



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.

May 2026 By Our FBINAA Members

Arizona Chapter News



2025 Joe Gaylord Bronze Presidents Award- Bryron Gwaltney, NA Session 266



Blazin BBQ Experience in Cottonwood-Spring Trainer



Blazin BBQ Experience in Cottonwood-Spring Trainer



Ron Bayne presenting at the spring retrainer

We kicked off the year's first event with our signature Member Appreciation Barbecue in Chandler, Arizona. Over 100 members and guests were once again treated to fantastic barbecue and really cool raffle items. The chapter was delighted to award the 2025 Joe Gaylord Bronze President Award to **Byron Gwaltney, NA Session 266**, for his exemplary dedication.

The chapter held its annual Spring Retrainer in lovely Cottonwood, Arizona, nestled in the Verde Valley, hosted by Arizona Chapter president Gareth Braxton-Johnson. Speakers included Ron Bayne and Dr. Kimberly Miller, who gave insight into improving organizations. The chapter was very grateful to have our National President, Bill Carbone, and 1st Vice President, Jim Gallagher, in attendance. They provided insight into the association and discussed the importance of dues-paying membership and engagement.

Promotions



Tamatha Villar, NA Session 249

We are proud to announce that **Tamatha Villar, NA Session 249**, has been appointed as the Chief of Police for Pima Community College.

Passings



Robert Reed, NA Session 163

We are saddened to share the passing of Chief **Robert Reed, NA Session 163**, on March 25, 2026. Chief Reed served at the Prescott Police Department from 1971 to 2005, and upon his retirement from Prescott PD, he served as the Director of the Yavapai-Prescott Tribal Police Department.

We are deeply saddened to share the passing of **Bill Whelehan, NA Session 180**, on March 3, 2026. He was a graduate of the FBI National Academy while serving with the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority in Chicago, IL. Bill was a long-time member and active volunteer with The Arizona Law Enforcement Emerald Society, as well as serving time as a Major with the Arizona Rangers. He will be deeply missed.



Bill Whelehan, NA Session 180

Arkansas Chapter News

Retirements



Josh McConnell, NA Session 272

Major **Josh McConnell, NA Session 272**, retired from the Washington County Sheriff's Office in Fayetteville, Arkansas, after 28 years of service. Major McConnell is a dedicated servant to his family and community. Congratulations on your retirement!

April 5th was Major Josh McConnell's last official day before retirement from the Washington County Sheriff's Office! We had the opportunity to celebrate him and tell him (and his family) thank you for his 28 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Washington County and to the Washington County Sheriff's Office. There were a few laughs...and a few tears, and a few stories, but in the end, we're just so thankful for his many years of service to our community, and we're happy for his new opportunities and future adventures! Congratulations, Josh, and thanks again for the many sacrifices you made for all of us during your career!

From Sheriff Cantrell: "No matter the job, Josh gave his very best. Sometimes those assignments weren't the ones he wanted or expected, but he did them without complaint, and in doing so, he made the WCSO better. Well done, Josh! I'm excited to see where the next chapter leads." - Jay

California Chapter News



L- R: Gina Di Napoli, NA Session 225 (California), Lisa Shahade, NA Session 225 (Philadelphia), Ken Fasano, NA Session 217 (New York), and Nancy Carroll, NA Session 190 (California).

In April, on a tour of Japan, four FBINA grads meet up at Osaka Castle. The two California grads met for the first time.

Eastern Missouri Chapter News

Passings



Lynn E. Thompson, NA Session 214

Lynn E. Thompson, NA Session 214, 77, of Washington, Missouri, passed away on January 17, 2026.

Born January 1, 1949, in Poplar Bluff, Missouri. Lynn was dedicated to learning and continuous education. He graduated from Kirkwood High School in 1969, earned a Bachelor of Arts from Maryville College in 1975, and went on to receive a Master of Arts in Urban Affairs from Saint Louis University.

In 1970, Lynn began a distinguished career in law enforcement with the Ballwin, Missouri Police Department. His dedication and professionalism were quickly recognized when he was named Policeman of the Year in 1973, followed by a promotion to Detective in 1974. In 1979, Lynn became Chief of Police in St. John, Missouri, and in 1984, he joined the Washington Police Department, where he would retire on September 11, 2014, 28 years later.

