office.

He currently serves as the chapter's secretary/treasurer.

Arizona Chapter News



The Arizona Chapter has been busy this fall, kicking off the season with our annual Fall Trainer, held in beautiful Prescott, Arizona. The event began with a fun day of golfing and networking, setting the tone for an engaging and productive weekend.

Attendees then participated in a full day of exceptional training sessions, featuring Josh Bitsko, Police Captain (Ret.), LVMPD, presenting *"Police Resiliency and Critical Incident Response,"* and **Robert White**, Deputy Police Chief (Ret.), Flagstaff PD, **NA Session 167**, leading *"Emotional Survival for Law Enforcement: Leadership Emphasis."*

We wrapped up the event with our traditional Fall BBQ and raffle — always a highlight — filled with laughter, camaraderie, and plenty of great prizes.



The Arizona Chapter Charity Golf, one of the most coveted golf tournaments in Arizona, was held in Surprise, where the event was a complete sellout. The tournament generated substantial funds to support the Arizona Leadership and Development Academy, our annual summer youth program dedicated to developing the future leaders of Arizona.



Promotions



Colby Brandt, NA Session 270

The Arizona chapter is pleased to announce that **Colby Brandt, NA Session 270**, was announced as the Chief of Police of the Glendale Police Department earlier this year.

Passings



Michael Heikes, NA Session 274

Commander (Retired) **Michael Heikes** from the Chandler Police Department, **NA Session 274**, passed away on November 3rd, after his battle with cancer at the age of 53. Heikes was known for his bigger-than-life personality and was respected for his dedication, leadership, wisdom, and steady presence.

Connecticut Chapter News

Promotions



Swearing-In Ceremony for Frederick Jortner, NA Session 275

Congratulations to CT Chapter Second Vice President, **Frederick Jortner, NA Session 275**, on his well-deserved promotion to Chief of Police for the Chesire Police Department. Fred has served the Town of Chesire for 22 years and is their eighth Chief of Police.

California Chapter News

Passings



Jimmy (Jim) Ray Trevena, NA Session 94

Our condolences go out to the family, friends, and loved ones of California Past President and retired Stanislaus County Sheriff, **Jimmy (Jim) Ray Trevena, NA Session 94**, who passed away September 27th, 2025. Sheriff Trevena was born in Tennessee. He joined the Navy at 18. After leaving the Navy, he moved to Oregon and tried his hand at working at a lumber mill, but decided it wasn't for him, so he joined the Air Force and landed in Sacramento. After being honorably discharged, Sheriff Trevena became a Deputy Sheriff working for the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office. Working through the different divisions gave him experience as he rose through the ranks. In 1986, Jim became the Sheriff and led with integrity. In 1991, he traded the job for family, friends, golf, and travel. Sheriff Trevena married Catherine Brewer in 1972, and they shared 53 years, raising three children who gave him 5 grandchildren, and those grandchildren have given him 9 great-grandchildren, all of which added to Jimmy having a very full life. We thank you, Sheriff Trevena, for your service.

Eastern Missouri Chapter News



The Eastern Missouri Chapter held its annual Golf Tournament that benefits the scholarships we give out. The Tournament was held on October 30th at the Aberdeen Golf Club in Eureka, Missouri. With great weather and sunny skies, 30 teams competed for the bragging rights to be called Champions.





Passings



James A. "Jim" Hempen

James A. "Jim" Hempen, age 77, passed away on November 18, 2025, surrounded by the love of his family.

Born to Anthony G. and Lucille M. Hempen (née Dolenz), Jim lived a life marked by service, devotion, and deep, enduring friendships.

Jim is survived by his children, Amy (Reuben) Garcia, Stacey (Chris) Fehlig, Kimberly (Drew) Fillingham, and James Jr. (Natalie); his grandchildren, Charlotte Garcia, Natalie Fehlig, Noelle Fehlig, Eleanor Fillingham, and Dominick Chambers; his brother, David A. Hempen; and his nephews, Anthony Hempen and Jacob Hempen. He will also be remembered fondly as a dear brother-in-law, uncle, cousin, and friend to many.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Deborah; his parents; his daughter, Mary Elizabeth, and numerous cherished friends who enriched his life and remained close to his heart.

