



METRO GANG UNIT
CHOOSE GANG FREE
RESIDENTS AGAINST GRAFFITI

2022 UTAH GANG CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2022

7:30-8:00 Registration

8:00-8:30 Exhibit Hall 3

Welcome — *Lieutenant Mike Schoenfeld*

Flag Ceremony — *Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard*

National Anthem — *Kimberlee Jaramillo*

Sheriff's Remarks — *Sheriff Rosie Rivera*

8:30-10:00 Workshops

- 200 A-B **Gangs 101** — *Detective Dave Jenson/Detective Kevin Worwood, Metro Gang Unit* **Repeated at 10:15**
- 200 C-D **Q&A with a Reformed Gang Member** — *Alecia Fotu*
- 300 A-B **UDC Security Threat Group Update** — *Sergeant James Demkov/Sergeant Mike Hart/Officer Tommy Carmody, Utah Department of Corrections*
- 300 C **What Are You Looking At?** – Strategies to Strengthen Relationships — *BJ Weller, M.Ed, LCSW, Canyons School District* **Repeated at 10:15**
- 300 D **Ogden Metro Gang Task Force and Project Safe Neighborhood 2022 Update** — *Detective Ernesto Juarez, Ogden Metro Gang Task Force*
- 400 **How to Identify Human Trafficking and the Federal Statutes and Tools used to combat Human Trafficking** — *Chief Legal Officer Alessandra Serano, International Operations for Operation Underground Railroad* **Continued at 10:15**

10:15-11:45 Workshops

- 200 A-B **Gangs 101** — *Detective Dave Jenson/Detective Kevin Worwood, Metro Gang Unit*
- 200 C-D **2022 School Safety Update** — *Sergeant Jeremy Barnes, Utah Department of Public Safety/Protective Security Advisor Matt Beaudry, Department of Homeland Security*
- 300 A-B **What's Crippin at the ADC** — *Detective Tyler Limb, Metro Gang Unit*
- 300 C **What Are You Looking At?** – Strategies to Strengthen Relationships — *BJ Weller, M.Ed, LCSW, Canyons School District*
- 300 D **Trauma, Post-Traumatic Stress, and Resiliency: How to Remain Resilient in a Traumatic World** — *Dr. Russell Gaede, PsyD*
- 400 **How to Identify Human Trafficking and the Federal Statutes and Tools used to combat Human Trafficking** — *Chief Legal Officer Alessandra Serano, International Operations for Operation Underground Railroad*

12:00-1:15 Exhibit Hall 3 — Lunch

1:15-2:45 Workshops

- 200 A-B **Crossroads Juvenile Gang Violence** — *Detective Cody Pender/Gang Prevention Coordinator Bree Eller/Gang Prevention Coordinator Erica Martinez, Metro Gang Unit/Senior Deputy District Attorney Adrianna Davis* **Continued at 3:00**
- 200 C-D **Intelligence Led Policing related to Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs** — *Detective Ben Macdonell, Las Vegas Metro Police Department* **Continued at 3:00**
- 300 A-B **Refugee Gangs in our Community** — *Detective Jerry Valdez, Metro Gang Unit/Law Enforcement Refugee Liaison Agent Stephanie Svedin, State Bureau of Investigation* **Repeated at 3:00**
- 300 C-D **SAC/SAW Evolution** — *Agent Deon Walser/Agent Andrew McKeon, Metro Gang Unit* **Repeated at 3:00**
- 400 **Reefer Madness, Marijuana, and Gang Violence** — *Detective Jared Stillion, Metro Gang Unit*

3:00-4:30 Workshops

- 200 A-B **Crossroads Juvenile Gang Violence** — *Detective Cody Pender/Gang Prevention Coordinator Bree Eller/Gang Prevention Coordinator Erica Martinez, Metro Gang Unit/Senior Deputy District Attorney Adrianna Davis*
- 200 C-D **Intelligence Led Policing related to Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs** — *Detective Ben Macdonell, Las Vegas Metro Police Department*
- 300 A-B **Refugee Gangs in our Community** — *Detective Jerry Valdez, Metro Gang Unit/Law Enforcement Refugee Liaison Agent Stephanie Svedin, State Bureau of Investigation*
- 300 C-D **SAC/SAW Evolution** — *Agent Deon Walser/Agent Andrew McKeon, Metro Gang Unit*
- 400 **Gang Trends** — *Detective Ben Sullivan, Metro Gang Unit*

2022 UTAH GANG CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 2022

8:30-10:00 Workshops

- 200 A-B Reefer Madness, Marijuana, and Gang Violence** — *Detective Jared Stillion, Metro Gang Unit*
200 C-D Salt Lake Regional Gang Update — *Sergeant John Neron, Unified Police Department/
Detective Jerry Valdez, Metro Gang Unit* **Continued at 10:15**
- 300 A-B Mexican Drug Underworld ‘The Culture, Saints, and Music of the Mexican Cartels and
Gangs’** — *Robert Almonte, El Paso Police Department, Retired* **Continued at 10:15**
- 300 C-D Human Trafficking & Gangs, does it exist?** — *Special Agent Lorenzo “Snow” Leuluai, Utah
Attorney General’s Office* **Continued at 10:15**
- 400 Short- Federal/State Partnerships and Productivity: The Utah Gang Initiative’s Successes (and
comings) for Statistically Reducing Gang Crime** — *Assistant U.S. Attorney Steve Nelson/
Assistant U.S. Attorney Stew Young* **Continued at 10:15**

