



25th ANNUAL "REFLECTIONS" SYMPOSIUM ON CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT MDT SPEAKER BIOS 2019

JIM ANDERST, MD

Dr. Anderst is the Division Chief of the Division of Child Adversity and Resilience and Professor of Pediatrics at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, MO. His work primarily focuses on the medical forensic evaluation of all types of child maltreatment and the prevention of child maltreatment. He currently serves on the American Board of Pediatrics-Child Abuse Pediatrics sub-board and has served on the Executive Committee of the Helfer Society. He has published over 30 peer reviewed research articles and over 20 book chapters and invited reviews. He has developed several on-line training programs for the evaluation of child maltreatment and has created a "smartphone app" to assist medical and investigative personnel in the evaluation of alleged child physical abuse. He and his team also have created a regional, collaborative home visiting system (Promise 1000) to prevent child maltreatment and improve child and family well-being. He presents his work both nationally and internationally.

JULIE BRAND, MS

Julie Brand holds a Master's degree in Counseling and enjoyed a distinguished 25-year career as a school counselor. Now she uses her unique perspective as both counselor and survivor, to speak and to write about maternal incest. She combines research data, professional insights and her personal experiences to enlighten audiences about the reality of mother-daughter sexual abuse. In 2006, she founded CAPER Consulting (Child Abuse Prevention, Education and Recovery) dedicated to confronting the subject of mother-child sexual abuse. She published *A Mother's Touch: Surviving Mother-Daughter Sexual Abuse*, in 2007. Since 2005, she has educated and empowered audiences across the United States with her dynamic programs on maternal incest, female offenders in positions of trust and the opportunities for recovery from childhood trauma. Her audiences include victim advocates, social workers, law enforcement, medical professionals, attorneys, CASAs, child advocates, mental health professionals, victim services administrators and always, of course, the many professionals who are themselves survivors of childhood trauma. Julie's upbeat presentations focus on the power of resiliency and healing in all of our lives. She has been a frequent presenter at the annual August "Crimes Against Children Conference" in Dallas, Texas (returning August, 2018) and at the National Children's Advocacy Center Symposium in Huntsville, Alabama. Julie and her work are also featured in a 2013 Canadian documentary on mother-daughter sexual abuse, entitled "It Was A Woman."

EDWARD CHASE, JD

Edward Chase is the Director of Litigation and Training at the DeKalb County, Georgia District Attorney's Office, where he focuses on the training and development of the District Attorney staff, as well as targeted cases for prosecution. He previously served as a Senior Attorney with the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys' Child Abuse Prosecution Project, where he facilitated training at the regional and national level, in addition to providing technical assistance to prosecutors and allied professionals across the country. He is a former Chief Senior Assistant District Attorney with Fulton County District Attorney's Office in Atlanta, GA. He served as a supervisor in the Crimes Against Women and Children unit, prosecuting sexual offenses against adults and children, as well as child physical abuse cases. Other assignments included the Major Case Division, the Public Integrity Unit, and the Domestic Violence Task Force. Edward is a member of the Georgia Statewide Sexual Assault Response Team Expert Committee, formulating best practices for multidisciplinary teams responding to sexual abuse, and served as a faculty member for the statewide SART training initiative. Edward has also served as a faculty member for programs with the National Institute of Trial Advocacy. He is a recipient of the Lewis Slaton Highest Achievement Award from the Fulton County District Attorney's Office, the Atlanta Bar Association Public Service Award, and the Monroe H. Freedman Excellence in Criminal Justice Award. Edward continues to serve as a faculty member for the National Children's Advocacy Center, the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, as well as other regional and national organizations. He received his law degree from Hofstra University, with a Criminal Law and Procedure concentration, and his undergraduate degree from Wake Forest University.

MARY CATHERINE GLENN COVINGTON, BA

Special Agent Covington has been with Homeland Security Investigations for seven years and has been assigned to work child exploitation cases and human/sex trafficking investigations. Prior to working for Homeland Security Investigations, Special Agent Covington was a United States Postal Inspector for six years and worked child exploitation cases involving the U.S. Mail. She has been involved in over 300 child pornography investigations. Special Agent Covington received the 2015 Law Enforcement Hero's Award by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in Washington, D.C. for her work on the Bailey Mills' case. She is currently assigned to the Resident Agent in Charge, Raleigh, NC.

TIM CROMIE, BS

Chief Tim Cromie is a 33-year veteran of law enforcement and joined the Nassau Bay Police Department as Chief of Police in 2018 after previously working for several other cities. He has presented training classes across the US and Canada, on the topics of child physical/sexual abuse investigations including training for the FBI and NCMEC. Tim is a member of an advisory committee to SAFE Alliance, Austin's Children Shelter and Domestic Violence Safe Place, developing a resource website for victims, advocates and providers. He has received numerous awards including the Dickinson Police Department Meritorious Service Award for his capture of a bank robbery suspect. He has been named as "Rookie of the Year" and "Officer of the Year" during his career. He was also awarded "Detective of the Year" in 2006 and 2010. Tim was a co-recipient of the TAASA 2010 Champions for Social Change Award and in 2013, TAASA recognized Tim with the Harold Cottle Justice Award for "outstanding dedication and contributions in the fight to eliminate sexual violence."