Jim grew up as a parishioner and student of Seven Holy Founders Parish and later married the love of his life, Deborah, in the same church. A graduate of St. John Vianney High School, he formed friendships that lasted throughout his life. After proudly serving in the United States Army, Jim earned his Bachelor's Degree from Saint Louis University and dedicated his career to public service—first as a police officer in St. Louis, and later through a distinguished tenure with the Federal Bureau of Investigation serving in the Indianapolis, Chicago, and St. Louis Divisions. He most recently served the Community of First Responders as an Ambassador for The Backstoppers organization. His integrity, dedication, and commitment left a lasting impact on all who worked alongside him.

A proud St. Louisan, Jim found joy in the city's familiar corners and beloved institutions. He enjoyed the flavors and traditions of The Hill and treasured outings to places like Crown Candy Kitchen with his wife, children, and grandchildren—creating memories for his loved ones reflecting the spirit of the city he loved dearly.

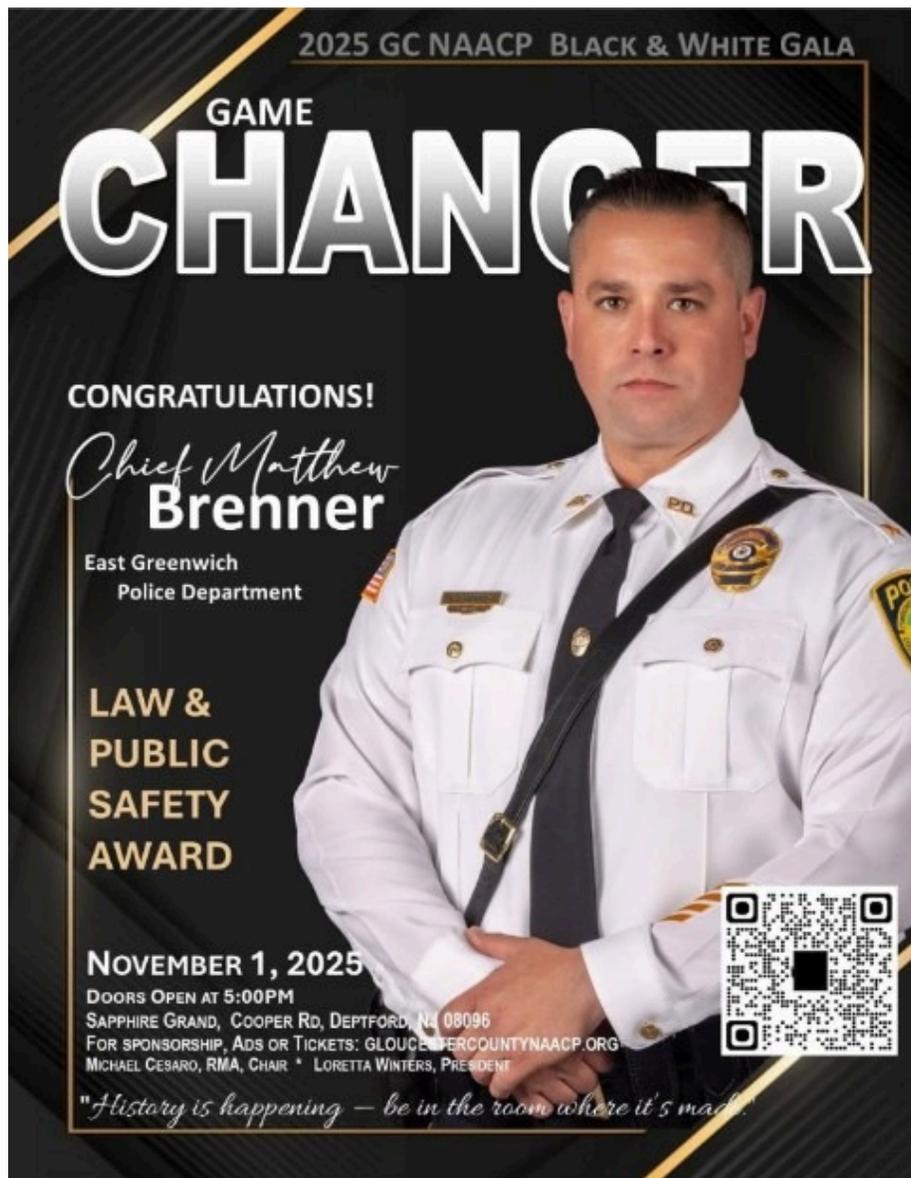
While his family and friends will forever feel his absence, Jim will be remembered for his unwavering love and devotion to his family, his good-natured, mischievous sense of humor, and the unforgettable memories and stories he shared with those dearest to him.