10:15-11:45 Workshops

- 200 A-B Gang Trends** — *Detective Ben Sullivan, Metro Gang Unit*
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Assistant U.S. Attorney Stew Young*

12:00-1:15 Exhibit Hall 3 — Lunch Awards

1:15-4:30 Workshops

- 200 A-B Who Am I? A look at gang-involved youth from a trauma-informed lens.** — *Gang Prevention
Advocate Summer Elton, Metro Gang Unit (1:15-2:45)*
Walking in their shoes: Understanding Gang Involved Youth — *Gang Prevention Advocate
Shay Thompson/Gang Prevention Advocate Lani Rodrigues/Gang Prevention Advocate Amanda
Contreras, Metro Gang Unit (3:00-4:30)*
- 200 C-D Salt Lake Regional Gang Update** — *Sergeant John Neron, Unified Police Department/
Detective Jerry Valdez, Metro Gang Unit*
- 300 A-B ROGUE: Surviving the Aftermath** — *Sergeant Alex Collins, San Bernardino County Sheriff’s
Department*
- 300 C-D Human Trafficking & Gangs, does it exist?** — *Special Agent Lorenzo “Snow” Leuluai, Utah
Attorney General’s Office*
- 400 Crossroads Juvenile Gang Violence** — *Detective Cody Pender/Gang Prevention Coordinator
Bree Eller/Gang Prevention Coordinator Erica Martinez, Metro Gang Unit/Senior Deputy
District Attorney Adrianna Davis*

2022 Utah Gang Conference Program Guide

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS:

2022 School Safety Update — The 2022 School Safety Update will discuss the current state of the Utah School Safety Center and projects being worked on. Additionally, local and national trends involving school safety will be discussed as well as federal resources available to support schools and their community. *Presenters: Sergeant Jeremy Barnes, Utah Department of Public Safety/*

Federal/State Partnerships and Productivity: The Utah Gang Initiative's Successes (and Shortcomings) for Statistically Reducing Gang Crime — In early 2017, the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Utah announced the Utah Gang Initiative ("UGI") and began a several years' long effort to bring all federal prosecution tools to bear on gang members and their affiliates operating in and around local Utah communities. The UGI is built around partnerships between state and federal stakeholders, resulting in hundreds of successful gang prosecutions (and a corresponding statistical decrease in reported gang crime). In this course, attendees will learn about the UGI prosecution model and how their proactive and reactive cases involving guns, narcotics, and other crimes can be incorporated into the UGI. Finally, attendees will learn about different keys and tips to putting together future federal gang cases. *Presenters: Assistant U.S. Attorney Steve Nelson/Assistant U.S. Attorney Stewart Young*

Crossroads Juvenile Gang Violence — Bringing awareness to the rise in juvenile gang violence. Offering different perspectives and processes from law enforcement, prevention/intervention specialists, and prosecutors. Providing suggestions to help adults who interact with at risk and gang involved youth to have successful and positive interactions. A brief timeline of a juvenile gang members journey through the system. *Presenters: Detective Cody Pender, Gang Prevention Coordinator Bree Eller/Gang Prevention Coordinator Erica Martinez, Metro Gang Unit/Senior Deputy District Attorney Adrianna Davis*

Gangs 101 — This course will provide an understanding of the multiple gangs in Utah and some of the history of those gangs. It will discuss some of the Gang Basics in order to give people an overview and understanding of current trends happening in Utah. This class will help people know things to help identify and recognize gang indicators for the various gangs in Utah. This course will also discuss how gangs are utilizing the various forms of social media to further their gang activity. *Presenters: Detective Dave Jenson/Detective Kevin Worwood, Metro Gang Unit*

Gang Trends — Gang Trends will cover the latest local and national gang trends. Some of these trends include social media, hip hop influence, marijuana violence, and new structuring of some gangs. *Presenter: Detective Ben Sullivan, Metro Gang Unit*

How to Identify Human Trafficking and the Federal Statutes and Tools used to combat Human Trafficking — This presentation is about Public-Private Partnership and an overview of Operation Underground Railroad. What is human trafficking and how to identify victims. It also

discusses using federal RICO statutes to prosecute traffickers. Alessandra Serano presents her training across the country and was one of the first AUSAs to use the federal RICO statute for gangs and human trafficking. She will also provide an overview on all federal statutes available to combat this crime and seize assets from traffickers, she previously criminally seized a hotel used for trafficking. Alessandra is a regular instructor on that topic for the Southern California Advanced Human Trafficking Investigators course on federal resources and tools. *Presenter: Chief Legal Officer Alessandra Serano, International Operations for Operation Underground Railroad*