During his tenure with the City of Washington, Lynn earned numerous honors, including a Mayor's Proclamation in 1985, a Commendation for Meritorious Service in 2000 for activating the city's Critical Incident Response Plan, recognition for 10 years of service to the Washington Ambulance Department in 2001, and Police Department Employee of the Year in 2011. In 2003, Lynn was selected and attended the 214th Session of the FBI National Academy. Lynn trained numerous officers with integrity and perseverance, building strong relationships as an effective leader and also a dear friend.

Outside of work, Lynn approached life with the same discipline and enthusiasm he brought to his profession. A devoted health and fitness enthusiast, he loved long-distance running, martial arts, cycling, hiking, and pickleball. Lynn enjoyed exploring new places through travel and the energy of live music. He had an artistic eye for photography. A faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Lynn lived in faith and enjoyed time spent with missionaries and his local bishop. He led by example through kindness, humility, and service.

Lynn is survived by his wife, Brenda Thompson (nee' Groeper), of the home; his son, Tony Thompson of Cape Girardeau, Missouri; daughters, Abby Jeffress of Pineville, Louisiana, and Samantha Caton of Washington, Missouri. Stepchildren: Amy Horowitz of Creve Coeur, Missouri, Trisha VanWelden of Washington, Missouri, and Garret Moore of Warrenton, Missouri. He was a proud and loving grandfather to Kaitlyn Thompson, Jacob Thompson (Alexia), Christopher Thompson, Ethan Reed, Sophia Reed, McKenzie Reed, Constantine Wheeler, Sawyer Garza, Kaleb VanWeelden, Avery VanWeelden, and Breeanna Moore. He was a loving great-grandfather to Alayna Thompson. He is also survived by two sisters, Marcia Santistevan of Albuquerque, New Mexico and Margaret Johnson (Andy Martinez) of Chama, New Mexico, and three brothers, Don Santistevan of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Gil Santistevan (Rhonda Newsom) of Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Steven Bennett of Osage Beach, Missouri, and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, other relatives, and many dear friends.

Lynn was preceded in death by his parents, Armando Santistevan and Wilma Bennett; his son-in-law, Timothy Caton; his twin sister Linda (in infancy), and siblings, Leo Santistevan (in infancy), Ernest Santistevan, Fabiola Lucero, Michael Santistevan, Jack Bennett, and Jim Bennett.

Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter News



President Cuckovic and General Avda



Session 296

On April 23, 2026, the chapter held its Welcome Back Luncheon and training at the Philadelphia Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 5. Attendees heard a presentation from Brigadier General Dror Avda, who serves as the Police and National Security Ministry Attaché and Liaison Officer to the United States and Canada, on the October 7 terrorist attack and the lessons learned. Members of Sessions 296 and 297 were recognized for completing the National Academy and welcomed into the association.



Session 297

Retirements

Chief **Steven Lutz, NA Session 249**, retired on January 5th, 2026, after nearly 30 years of dedicated service marked by mentorship, humility, and unwavering commitment to the citizens of Newberry Township and the officers he led. Known for his detail-oriented leadership and genuine care for others, he guided countless officers and embodied the principle that “Chief wouldn’t ask anybody to do anything he wouldn’t do himself.” His accomplishments include leading the department to accreditation, advancing through every rank from patrol to Chief, graduating from the 249th session of the FBI National Academy, and driving major public-safety improvements such as the creation of the Department of Public Safety and the development of the Newberry Township Emergency Services Building. His legacy is one of professionalism, progress, and profound respect for the community he served.