Jim was an active member of the Eastern Missouri Chapter. After the death of his wife, he created the Deborah Hempen Memorial Scholarship for chapter members' children who were attending college. The Chapter will continue this scholarship and will now be called the Jim and Deborah Hempen Memorial Scholarship.

Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter News



Members of Session 296 visited Philadelphia on November 1, 2025. They were welcomed by chapter leadership and entertained by a Philadelphia String Band while they drank beer and ate Philly staples such as cheesesteaks, pretzels and Tastykakes. It was a great time had by all.



Matt Brenner, NA Session 290

Congratulations to Chief **Matt Brenner, NA Session 290**, for receiving the Law and Public Safety Award from the Gloucester Chapter of the NAACP. Matt, who is the chief of police for East Greenwich PD, was presented with the award for his contributions in law enforcement and public safety, with a focus on community service, leadership, and advancing civil rights values.

Retirements



Dave Harkins, NA Session 279, and Anthony Minosse, NA Session 257

Chief **Dave Harkins, NA Session 279**, retired from Gloucester Township PD after 30 years of service. Sworn in to take his place was Chief **Anthony Minosse, NA Session 257**. Congratulations to you both!

Florida Chapter News



The FBINAA Florida chapter hosted a football game event for alumni and family members at the UM vs Stanford game at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens on October 25. Attendees enjoyed watching UM defeat Stanford during the event, which was coordinated by Area Representative Chief Ed Hudak.



On Wednesday, November 5, 2025, the Florida FBINAA Central Florida Area hosted former FBI agents, FBINAA members, and law enforcement guests for an exceptional day at the SWAT Round-Up International Event.

The event featured a debrief and lessons learned from the FBI Agent-Involved Shooting in Miami (2021). An FBI SWAT Leader presented on the tactical operations of this horrific event, where two FBI Agents lost their lives while serving a warrant.

Proceeds were split equally between the FBINAA Scholarship Fund and the SWAT Round-Up Memorial Fund.



Our Florida Chapter leadership, including the Board and Area Representatives, held a meeting in South Daytona on November 13 and 14, 2025.

Retirements



Jay Romine, NA Session 184

Director **Jay Romine, NA Session 184**, retired on November 1, 2025, from the Manatee Technical College Law Enforcement Academy after 46 years of service. Jay began his career with the Palmetto Police Department in 1979 and continued his career with the Holmes Beach Police Department, rising through the ranks to become the Chief of Police, a position he held for 19 1/2 years. Upon retiring from Holmes Beach PD, he became the Academy Director at MTC, where he spent 12 1/2 years. During his career, Jay served as the President of the Florida Police Chiefs Association and was appointed by two Governors to serve on the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission, where he served for 10 years, with three of those years as Chairman. While serving as the Academy Director, Jay served as the Chairman of the Florida Criminal Justice Training Center Directors Association for 10 years until his retirement. Jay was inducted into the Florida Law Enforcement Hall of Fame in 2020. His plans involve thinning out the deer herd in Alabama, spending time with his four-month-old granddaughter Lilliana Jayne, and cheering on his Auburn Tigers and Green Bay Packers! We wish Jay the best in all of his plans!



Michael McKinley, NA Session 254

Michael McKinley, NA Session 254, retired from the Apopka Police Department on October 31, 2025. Chief McKinley concludes a 42-year law enforcement career. His extensive career included over three decades with the Orange County Sheriff's Office before his tenure as Apopka's Police Chief, a role he held for about a decade.

Georgia Chapter News

Promotions



James D. Ferrell, NA Session 272

James D. Ferrell, NA Session 272, was appointed as the Chief of Police of the Cobb County Police Department on October 28, 2025.

Kansas/Western Missouri Chapter News

Brittany Briggs, our TCLS, has reported to Quantico for New Agent Training. Following graduation, it appears she will return to Kansas City. Congratulations Brittany!

Sonta Wilborn, NA Session 258, was recently named Interim Director of the Center for Public Safety Leadership at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center. Congratulations.



Sonta Wilborn, NA Session 258

Promotions



Johnny Ingram, NA Session 286

Johnny Ingram, NA Session 286, was recently promoted last year to Major at the Kansas Highway Patrol, where he now serves as South Bureau Field Operations Commander.