Human Trafficking & Gangs, does it exist? — This course explores the current trends, identifiers, and dynamics of street gang with an emphasis into human trafficking. Understanding and identifying gang culture and human trafficking trends requires investigators from local law enforcement throughout the State of Utah to work together and share information. The intent of this course is to prepare officers, administration, etc in both large and small agencies to properly identify and interdict gang/human trafficking activity in their respective jurisdictions, collect and manage their gang intelligence, human trafficking intelligence and communicate this information with neighboring jurisdictions, correctional facilities, & community liaisons. Lastly, the most important task as an investigator is assisting Victims of Human Trafficking, in preparation for court. The instructors will provide details & guidance into local/state programs, structured for Victims of Human Trafficking. *Presenter: Special Agent Lorenzo “Snow” Leuluai, Utah Attorney General’s Office*

Intelligence Led Policing related to Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs — During the three-hour course, Detective Macdonell, will illustrate OMG history, OMG organizational structure, officer safety, intelligence led policing and how it pertains to current feuds, violence, trends, expansion, and migration. *Presenter: Detective Ben Macdonell, Las Vegas Metro Police Department*

Mexican Drug Underworld ‘The Culture, Saints, and Music of the Mexican Cartels and Gangs’ — This course begins with the History of the Mexican Cartels and how they evolved into what they are today. The focus will be on the major cartels that are operating in the United States as well as the Mexican Cartel related homicides in the U. S. It will delve into the culture, beliefs, and music of the Mexican Cartels. Drug and human traffickers, gang members, jail inmates and others involve their culture, saints, and music in their criminal activity for protection from law enforcement and for a favorable outcome in a court case.

Embedded in the traditions and culture of the Hispanic community are legitimate Catholic saints that the faithful pray to for protection and/or assistance such as St. Jude (patron saint of impossible causes) and San Ramon (patron saint of silence). Some of the legitimately recognized Catholic saints are also used by drug traffickers for “protection” from law enforcement. There are still other unrecognized saints or spirits that drug traffickers and others have adopted and use to protect them from law enforcement in their illegal activities. They include Jesus Malverde (patron saint of drug traffickers); San Simon and Santa Muerte. Santa Muerte’s popularity in the United States has become increasingly alarming and has been associated with violent crimes to include murders and human sacrifices in the United States. Recently, there has been a significant increase in the use of the Santeria Religion by the Mexican Cartels and information will be provided regarding the use of items within the Santeria Religion to enhance officer safety and to assist in detecting criminal activity.

Cockfights, horse races and rodeos are a part of the Mexican Cartel culture where drug dealings and drug negotiations occur. There is also music known as “Narcocorridos” that glorifies the Mexican Cartels and their violence. Information will be provided on the meaning and purpose of the music, as well as the musicians that are performing the music throughout the United States. There will be discussion on how all to use this information to assist in conducting Mexican Cartel Investigations.

Several significant arrests, including the clearing of a cold case murder investigation, as well as drug and money seizures throughout the country have been attributed to this course and are discussed during the presentation. Robert’s training has also assisted correctional officers in recognizing patron saints and recovering contraband from the facilities. *Presenter: Robert Almonte, El Paso Police Department, Retired*

Ogden Metro Gang Task Force and Project Safe Neighborhood 2022 Update — Update on the current gang trends in Ogden and the rest of Weber County. Recent cases of note and an update on Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) in Ogden and how it has led to a dramatic decrease in violent crime in Ogden. *Presenter: Detective Ernesto Juarez, Ogden Metro Gang Task Force*

Q&A with a Reformed Gang Member — This presenter will tell what factors enticed them to enter the gang lifestyle and what events prompted them to want to move away from gangs and criminal activity, to pursue life as a contributing citizen. *Presenter: Alecia Fotu*

Reefer Madness, Marijuana, and Gang Violence — Reefer Madness is a study into the violence associated with Marijuana distribution and use. This class is a look into the history of Marijuana, the legalization, the industry surrounding marijuana and multiple case studies involving the use and illegal sales of marijuana leading to violence on the streets. *Presenters: Detective Jared Stillion, Metro Gang Unit*

Refugees and Gangs in our Community — In this course you will learn how refugees come to the United States. How Law Enforcement can improve their relationship with refugees and their communities. You will also learn how and why they are joining gangs in the Salt Lake Valley. *Presenters: Detective Jerry Valdez, Metro Gang Unit/Law Enforcement Refugee Liaison Stephanie Svedin, State Bureau of Investigation*

ROGUE: Surviving the Aftermath — In February of 2012, Alex was critically injured in the shootout that ended the manhunt for Christopher Dorner. At the time of the shooting, Alex was an acting detective at the Big Bear station. He was also on family leave because his wife had just given birth to their first child just two and a half weeks prior.