Florida Chapter News

Promotions



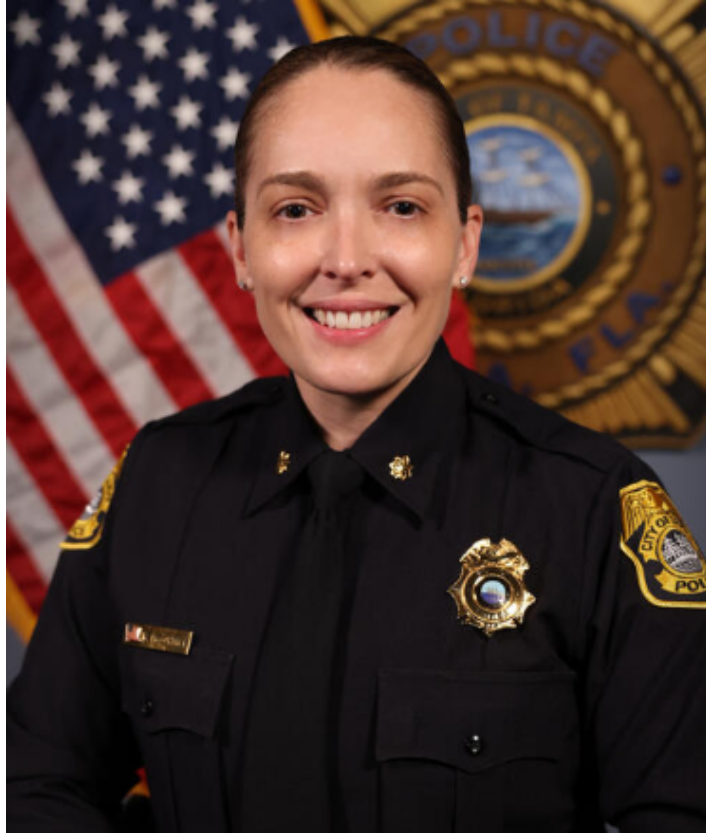
Patrick Messmer, NA Session 287

Patrick Messmer, NA Session 287, was appointed as Deputy Chief of Operations for the Tampa Police Department on April 1, 2026.



Eric DeFelice, NA Session 280

Eric DeFelice, NA Session 280, was appointed as Deputy Chief of Investigations & Support for the Tampa Police Department on April 1, 2026.



Whitney McCormick, NA Session 293

Whitney McCormick, NA Session 293, was appointed as Major of District Two for the Tampa Police Department.



Jeff Spears, NA Session 292

Jeff Spears, NA Session 292, was appointed as Chief for the Palm Bay Police Department on April 2, 2026.



Wes Mullins, NA Session 276

Wes Mullins, NA Session 276, was appointed as City Manager for the City of Cocoa Beach on January 15.

Passings



Will Liquori, NA Session 108

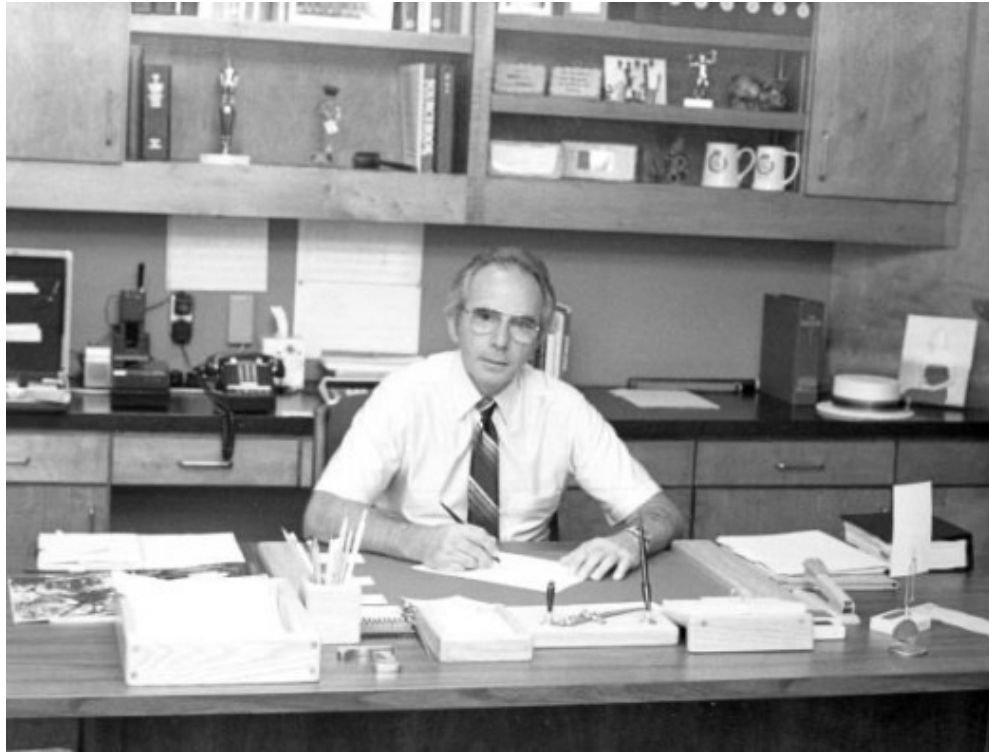
It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of **William A. Liquori**, Retired Chief of Police, **NA Session 108**. Chief Liquori passed away at his home on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, surrounded by his wife and three children. Bill would have celebrated his 93rd birthday this July.