Congratulations, **Johnny Matt Kellogg, NA Session 275**, was recently promoted to Deputy Chief at the Liberty, MO PD. Congratulations Matt!

Retirements



Dawn Layman, NA Session 251

Dawn Layman, NA Session 251, will retire in December after 32 years with Lenexa PD. The exciting news is that she will begin as Chief of Police in Breckinridge, Colorado.

Robert McClarty, NA Session 261, has retired from KLETC. Congratulations Rob!



Robert McClarty, NA Session 261

Nebraska Chapter News



Kevin Griger, NA Session 238

Please join the Nebraska Chapter in recognizing **Kevin Griger, NA Session 238**, as the new incoming Nebraska Chapter President, following two very productive years under outgoing Chapter President **Ken Kanger, NA Session 262**.

Incoming President Griger brings a wealth of experience to the Nebraska Chapter. He is a graduate of the University of Nebraska–Omaha, served in the United States Marine Corps from 1983 to 1988, and currently serves as a Captain with the Sarpy County Sheriff's Office. President Griger is optimistic about the chapter's future and is committed to continuing its success through meaningful training opportunities, maintaining strong professional partnerships, and continuing high-level collaboration among all members while expanding the reach of the FBI National Academy Associates throughout Nebraska.

Please join us in thanking President Kanger for his leadership and accomplishments over the past two years and in welcoming Incoming President Griger as we move forward.

New Jersey Chapter News

Promotions



Christopher Petonak, NA Session 295

On November 17, 2025, **Christopher Petonak, NA Session 295**, was promoted from the rank of Captain to Chief of police with the Boonton Police Department.



Jeffrey Ackerson, NA Session 289, with New Jersey Chapter members

On November 3, 2025, **Jeffrey Ackerson, NA Session 289**, was sworn in as Chief of the Holmdel Township Police Department.

Pictured are FBINAA members from the New Jersey Chapter who came out to support him! We wish him the very best and know that he will do great things!

Retirements



David Harkins, NA Session 247

We would like to congratulate Gloucester Township Police Chief **David Harkins, NA Session 247**, on his retirement November 1, 2025. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

New York/Eastern Canada Chapter News



Conference Collage

The Chapter would like to thank Chapter President **John Rowan, NA Session 236**, for his leadership this past year and wishes the 2026 Chapter President, **Terri Tobin, NA Session 189**, all the best as she takes the reins for this upcoming year. John and Terri are pictured during the fireside chat held at the Chapter Retrainer.

👑 The **FBINAA New York State & Eastern Canada Chapter** students stopped by the National Office for a photo after their chapter sponsored coffee & snacks for Session 296 this week. Thank you all again for your support! ☕️🍪
💙 **#FBINAA #Session296 #ThankYou**



NY/EC Chapter from Session 296 photo coffee sponsored by the NYEC Chapter in early October



Tunnel to Towers Golf Outing

On Veterans Day, Chapter members attended the Tunnel to Towers Golf Outing held on Staten Island. The foursome consisted of winners of the chapter raffle and included **John Sumwalt, NA Session 242, Chris Barrella, NA Session 234, Joe Gallucci, NA Session 195, and Dave Stein, NA Session 246**. It was a cold, actually very cold, day of golf. Fortunately, the dinner allowed the opportunity to warm up and connect with **John Rogers, NA Session 232, Andy Martinez, NA Session 283, and Joe Del Duca, NA Session 263**.

Oregon Chapter News

The Oregon Chapter is happy to announce that Portland Police Bureau Captain Christopher Burley, Oregon City Police Captain David Edwins, and Grants Pass Captain Tyler Lee will be representing Oregon at the FBI National Academy Session 297 starting in January 2026!

2026 Spring Trainer in April (Actual date TBD)

2026 Annual Pig Out Picnic, August 6, 2026, at Memorial Park

2026 Fall Retrainer will be held again at the Running Y Ranch in Klamath Falls, Oregon, September 8-11, 2026. One feature presentation is the 2022 Case Study of the University of Idaho Murders, presented by the Idaho State Police!

Please visit the [Oregon Chapter website](#) for up-to-date information on our chapter!