In the shootout, Alex was shot four times in the face, arm, chest, and leg. After about a month in the hospital, 20 surgeries, and physical therapy, Alex returned to work full duty just seven months after the shooting. Alex is currently a Detective with the Criminal Intelligence Division and a member of the departments full-time SWAT team. Alex will tell the story about the days leading up to the end of the manhunt as well as the day of and moments before the shooting. He will talk about how his Will to Survive instincts kicked in and how he vowed to keep on fighting. He will

talk about his survival, rehabilitation, and determination to get back to work. *Presenter: Sergeant Alex Collins, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department*

SAC/SAW Evolution — Presentation will include past and current status of SAC/SAW. How the two gangs have evolved over time, including membership numbers, organizational structure. Prison politics of the two groups, Rank structure and case studies. *Presenters: Agent Deon Walser/Agent Andrew McKeon, Metro Gang Unit*

Salt Lake Regional Update — This workshop will provide an in-depth look into Utah's most active and violent gangs. We will examine local gang structure, members, and gang rivalries. This class is designed for all those who deal with gang members (law enforcement, educators, social workers, etc.). The class will also show the impact that gang violence is having on the Salt Lake Community and will reference recent cases. *Presenter: Detective John Neron, Unified Police Department/Detective Jerry Valdez, Metro Gang Unit*

Trauma, Post-Traumatic Stress, and Resiliency: How to Remain Resilient in a Traumatic World — When we witness traumatic events, how do we stay (or become) resilient? We will discuss how the brain and body react to trauma, how we remain resilient when we experience trauma and how to cope with Post Traumatic Stress. We will gain insight into our thoughts and behaviors as we learn how to react to trauma in a way that does not disrupt our life. We will discuss improving our self-awareness and maintaining positive self-care.

Takeaways include:

- Understand what trauma is, how it affects the brain, body, and mental health
- Develop techniques to improve resiliency, self-awareness, and self-care
- Identify tools for addressing post-traumatic stress in the workplace and at home
- Gain insight into thoughts and behaviors to promote wellness

Presenter: Dr. Russell Gaede, PsyD

UDC Security Threat Group Update — Brief overview of some of the Security Threat Groups within UDC as well as the current trends we are seeing. Options within UDC for Offenders who wish to disassociate themselves from their Security Threat Group. *Presenters: Sergeant James Demkov, Sergeant Mike Hart, Officer Tommy Carmody, Utah Department of Corrections*

Walking in their shoes: Understanding Gang Involved Youth — The focus of this presentation is to help participants understand the perspective of gang involved youth and how to better relate to them by building positive relationships. In the class we hope to help you have a better understanding of why kids join gangs by going in depth on various topics. By taking this class you will gain the skills that will help you build a healthy rapport & understanding of gang involved youth, while holding them accountable for their behaviors. Gang mentality and ideation are growing among our youth, and our goal is to help shed light to the causes of this growing trend. We hope after attending this class/ workshop we can help teachers, administration, and Law Enforcement Officers to gain a new perspective on gang involved youth and how to work more

effectively with them. *Presenters: Gang Prevention Advocate Shay Thompson/Gang Prevention Advocate Lani Rodrigues/Gang Prevention Advocate Amanda Contreras, Metro Gang Unit*

What Are You Looking At? – Strategies to Strengthen Relationships — This workshop will teach participants to use a proactive approach to building and strengthening relationships by choosing to spend your time, energy and emotions on the people and things that matter most. *Presenter: BJ Weller, M.Ed, LCSW, Canyons School District*

What’s Crippin at the ADC — This corrections update will focus on a basic background of two of our most active gangs from this past year. We will talk about the Bloods, Crips and focus on Titanic Crip Society. We will also discuss current drug smuggling techniques and what we are seeing inside the SLCO ADC. *Presenters: Detective Tyler Limb, Metro Gang Unit*

Who Am I? A look at gang-involved youth from a trauma-informed lens. — Gangs and trauma go together. Research shows that traumatic experiences can increase the risk of youth joining gangs with greater trauma exposure than their non-gang affiliated peers. Since youth respond to trauma in a variety of ways, it is important to recognize trauma responses and behavior to best support youth, specifically in the school environment for more successful outcomes. This session will cover topics on trauma and brain basics, fostering resiliency, building relationships with hard-to-reach youth, risk/protective factors, and the school to prison pipeline. Attendees can expect to learn how to actively make a difference with the youth they interact among with an inspired mindset. *Presenter: Gang Prevention Advocate Summer Elton, Metro Gang Unit*

PRESENTER BIOS:

ALMONTE, Robert — Robert was appointed by President Barack Obama as the United States Marshal for the Western District of Texas in 2010 where he served for six years until 2016. Under his leadership, the Western District of Texas was one of the top Districts in the United States Marshals Service in arrests of dangerous fugitives. He had previously retired from the El Paso, Texas Police Department after 25 years of service. He spent most of his career in narcotics investigations and retired as a Deputy Chief. As the Narcotics Commander with the EPPD, he championed innovative programs like the Hotel/Motel Narcotics Interdiction Unit and the West Texas High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Stash House Task Force.

Robert is recognized as an expert on Mexican Cartels and has been interviewed by “Good Morning America”, Fox and Friends”, the New York Post as well as International News Outlets regarding the Mexican Cartels. Robert served as Executive Director the Texas Narcotic Officers Association as well as three terms as president. Robert continues to conduct extensive research on the Mexican Cartels by going into Mexico and conducting ride-alongs on the border. He has traveled extensively throughout the United States training thousands of law enforcement officers on narcotics investigations. Robert Almonte has been qualified as an expert witness in federal and state court and has testified regarding drug trafficking as well as Santa Muerte and other “patron saints” related to criminal activities. He graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Park University.