Chief Liquori dedicated more than 44 years to law enforcement. He retired from the Orlando Police Department as Deputy Chief in 1982 before continuing his distinguished career with the Altamonte Springs Police Department, where he served as Chief of Police for 20 years until his retirement in 2002.

Throughout his career, he was widely recognized as a law enforcement expert and advocate for modernizing policing practices and advancing physical fitness standards. In recognition of his contributions, he was inducted into the Florida Law Enforcement Hall of Fame.

Beyond his law enforcement career, Chief Liquori was an accomplished martial artist, attaining the rank of 10th-degree black belt. He also founded his own martial arts discipline, the USA Goju Organization, further demonstrating his lifelong commitment to discipline, leadership, and personal development.

Chief Liquori is survived by his beloved wife, Linda H. Liquori; his son, William Liquori; his daughters, Linda J. Pentz (Ted) and Angela Liquori; as well as several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Will Liquori, NA Session 108

Hawaii Chapter News



The Hawai'i Chapter's Retrainer was held on April 15- 17, 2026, at the beautiful Waikoloa Beach Marriott Resort and Spa in Waikoloa, Hawai'i. The conference was hosted by Chapter President Thomas Shopay and the Hawai'i Police Department.



(L-R) Bradon Ogata, Chapter President, NA Session 269; Christian Jenkins, 1st Vice President, NA Session 285; Joy Medeiros, 2nd Vice President, NA Session 291; Bobbie-Jo Kekahi Sagon, 3rd Vice President, NA Session 286; Kevin Lima, Chapter Historian, NA Session 197; and Thomas Shopay III, Immediate Past President, NA Session 257. Missing from the photo: Robert Cravalho, Secretary/Treasurer, NA Session 224.

The Hawai'i Chapter Executive Board, 2026 - 2027 after swearing in.



(L-R) Jim Gallagher, Association 1st Vice President, NA Session 245; Thomas Shopay III, Hawai'i Chapter Immediate Past President, NA Session 257; William Carbone, Association President, NA Session 217; Robert Cravalho, Hawai'i Chapter Secretary/Treasurer, NA Session 224; and Bill Gardiner, Association Section 1 Representative, NA Session 238.

The Hawai'i Chapter was honored to have present three National Board members.

Promotions



Deputy Chief of Police Sherry Bird, Hawai'i Police Department

On March 20, 2026, in Kona, Hawai'i, Assistant Chief **Sherry Bird, NA Session 249**, was confirmed as deputy chief by the Hawai'i County Police Commission. Her confirmation marks the first time in the department's 83-year history that a woman has served as deputy chief.

Following the commission meeting, Bird was officially sworn in by Mayor Kimo Alameda's Executive Assistant, Micah Alameda, during a private ceremony in the Mayor's office in Kona. The private swearing-in enabled Bird to formally carry out her duties as Deputy Chief.

On April 9, 2026, the Hawai'i Police Department held a public swearing-in ceremony for Deputy Chief Sherry Bird in Kailua-Kona.

Deputy Chief Bird's past assignments include Assistant Chief of the Administrative Services Bureau since February 2025. In that role she oversaw the Special Response Team, Administrative Services Division, Technical Services Division, and the Human Resources and Finance Sections.

During her 28-year tenure, Bird has served as major of Area II (Kona) Field Operations Bureau, overseeing West Hawai'i districts. Her prior assignments include patrol captain for South Kohala, lieutenant in Area II Criminal Investigation Division and Vice, Detective in Area II Vice, officer in the Criminal Intelligence and Unit and Vice section, as well as patrol officer in North Kohala and Kona. In 2012, Bird graduated from the prestigious FBI National Academy, 249th session. She also earned an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Phoenix.