Dave O'Shaughnessy, NA Session 227

Where are they now...This month's feature is on retired Clackamas County Captain **Dave O'Shaughnessy, NA Session 227**. Captain O'Shaughnessy was born in Ontario, Oregon and moved to Corvallis when he was in grade school. He graduated from Corvallis High School in 1988. He attended the University of Oregon as he was one of three freshmen accepted to the Architect Program. He decided this was not his career path and enlisted in the Oregon Air National Guard serving 6 years. He was honorably discharged as a Staff Sergeant. He was hired by the Oregon Air National Guard as a civilian police officer in the 142 FW/CP and served in this position for four years. Captain O'Shaughnessy also served as a Multnomah County Sheriff Reserve Deputy while with the 142 FW/CP.

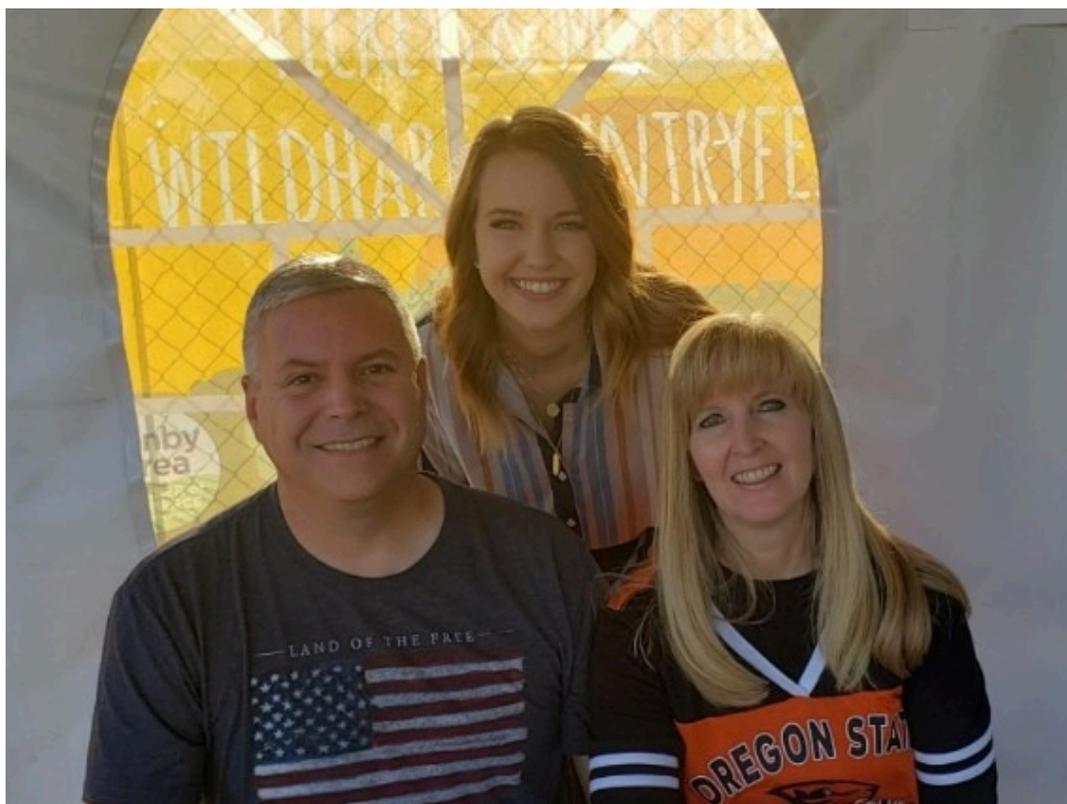
Captain O'Shaughnessy was hired by the Clackamas County Sheriff Office in July 1993. He served as a deputy, sergeant, lieutenant and retired as a captain in May 2020. Captain O'Shaughnessy served many details and assignments at the sheriff's office. Most notably he was lead instructor in the Field Training Evaluation Program that had been revamped to a higher level. He was instrumental while assigned as the Training Deputy organizing the training division to provide better in-service and other training opportunities to Clackamas County Deputies and other law enforcement agencies. One of his most significant assignments was when he had to organize and make policy as a Lieutenant for Clackamas County's first ever sequestered jury for notorious serial killer Dayton LeRoy Rogers.

Captain O'Shaughnessy attend FBI National Academy Session 227 graduating in December 2006. He served as our chapter president in 2012 and has been an active member since he graduated from the national academy.