BARNES, Jeremy — Sergeant Jeremy Barnes is the School Safety Liaison with the Utah Department of Public Safety. Sergeant Barnes has been in the law enforcement career for over 16 years and has worked in a variety assignments including patrol, investigations, DARE, and worked as a School Resource Officer. Sergeant Barnes earned his Bachelors Degree in Emergency Services Management from Utah Valley University. Sergeant Barnes has been the recipient of Utah's DARE Officer of the Year award, Draper City Chamber of Commerce Community Policing Award, Utah Department of Public Safety Medal of Valor, and the Utah Peace Officer's Association Medal of Honor. Sergeant Barnes also serves as a firefighter with the Montana Air National Guard. Sergeant Barnes enjoys spending time with his wife and their two daughters.

BEAUDRY, Matt — Matt Beaudry is Utah's Protective Security Advisor (PSA) for the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). PSAs are resiliency and security subject matter experts who engage with government and private sector to protect the Nation's critical infrastructure. As Utah's PSA, he coordinates resources from CISA and other DHS agencies to assist with managing physical security risk and build increased resilience to disruption.

He provides vulnerability assessments to identify security gaps and potential vulnerabilities, focusing on mitigation solutions. He also coordinates training, and exercise resources and is a vital link between public and private sector organizations seeking to communicate and work with DHS CISA across all topics related to physical security and cybersecurity.

He has counterparts in Utah that specialize in cybersecurity, chemical security, and emergency communications for government and public safety. This Utah cadre is part of the six-state Region 8 team that also includes Wyoming, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana. Before his role as Utah's PSA, Matt worked 10 years at the Utah Division of Emergency Management. He managed the Utah Public Private Partnership (UP3) program, connecting critical infrastructure owners and operators with public safety partners to build whole community resilience.

His first career was in the Fire Service, retiring as a Captain from Provo Fire and Rescue. He is a former instructor at Utah Valley University and holds degrees in Emergency Services Management and Communications.

CARMODY, Tommy — Tommy Carmody is an Officer with the Utah Department of Corrections. He began his career at the Central Utah Correctional Facility in 2005 and is currently the STG Officer for CUCF. His previous assignments include General Population, Substance Abuse Treatment, Intake and Direct Supervision.

COLLINS, Alex — Alex joined the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department in 2007. He graduated from the academy, served time at the Glen Helen Rehabilitation Center and was eventually stationed in Big Bear. Alex's two older brothers are also on the department which helped lead him into a career in law enforcement.

CONTRERAS, Amanda — Amanda is currently a Gang Prevention Advocate with the Choose Gang Free program; she has been an advocate with the program since July of 2019. She has a

background in education specifically special education and previously worked in that field five years before becoming a gang advocate. In 2021 Amanda along with her colleagues at the Choose Gang Free program received the community service award during the 30th annual UGIA Gang Conference for their work and commitment to the community. In April of 2022 the Choose Gang Free advocates were recognized at the annual gang conference held in Wendover receiving the Kevin Crane Commitment to community award. Amanda spends her spare time volunteering at Kearns High School supporting the boys' soccer team and various other soccer organizations.

DAVIS, Adrianna — Senior Deputy District Attorney Adriana Davis began her career at the Salt Lake City Prosecutor's Office in 2009 and then joined the Salt Lake County District Attorney Office in 2012, where she supervises the Juvenile Team. When she isn't helping the police chase down bad guys, she is chasing around her husband, two daughters and two dogs - preferably on horseback.

DEMCOV, James — James Demkov is a Sergeant with the Utah Department of Corrections. He began his career at the Utah State Prison in 2014 and is currently the STG Coordinator for USP Draper. He has worked as a Correctional Officer and Sergeant. His previous assignments include Restrictive Housing, Maximum Security and General Population.

ELTON, Summer — Summer received her Bachelor of Science degree in Justice Studies from Westminster College in 2018. She is currently completing her Master of Social Work degree from Simmons University in Boston with a Trauma Practice Certificate. She enjoys working with many populations, but youth work is her passion. She has been employed with Choose Gang Free since 2019 and currently works in the Canyons School District providing intervention and prevention services for gang-involved and at-risk youth. She also worked for Volunteers of America, Utah for 10 years prior to this where she fulfilled many leadership roles in the agency, her favorite being the program director of the Young Women's Transition Home, supporting young adults ages 16-21 that were experiencing homelessness. Summer has also worked with women struggling with substance use, youth and adults experiencing homelessness, and the criminal justice population through various positions. She has a great deal of familiarity working in the community with people that have experienced trauma and focuses much of her education and vocation in this area. She truly enjoys the helping profession and meeting clients where they are at, knowing that everyone has a story.

ELLER, Bree — Bree Eller has been working with at risk youth over the last 6 years. She began her career working at ARTEC (Adolescent Residential Treatment & Education Center) as a head counselor for youth struggling with drug, alcohol, and mental illnesses. Providing them with DBT groups and self-esteem groups. After the program closed Bree joined the Choose Gang Free Team. She began her career teaching Choose Gang Free's 5th grade prevention program and mentoring students 1 on 1 in Murray School District. In 2018 Bree moved into the Program Coordinator role where she was able to use her skills and knowledge to help grow the program, coordinating events, and holiday meal drives with her team. As a Program Coordinator Bree is servicing youth through Juvenile Justice Services, Probation, DCFS, and taking the overflow of referrals from our school districts.