Police Chief Reed K. Mahuna emphasized Bird’s leadership and the significance of her appointment, stating, “Deputy Chief Bird has earned this role through decades of dedicated service across nearly every area of our department. Her appointment reflects both her proven leadership and the continued progress of our organization. We are proud to see her step into this position and hope it encourages more women to pursue careers in law enforcement and leadership within the Hawai’i Police Department.”

Kansas/Western Missouri Chapter News



CHAPTER SPONSORSHIP

*Thank you to the
KS/WMO Chapter for sponsoring
this week’s coffee and snacks for Session 298!*

The graphic features a circular logo on the left with a coffee cup and the text 'FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY ASSOCIATES' and 'COFFEE BREAK'. On the right is a map of the United States with a circular emblem over the Kansas/Western Missouri area, containing the text 'FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY' and 'FBINAA KANSAS / WESTERN MISSOURI CHAPTER'.

In April 2026, the Kansas/Western Missouri Chapter Session 298 hosted coffee and snacks at the FBI National Academy. Awesome job and best of luck!



Nebraska Chapter News



Justin Erickson, NA Session 297

Sgt Justin Erickson of the North Platte Police Department recently graduated from the National Academy, Session 297th.

Here are Sgt Erickson's comments on NA: "I am sincerely grateful to my department administration for the opportunity to attend the National Academy. This opportunity represents a significant commitment for any agency, and I am especially thankful to my colleagues who assumed additional responsibilities during my absence. Their support made this experience possible.

I have been happily married to my wife, Brandi, since 2015, and we are proud parents to two boys, Bennett (9) and Baker (6). I am deeply thankful for my family's support while I was away. Both of my sons are actively involved in youth sports, and I am proud to be an active coach for each of them. I was hired by the North Platte Police Department in 2014 and have served in the roles of Investigator and, currently, Sergeant. Additionally, I have served for multiple years in the Criminal Investigation Division, both as an Investigator and as a Sergeant. These experiences have provided me with a strong foundation for continued professional growth and leadership within the department. Attending the National Academy allowed me to network with law enforcement professionals from around the world and build relationships that I expect will last throughout my career. I am grateful for the meaningful conversations I had and for the opportunity to learn from diverse perspectives on policing at an international level.

I look forward to establishing meaningful relationships with the FBINAA Nebraska chapter."

Congratulations Sgt Erickson and welcome to the Nebraska Chapter!

Ohio Chapter News



William Fields, NA Session 210

Sadly, a friend and coworker, Lt. **William Sherman Fields, NA Session 210**, of the Springdale Police Dept, passed away on March 14. He was a graduate of the FBINA, having attended in 2002. Bill started his career in 1980 and served as a police officer, detective sergeant, detective lieutenant, and administrative lieutenant. Bill was selected to receive the Donald W. Stemann (employee of the year) Award in 1996 and the Most Constructive Plans or Ideas for Improvement of Police Operations in 2004, a countywide recognition. Bill was an avid angler and flew scale prototype model airplanes in his leisure time. But the most special person to him was his devoted and loving wife, Theresa, who was at his side for 38 years. Lt. Fields retired in 2010 with 30 years of service. Godspeed, my friend!

Oregon Chapter News



Southern Regional Lunch at Common Block Brewery

The Oregon Chapter held our Spring Training at the Department of Public Safety Training and Standards (DPSST) on Wednesday, April 8, 2026. 60 law enforcement officers attended and received instruction from **Michael Whittington, NA Session 285**, Retired Navy Seal Maxwell Bush, and Retired Police Chief Michael Iishi.

On April 24, 2026, Medford Police Department Deputy Chief **Trevor Arnold, NA Session 289**, hosted the Southern Oregon Regional Lunch at Common Block Brewery in Medford. The members and potential attendees for the National Academy engaged in the networking opportunity the luncheon provided! Along with Deputy Chief Arnold, Oregon Chapter President and Redmond Captain **Jesse Peterson, NA Session 279**, Oregon Chapter Third Vice-President and Eagle Point Police Chief **Jim Hamilton, NA Session 270**, Eagle Point Police Lieutenant **Mike Anselmi, NA Session 294**, Grants Pass Police Captain **Tyler Lee, NA Session 297**, Rogue River Police Chief **Dave Rash, NA Session 246**, Medford Retired Lieutenant **Mike Moran, NA Session 203**, Medford Lieutenant Geoff Kirkpatrick, NA Applicant, and Central Point Lieutenant Josh Abbott, NA Applicant, attend the luncheon.