Captain O'Shaughnessy and his wife Tracey have been married for 30 years. Tracey had served as Clackamas County Communications (911) Dispatcher for several years before stepping away to raise their daughter, Kiersten. They moved to Arizona shortly after Captain O'Shaughnessy retired but always kept their house in Canby, Oregon. After a couple of years, they moved back to Canby where they reside today. Captain O'Shaughnessy enjoys woodworking and recently has been enjoying Military Flight Simulations. He explained that he has always been fascinated with aviation, even training for a pilot's license in the 1990's as well as overseeing the Clackamas County Air Support Unit. In addition to his hobbies, he and Tracey enjoy traveling when they can and will be taking their first cruise to Hawaii next year.

We are very happy to hear Captain O'Shaughnessy and Tracy are enjoying their retirement!

The Oregon Chapter is also happy to announce that our 2013 YLP (Actually 2014 due to the Government Shutdown) Attendee Kiersten O'Shaughnessy is a civilian employee in finance with the Clackamas County Sheriff's Department. After graduating from Canby High School in Canby, Oregon, she went to Oregon State University graduating with a business degree in 2019. She is the daughter of retired Clackamas County Sheriff Captain **Dave O'Shaughnessy, NA Session 227.**



Kiersten O'Shaughnessy with her father, Captain O'Shaughnessy, and mother Tracey

Rocky Mountain Chapter News



Ed O'Carroll, NA Session 269

Congratulations 2nd Vice Pres. Elect, Ed O'Carroll!

We are pleased to announce that at the 2025 Fall Training Conference, **Ed O'Carroll, NA Session 269**, was selected by the members to become the Rocky Mountain Chapter's next 2nd Vice President, to be sworn in at the December 18th Trainer/Luncheon.

Promotions



David Moore, NA Session 277

Congratulations to **David Moore, NA Session 277**, who was appointed to become the Chief of the Longmont Police Department.

Texas Chapter News



Sheriff Donald Valenza, NA Session 193, and Lieutenant Ron Echols, NA Session 193

The Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) hosted its National Conference on Law Enforcement and Trauma from November 13–16, 2025, in New Orleans, Louisiana. By coincidence, two graduates of the FBI National Academy's **Donald Valenza, NA Session 193**, Sheriff of Houston County, Alabama, and **Ron Echols**, Lieutenant Investigator with the Harris County District Attorney's Office — found themselves attending the same conference. Wearing their NA shirts, they unexpectedly crossed paths in an elevator between breakout sessions. When Donald asked Ron which session he attended, they realized it had been 27 years since they last saw each other — the day they graduated from the National Academy.

Virginia Chapter News

Promotions



John Mocello, NA Session 295

John Mocello, NA Session 295, Lieutenant of Special Operations for the Leesburg Police Department most recently accepted a position as a Captain with the City of Winchester Police Department and will start in his new position in late October. We wish both Barry and John all the best as they take on their new roles.

Retirements



Barry Dufek, NA Session 281

Barry Dufek, NA Session 281, retired as the Chief of the Purcellville Police Department earlier this year. Barry was most recently appointed as the Deputy Chief of the Rockville City Police Department (Maryland) and started his new

position on September 29th.

Washington, D.C. Chapter News

The Washington, D.C. Chapter was pleased to host its Fall Luncheon for the 2025 season, held on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, at The Point DC Restaurant, located at 2100 2nd Street S.W., Washington, D.C. The event was well attended and featured excellent cuisine, warm fellowship, and engaging conversation among members and guests.

Attendees included representatives from the Metropolitan Police Department, FBI Police, Metro Transit Police, FBI, D.C. Housing Police, and other partner agencies, reflecting the strong professional connections within the Chapter. The program also included remarks from the Assistant Director of the FBI and the Washington Field Office, who shared valuable professional experiences and words of wisdom. The Chapter extends its sincere appreciation to everyone who participated and helped make the Fall Luncheon a successful and enjoyable event.

Looking ahead, the Washington, D.C. Chapter is excited to announce its upcoming Winter Dinner, scheduled for February 6, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. Due to the overwhelmingly positive response to the Fall Luncheon, the event will once again be hosted at The Point DC Restaurant. Members are encouraged to save the date and plan to attend with a spouse, significant other, or guest.

Executive Board members will be in attendance, and plans are underway to confirm a special guest speaker. This event promises an evening of fine dining, camaraderie, and the opportunity to reconnect with FBINAA peers, professional colleagues, and friends.

Want to share updates from your Chapter?
Submit chapter news on the [Chapter Chat Submission Form](#) by the 25th of every month to be in the next edition.
Please attach to the email high-resolution digital .png, .jpg or .tif photos to:
ChapterChat@fbinaa.org.

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