GAEDE, Russell — Russell C. Gaede, PsyD is a published author, speaker, and therapist. Dr Russ earned a Masters in Mental Health Counseling, a Post-Masters Certificate in Marriage and Family Therapy, and a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology. A sought after speaker and therapist, Dr Russ has been featured on various radio, television, and podcasting programs. He has spoken to groups around the world and enjoys the experience of meeting and helping new people. Dr Russ is a former Juvenile Probation Officer, worked for the department of corrections, and now works with the Partridge Group offering therapy to frontline workers.

HART, Mike — Mike Hart is a Sergeant with the Utah Department of Corrections. He began his career at the Utah State Prison in 2000 and is currently the STG Coordinator for CUCF and a member of the Drug Interdiction team. He has worked as a Correctional Officer and Sergeant. His previous assignments include General Population, Maximum Security and Outside Enforcement.

JENSON, Dave — Detective Jenson has been in Law Enforcement for over 21 years and has been part State and Federal investigative units. He has been part of several long-term gang investigations. This course will provide an understanding of the multiple gangs in Utah and some of the history of those gangs. It will discuss some of the Gang Basics in order to give people an overview and understanding of current trends happening in Utah. This class will help people know things to help identify and recognize gang indicators for the various gangs in Utah.

JUAREZ, Ernesto — I was hired by Ogden Police department in December 2015, graduating from the academy in April 2016. After 16 months as a patrol officer, I was transferred to the Crime Reduction Unit (CRU). After 18 months in the CRU, I was then transferred to the Ogden Metro Gang Task Force where I am currently assigned as a detective. I have been a Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) investigator since the program began in Ogden in April 2018. I have worked a variety of assignments to include drive by shooting's, aggravated robberies, homicides, and both state and federal title III investigations. I also serve as a department defensive tactics instructor as the primary striking instructor.

LEULUAI, Lorenzo “Snow” — Special Agent Snow Leului has been with the Attorney General's Office since October 2020. Prior to the AG's office, Snow was with the Salt Lake City Police Department for 17 years. For his first three years, he worked as a Patrol Officer and a Field Training Officer. He then, transferred to the Fusion Bike Squad where they dealt with Community Oriented issues stemming from Gang Graffiti to mobile drug dealers. During a short stint with the Fusion Bike Squad, Snow was transferred to the Salt Lake Area Metro Gang Unit. Serving 2 years in Metro Gangs, Snow again was transferred once more to the FBI Safe Streets Gang Task Force and served there for over 10 years. With the AG's office, Snow is currently assigned to the S.E.C.U.R.E. Strike Force, as their primary focus is into Human Trafficking.

Snow's expertise comes from life experiences, family gang ties, and knowledge gained from street survival. Being raised in Santa Ana, California, Snow's family moved to Utah to get away from the gang violence occurring in the Sureno neighborhood his family was residing in.

Snow has taught at various gang conferences and shared gang intelligence with various State and Federal agencies throughout the Country. The topics presented, ranges from Polynesian Gangs, advance Gang 102, gangster Music, Nortenos , NF/La Eme, Human Trafficking and other Gang

related topics. Snow has also been involved with various nonprofit organization and State funded organizations as a liaison for Law Enforcement specifically dealing with Gang related issues. Snow is also a court certified gang expert.

Snow's passion for Gangs and "OUR" community reflects in his work with State/Local agencies, Federal partners, as well as partnerships with various NGO's.

LIMB, Tyler — Tyler Limb is a Salt Lake County Sheriff's Deputy. He is currently assigned to the Salt Lake Area Gang Project (Metro Gang Unit). Tyler has been in law enforcement since May 2005, starting his career in corrections at the Utah State Prison. While employed at the prison, he was fortunate to have worked in many areas including housing, security, and programs units. He ran a work program called Reading for the Blind. Working hand in hand with the Utah State Library for the Blind and Seeing impaired he ran a work crew of 25 inmates to read books and copy them in to digital format for distribution through the Library to the entire Rocky Mountain Region. He moved to the Salt Lake County Jail in 2016. While there, Tyler worked in Security and Housing where he was able to continue teaching classes to cadets starting their career. Tyler was then assigned to the position Jail Security Threat Information/Threat Officer (STIO) which also allowed him and his counterpart to be assigned to the Metro Gang Unit. The assignment requires them to work on investigating all security threats and gang issues in the jail, assisting outside agencies in their investigations, and providing county and UPD officers with intelligence information, either coming into or going out of the jail.

MACDONELL, Ben — Detective Macdonell has been employed with the LVMPD for 11.5 years and is currently assigned to the Criminal Intelligence Section where he has served for over 6 years. In his current assignment, Detective Macdonell is tasked with investigating criminal activity, gathering, and disseminating intelligence as it pertains to Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs (OMG). Detective Macdonell has worked numerous related investigations in Southern Nevada, as well as provided a significant amount of assistance to outside units and agencies throughout the United States. Detective Macdonell has worked dozens of OMG events, which include large scale events such as the Laughlin River Run, Las Vegas Bike Fest, the Mongols National Run, the Hells Angels USA Run, and multiple large OMG figurehead funerals.