The Oregon Chapter is happy to announce that Coos Bay Police Chief Chris Chapanar, Oregon State Police Captain Evan Sether, and Oregon State University Police Captain Michael Harmon are representing Oregon at the National Academy Session 298 starting in April 2026!

The Southern Oregon Regional luncheon took place on April 24th, starting at 11:30, at Common Block Brewing.

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

The 2026 Fall Retraîner 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!



Chief Chapanar, Captain Sether, Captain Harmon NA Session 298



Cliff Madison, NA Session 210

Where are they now...This month's feature is on retired Portland Police Commander **Cliff Madison, NA Session 210.**

Commander Madison was born in Japan and moved to the United States when he was young. He moved around a lot as his father was in the military. His family moved to Portland, Oregon, when he started high school. He attended Clackamas High School, graduating in 1975. He excelled at track, and his best event was the triple jump. He attended the University of Portland (Go Pilots!) and was on the track team for three years. He did not finish his degree at that time. He would later obtain a bachelor's degree from George Fox.

Commander Madison started his law enforcement career with the Oregon Department of Corrections in 1978. He worked as a corrections officer until the Portland Police Bureau hired him in February 1981. He worked through the ranks from patrol, to sergeant, to lieutenant, to Commander. He worked several details during his tenure, most notably, he was assigned to the Drug and Vice Unit on three different occasions at different ranks. He served as the PIO for Chief Charles Moose for about three years. He also served as the Police Chief of the Portland Public School Police for about 3 years, until the department merged with the Portland Police Bureau. He returned to his position as Commander after the merger. He retired as a Commander in charge of investigations in 2007. As a Lieutenant Commander, Madison attended the 210th session of the National Academy, graduating in September 2002. Commander Madison is very proud that he was part of assisting with bringing the Police Activities League (PAL) to the Portland Police Bureau and was involved in coaching several athletes in track events. Commander Madison was also involved in Camp Rosenbaum, an organization that unites children with community leaders, including several law enforcement officers, at a summer camp. Commander Madison served on the board of directors for Camp Rosenbaum for several years and still assists when he can.

Right after retirement, Commander Madison went to work for the Portland Patrol Inc, a private security company that worked closely with the Portland Police Bureau in policing the downtown core area of the City of Portland. Commander Madison worked for PPI for about 7 ½ years. Commander Madison and his wife of 41 years, Melody, moved to La Quinta, California, after he left PPI. They eventually moved to their current residence in Indio, California. They did not have any children.

Commander Madison and Melody enjoy travelling, stating Italy has been one of their favorite destinations. They enjoy all of Europe and have recently been travelling to Asian Countries. We are very happy to hear Commander Madison and his wife are doing well in his retirement!

Retirements



Andrew Shearer, NA Session 268

We are also happy to announce the retirement of Gresham Police Assistant Chief **Andrew Shearer, NA Session 268.** Assistant Chief Shearer grew up in Washington County, Oregon, and graduated from Sunset High School in 1987. He took some courses at the Portland Community College before joining the United States Coast Guard Reserves,

spending 6 years in the service. The Portland Police Bureau hired him in July 1992. He served as an Officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Commander, and Assistant Chief, retiring from PPB in August 2020. During his tenure at PPB, he served on the SERT (SWAT) Team for 17 years, 12 as an officer, 3 as a tactical leader, and 3 as a commander overseeing the unit. He also served on the Gang Enforcement Team for several years.

After he retired from the Portland Police Bureau, he was hired as the Interim Chief of the Springfield Police Department (Oregon) in May 2021. He was appointed Chief in March 2022 and served as Chief until March 2025. When he left the PPB Bureau, his wife stayed at their home in the metro area, and he commuted home on the weekends. The Assistant Chief position became available in Gresham, Oregon, and he was hired in March 2025. He is retiring from the Gresham Police Department on May 31, 2026.

Assistant Chief Shearer has been married to Jenny for 33 years, and they have two sons, both in the private sector. He said that he is officially retiring from law enforcement, stating it was “a great career, and I have everything because of the career.” Next year, he plans on riding his bicycle along the Continental Divide from Canada to Mexico. He also recently purchased photography equipment as he enjoys capturing images of wildlife and motorsports.

We wish Assistant Shearer a very happy and well-earned retirement!



Trevor Womack, NA Session 219

We are happy to announce the retirement of Salem Police Chief **Trevor Womack, NA Session 219**. Chief Womack was hired by the City of Salem on December 7, 2020. He started his law enforcement career on January 2, 1992, with the Stockton Police Department (California). He worked through the ranks from Officer to Sergeant, to Lieutenant, to Captain, and finally to Deputy Chief. He attended the National Academy when he worked for the Stockton Police Department. After accepting the Salem Police Chief position, he joined the Oregon Chapter of the FBINAA!

Chief Womack plans to move back to California and spend time with family. He does not have plans to go back to work.

We wish Chief Womack a happy retirement!

Rocky Mountain Chapter News

Retirements



Todd Byerly, NA Session 260

Chief **Todd Byerly, NA Session 260**, is retiring from the Douglas, Wyoming Police Department. We wish him the best in his retirement, and he will be missed.

Passings





Jack VanArsdol, NA Session 113

Former Sheridan Police Chief **Jack VanArsdol, NA Session 113**, passed away on March 26th, 2026. He was 79 years old. VanArsdol served as Sheridan Police Chief from July 1, 1986, through December 31, 1993. He also graduated from the FBI National Academy, served in the Greeley Police Department, was Undersheriff of the Weld County Sheriff's Office, Police Chief of the Fruita Police Department, and served as president of the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police. He fully retired in 2021.

Texas Chapter News

"Leading Authentically. Impacting Intentionally."





FBI National Academy Associates of Texas
5th Annual Leadership for Women in Law Enforcement
Training Conference
 August 12-14, 2026
 (Check-in/Registration: August 11, 2026, 1pm – 5pm)
 Houston Marriott Medical Center/Museum District
www.fbinaatexas.org



Home to 19 world-class museums and cultural institutions just steps from your front door!



This dynamic conference will bring together leaders from across the nation to exchange insights, connect with like-minded professionals, expand your networks, and explore the latest leadership concepts. Don't miss the opportunity to be empowered, inspired, and equipped to build a lasting legacy!

Agenda Includes:

- Health & Wellness
- Women Leaders in the Workforce
- Coaching & Mentoring Strategies
- Effective Communication
- Emotional Intelligence
- And so much more!

Cost:
\$550



Texas Leadership Conference Flyer

The FBI National Academy Associates of Texas 5th Annual Women’s Leadership Conference will be held August 12–14, 2026, at the Houston Marriott Medical Center. This conference is open to all sworn and non-sworn personnel. This is a high-quality leadership and networking opportunity.

This year's theme is "Leading Authentically – Impacting Intentionally." This event brings together leaders from across Texas to exchange ideas, strengthen professional networks, and enhance leadership development.

Topics include, but are not limited to, Mental Health, Financial Wellness, Women in Leadership, Coaching & Mentoring Strategies, Women’s Health, and Developing Emotional Intelligence.

For more information, please visit the Texas Chapter website at fbinaatexas.org or contact Major Jennifer Baskerville at 512-462-6162 (Jennifer.Baskerville@dps.texas.gov).

Promotions



James R. Holt, NA Session 253

The Pasadena Police Department proudly announced the promotion of **James R. Holt, NA Session 253**, to the rank of Assistant Chief of Police on April 13, 2026.

Assistant Chief Holt began his distinguished career with the department in June 1997 and has since demonstrated exceptional leadership, professionalism, and commitment to public service. Over the course of nearly three decades, he has served in a wide range of critical assignments, including oversight of the Department of Transportation (DOT) and Crash Reconstruction Teams. His experience also spans Special Operations, Special Investigations, Patrol, Personnel and Training, and Community Services, all reflecting both his operational expertise and his dedication to organizational development.

A graduate of the 253rd Session of the FBI National Academy, Assistant Chief Holt exemplifies the highest standards of law enforcement leadership. He holds a Master of Science in Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement Administration and a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice/Police Science from the University of Houston.

Assistant Chief Holt's promotion reflects a career defined by integrity, service, and a steadfast commitment to the safety and well-being of the Pasadena community.