Prior to being assigned to the Criminal Intelligence Section, Detective Macdonell was a member of the LVMPD Homeland Security Saturation Team, a member of the Bolden Area Command Safe Village Team, and a Patrol Officer. Prior to LVMPD, Detective Macdonell served in the United States Marine Corps for eight years as a Military Police Working Dog Handler. In 2004, and 2006, Detective Macdonell served two combat tours in the Al Anbar Province of Iraq.

Lastly, Detective Macdonell has been a member of the International Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Investigators Association (IOMGIA) for almost six years. Currently, Detective Macdonell is the duly elected President of the Tri State Intelligence Association.

MARTINEZ, Erica — Erica Martinez has been working for the Choose Gang Free program since 2017. Prior to Choose Gang Free, Erica worked with at-risk youth in a residential setting and at West High School as a para-professional. She started her career with Choose Gang Free as an advocate in the schools; Primarily working with middle & high school at-risk youth. Erica became

a program coordinator for the program about 3 years ago where she has been serving youth placed in juvenile justice services, on probation, as well as other youth within Salt Lake County. Erica continues to expand her skills and training to help Choose Gang Free grow by servicing youth, coordinating events, summer programs, and assisting with supervision duties within the program.

McKEON, Andrew — With Utah Department of Corrections since 2015. AP&P since 2018, and MGU in 2020. Law Enforcement Bureau (and Security Threat Group Coordinator for UDC) since November 2020.

NELSON, Stephen L. — Stephen L. Nelson is an Assistant United States Attorney and currently serves as the Anti-Gang Coordinator for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Utah and is the Chair of the Salt Lake Area Gang Project's Governing Board. Steve earned his J.D. and Ph.D. from the University of Utah where he also currently serves as an Assistant Professor (Lecturer) in the Department of Political Science. Steve has taught over 5,000 undergraduate and graduate students in his 18-year teaching career.

NERON, John — John Neron has been in law enforcement for 16 years. His career started in 2006 when he was hired by the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Department. In 2014, John left the Sheriff's Office and was hired by Unified Police, where he worked in Kearns and Magna patrol for a year. John then served as one of the Kearns Community Oriented Policing detectives for a year. In 2017 John was transferred to the Metro Gang Unit. John was to sergeant in January of 2021 and works patrol in Magna. John's gang focuses include Norteno, 38th Street Surenos, Brown Side Los Crooks Surenos, Dogtown Surenos, and several Blood gangs.

PENDER, Cody — Cody Pender started his law enforcement career at the Salt Lake County Adult Detention Center in 2010 where he worked in maximum security and MCIRT. During his time at ADC he was a JSTIC representative and worked on identifying and gathering gang intelligence. In 2013 Cody hired on with Unified Police Department and was assigned to the Kearns/Magna precinct. He participated with the OG (gang) unit for the duration of his time in Kearns/Magna. Cody worked briefly in Taylorsville before being selected for the Metro Gang Unit in 2016. He is currently assigned to the Metro Gang Unit suppression unit. He currently focuses on active street gangs to include Florencia.

RODRIGUES, Lani — Lani started working for the Choose Gang Free program in 2018. She has worked in numerous schools, providing gang prevention & intervention services to middle school and high school aged youth. Prior to Choose Gang Free, Lani worked as a para-professional at West High school for 4 years. There, is when Lani found her passion for working with youth and helping change lives. During her time at Choose Gang Free, Lani has not only serviced her schools and at-risk youth, but she has also gained the knowledge and expanded her skills in understanding gang involved youth. Lani serves Choose Gang Free in a whole, by assisting with events, providing training, and partnering with outside agencies to provide her youth with extracurricular activities.

SERANO, Alessandra — Alessandra Serano currently serves as the Chief Legal Officer for International Operations for Operation Underground Railroad, a non-profit organization that rescues and recovers exploited and trafficked children from around the world. Previously, Ms. Serano was employed by the United States Department of Justice in various roles for over 18+

years. From 2003-2017, Ms. Serano served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of California where she prosecuted child exploitation and trafficking cases as well as organized crime and gang-related cases involving narcotics, human and sex trafficking. She litigated numerous immigration and border related crimes, firearms offenses, and national security cases. Ms. Serano provided hundreds of hours of training to foreign, federal, state and local prosecutors and investigators on trafficking matters and trial advocacy. From 2017-19, she worked at Main Justice as the Department of Justice's National Project Safe Childhood Coordinator in Washington DC where she served as a subject matter expert on child exploitation, human and sex trafficking involving minors, and other federal child sexual exploitation offenses. Ms. Serano also served as Senior Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Policy where she worked on human trafficking policy for the Department. From 2020-21, Ms. Serano served on temporary special assignment as the First Assistant United States Attorney and Criminal Chief for the U.S. Attorney's Office – District of the Virgin Islands.

Ms. Serano received numerous individual awards relating to her work and expertise in human trafficking including the U.S. Attorney General's Award, the Federal Bar Association's Hon. Sarah T. Hughes Civil Rights Award, and Women in Federal Law Enforcement's "Top Prosecutor" Award. She has received several team awards including the Commissioner's Award from the San Diego County Juvenile Justice Commission, Meritorious Unit Citation from the San Diego County Sheriff's Department for Operation "Stolen Souls", Investigative Team of the Year Award by the California Narcotic Officers' Association, and Outstanding Overall Partnership Award by the U.S. Department of Justice.