Retirements



David Alford, NA Session 218

David Alford, NA Session 218, of the Batown Police Department, has officially retired. In 1980, David W. Alford began a lifetime of dedicated service to his country and community when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, demonstrating the servant leadership that would define his career. His military service included assignments in Japan, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, and Hawaii. He was honorably discharged in 1984 with the rank of Sergeant. In 1985, he joined the Baytown Police Department, where he served in patrol, became a field training officer, and later joined the SWAT unit, serving for twenty years before retiring as the team commander in 2006. In 1991, he was called back to active duty in support of Desert Storm and was assigned to Headquarters Marine Corps, assisting with the family response line – his first experience with peer support. After returning to Baytown, he continued his law enforcement career, promoting through the ranks and serving in numerous assignments, including Special Operations, Support Services, Internal Affairs, Public Information, and playing a key role in securing departmental accreditation through CALEA and recognition through the Texas Police Chiefs Association Best Practices Program.

Throughout his career, David received numerous awards and commendations, including Officer of the Month, the Sons of the American Revolution Law Enforcement Appreciation Medal, VFW Police Officer of the Year, and the Baytown Chamber of Commerce Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. He earned multiple Life Saving Medals, the John H. Cover Medal for Heroism, the Chief's Commendation Award, and Chief's Unit Citation Medals. He is a graduate of the 218th Session of the FBI National Academy and the 63rd class of the Texas Leadership Command College at the Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas (LEMIT), and is the only Baytown officer known to have completed both programs. He continued his education by earning a Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice Leadership and Management from Sam Houston State University.

In March 2008, David was promoted to Assistant Chief and assigned as Commander of the Community Services Bureau, where he oversaw the Training Academy, community outreach, recruiting, and youth programs, while also expanding efforts in officer mental wellness and peer support. He helped re-establish the department's Peer Support/CISM Team and has remained active in peer support through LEMIT, National Police Week, Post-Critical Incident Seminars, and trauma-response programs across Texas and other states. He is completing his career overseeing the Administrative Services Bureau and plans to continue peer support work after retirement. David is a devoted family man, and he and his wife, Cindy, are blessed with five children. He is strong in his faith and serves as an active member, deacon, and leader at Rollingbrook Fellowship Church. He remains grateful for the opportunity to serve his community and the law enforcement profession for more than four decades.

Utah Chapter News





Moab Conference

The Utah Chapter recently held another exceptional re-trainer against the scenic backdrop in Moab. A good time was had by all where we enjoyed top-notch training, networking activities, excellent food, great company, and unbeatable views! We look forward to seeing everyone in November for the next one!



Jake Sube, NA Session 276

Ogden City Police Chief **Jake Sube, NA Session 276**, was recently named the 2026 Large Agency Chief of the Year by the Utah Chiefs of Police Association. Chief Sube was praised for "creating a culture where people want to work hard, where officers feel supported, and where doing the job the right way matters." Congratulations, Chief Sube!

Washington Chapter News



Washington/Montana/Idaho fall 2026 conference flyer



L to R: Tim Gately, Corey Darlington, Stan Seo, Julie Beard, Brett Yeadon, Adam Vermeulen, Andy Brandon, Matt Sutton, Cheol Kang.

The Washington/Montana/Idaho joint fall conference and Section I meeting is scheduled for September 27-30, 2026. Attendees and vendors are encouraged to sign up now and reserve rooms at Northern Quest Resort and Conference Center at Airway Heights, WA.

Executive Board Members Tim Gately, Brett Yeadon, Cheol Kang, and Corey Darlington attended the Leadership Summit at Quantico and had an opportunity to check in with Session 297.

A candidate luncheon for Session 298 was held in Renton on March 5, 2026. Session 296 graduates were in attendance along with Executive Board Members.



L to R: Brett Yeardon, Tim Gately, Brandon Ogata (Hawaii Chapter), Cheol Kang.



Candidate Luncheon attendees L to R: Andy Hwang (Federal Way PD), Krista Greydanus (296), Cory Stanton (296), Peter Barrett (298), Matt Graham (298), Kyle Buchanan (298), Tim Gately, Corey Darlington.



L to R: Peter Barrett, Matt Graham, Kyle Buchanan.

Congratulations to Session 298 attendees Peter Barrett (Arlington Police Department), Matt Graham (Tacoma Police Department), and Kyle Buchanan (Federal Way Police Department)!

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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FBI Academy, Quantico, Virginia 22135