For the last 7 years, Ms. Serano serves as an Adjunct Law Professor at the University of San Diego, School of Law where she teaches an upper division class on human trafficking and child exploitation. Ms. Serano also serves as a Lawyer Representative for the Southern District of California District Court and is a Master in the Welsh Inn of Court. Previously from 1999-2003, Ms. Serano was an associate at Howrey, Simon, Arnold & White, LLP. Prior to law school, she was a Probation Officer in Riverside County.

Ms. Serano graduated magna cum laude from the University of Miami, School of Law in 1999 and received her B.A. in Political Science/Law & Society from the University of California, Riverside in 1993. She is currently working on her Executive Certificate in Public Leadership from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Ms. Serano is a licensed real estate broker in California and earned her private pilot's license in 2021.

STILLION, Jared — Jared Stillion started his law enforcement career in 2007 with the Border Patrol assigned to the Tucson Sector. He moved to Utah later that year and Joined the Salt Lake County Sheriff's department in 2008 to 2012. He worked as a corrections officer in Housing and M/CIRT. In 2010 he joined the Unified Police Department as a reserve officer assigned to Magna and Kearns. In 2012 he became a full time police officer with Unified Police. He was assigned to Millcreek Patrol and served as a Detective in the Crash Analysis and Reconstruction unit. In 2016 he went to the Violent Crimes Unit investigating Robbery and Homicide. There he was an FBI

Task Force Officer in the violent crimes task force. In 2020 he joined the Metro Gang Unit and became an ATF Task Force Officer.

SULLIVAN, Ben — Instructor Ben Sullivan has been a law enforcement officer for over 14 years. His background includes narcotics, gangs, street crimes, patrol, SWAT, K-9, among many other specialty assignments. Currently Ben is serving as a detective on the Salt Lake County Gang Task Force and a task force officer with Homeland Security. Ben has testified as an expert witness in Gang trends, narcotics, and street crimes. Ben also travels the US as instructor of his class Gang, Narcotics, and Street Crimes in a New Era.

SVEDIN, Stephanie —Stephanie Svedin is originally from Washington State. She earned her bachelor's degree in Home and Family Living from BYU. She started as a Utah State Trooper on the road in Salt Lake County in 2018. She is currently at the State Bureau of Investigation as the Law Enforcement Refugee Liaison for the State of Utah . She partners with various refugee organizations to build better relationships between refugees and law enforcement.

THOMPSON, Shay — Shay is a Gang Prevention Advocate with the Choose Gang Free Program. Shay has her teaching degree in secondary education with an emphasis in science. Shay has worked for Choose Gang Free since June 2018. She worked with at-risk youth for five years at Hunter High School prior to working at Choose Gang Free. She gained a love for helping the community and helping youth focus on positive goals and their futures. Shay has been working in Granite School District for the last 3 years and has made an impact on her schools and youth. She has built positive relationships with adults as well as youth and their families.

VALDEZ, Jerry — Jerry Valdez is a Unified Police Department detective. He is currently assigned to the Salt Lake Area Gang Project (Metro Gang Unit). Jerry has been in law enforcement since December 2008, starting his career in corrections at the Salt Lake County Jail. While employed at the jail, he was fortunate to have worked in many areas of the jail, including the minimum- and maximum-security housing units, programs where he was very involved in teaching Life Skills class. Jerry was then assigned to Jail Security Threat Information/Threat Officer (STIO) which also allowed him and his counterpart to be assigned to the Metro Gang Unit. Jerry was hired on with UPD in 2016 where, Jerry worked in the Holladay and Taylorsville areas in Patrol before returning to the Metro Gang Unit in 2017. Jerry has also helped get the Utah Gang Investigators Association going again and has been serving as the vice president since 2017.

WALSER, Deon — Approximately 10 years in LE, assigned to the Metro Gang Unit since 2017. Agent with Adult Probation and Parole dealing primarily with prison gangs who come to the streets on parole.

WELLER, BJ — BJ Weller earned both his MSW and M.Ed from the University of Utah. He has worked in Granite School District as a school social worker, Canyons School District as a school and district administrator. He also worked for several years as a mental health professional at the Salt Lake County Jail. BJ has focused his career on improving systems of support for kids and adults by bringing awareness to issues around trauma and mental health and teaching strategies that help people navigate personal and professional relationships.

WORWOOD, Kevin — Detective Worwood has been in Law Enforcement for 6 years with the Sandy Police department, where he has been in several different positions to include patrol, school resource officer, crime suppression unit, and most recently assigned to the Metro Gang Unit. He has been part of several long-term narcotics, gangs, and firearm investigations.

YOUNG, Stewart M. — Stewart M. Young is an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Utah and currently serves as a Trial Attorney on Joint Task Force Vulcan, which is charged with eradicating MS-13 in the United States and abroad. He formerly served as an AUSA in San Diego and as a tenure-track law professor at the University of Wyoming College of Law. He is a graduate of Stanford Law School and Princeton University.