JASON DICKINSON, PH.D.

Jason J. Dickinson is a Professor of Psychology and the Director of the Robert D. McCormick Center for Child Advocacy and Policy at Montclair State University. His research on children's eyewitness testimony (understanding how children remember, misremember, forget, and tell about events they've experienced) is designed to generate evidence-based recommendations for questioning children and adults and facilitate investigative decision-making in forensic contexts. His work has been supported by the National Science Foundation and the New Jersey Department of Children's and Families. He regularly works with the interviewing and legal communities to help translate research into public policy and inform investigative practices.

JUSTIN FITZSIMMONS, JD

Justin Fitzsimmons is Director of High-Tech Crime Training Services for SEARCH, The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics. He oversees a national program that provides expert technical assistance and develops and offers training to local, state, and federal justice and public safety agencies on successfully conducting technology and computer crimes investigations. This assistance focuses on systems security, computer forensics, and investigations and prosecutions involving the Internet, social networking sites, local area networks, and online child exploitation. Justin regularly presents at international, national, and regional conferences, workshops, and training courses. He participates on advisory committees and task forces and supports agencies, courts, and jurisdictions as they create and implement impactful procedures, practices, and technology applications that seek to investigate and combat high-tech crime and successfully recover digital evidence. Justin has worked for the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), in the Kane and DuPage Counties, Illinois State's Attorney's Office and has served as a member of national working groups with other professionals to develop responses and education to technology-facilitated crimes. From 2006-2008, he drafted legislation that addressed TFCSE issues, subsequently signed into law in Illinois.

CRYSTAL GREGORY, MS

Crystal Gregory is a Forensic Interview Specialist with Homeland Security Investigations (HSI). She travels domestically and internationally to conduct forensic interviews of victims regarding on-going federal investigations. She also provides case consultation and planning for cases involving victims of human trafficking, child sex tourism, and child exploitation. Ms. Gregory provides training to federal, state and local law enforcement and victim assistance organizations on best practices of forensic interviewing and victim services. Ms. Gregory obtained her Master of Science in Criminal

Justice at University of Cincinnati. Prior to her position at HSI, she worked as a Forensic Interview Specialist with the National Children's Advocacy Center and various other children advocacy centers in Alabama.

KELLY HARRISON, BA

Special Agent Kelly Harrison has been with Homeland Security Investigations for 10 years and is assigned to investigate child exploitation and human trafficking matters. She has been involved in the investigation of over 200 child exploitation/human trafficking investigations and is recognized by ICE as a Subject Matter Expert in human trafficking investigations. She is a certified instructor for the HSI National Academy at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) where she occasionally teaches advanced investigative techniques and interview/interrogation techniques. SA Harrison has conducted training for domestic and international law enforcement, US financial institutions, and victim service providers. She is currently assigned to the Office of the Special Agent in Charge in Charlotte which covers 25 counties of central and western North Carolina.

JULIE KENNISTON, MSW, LISW

Julie Kenniston is a Program Manager for the National Criminal Justice Training Center, a program of Fox Valley Technical College. Ms. Kenniston conducts forensic interviews for the Northern Kentucky Children's Advocacy Center and for the Southwest Ohio Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force. Julie is the former Executive Director of The Center for Family Solutions, Butler County's developing family justice center in Hamilton, Ohio. She specializes in the areas of forensic interviews, interdisciplinary teamwork, peer review, sexual abuse and exploitation issues, domestic violence dynamics and child sex trafficking. As a board member of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC), she is the co-chair of the forensic interview committee and chairs the APSAC Media Guidelines committee. Ms. Kenniston is a well published speaker and is co-author and co-editor of the *3rd Edition of Handbook on Questioning Children: A Linguistic Perspective*, originally written by Anne Graffam Walker, Ph.D., and published by the American Bar Association. Ms. Kenniston is a licensed independent social worker in Ohio (LISW) and has conducted over 3,000 forensic interviews of alleged child victims of sexual abuse.

SARA KIRK, LCSW, MEd

Sara Kirk is the coordinator and interviewer for the UNC Health Care Beacon Child Evaluation Clinic. Sara has extensive experience in child welfare, as well as, interviewing children who are being evaluated for maltreatment concerns.

NANCY LAMB, JD

Nancy Lamb has been a prosecutor since 1984 and served as the Chief Assistant District Attorney in the First Prosecutorial District, a seven-county district in the northeastern North Carolina, with its home office in Elizabeth City until 2014. Lamb received her undergraduate degree from Appalachian State University and her law degree from Wake Forest University School of Law. Lamb served for 6 years on the Board of Directors of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) and chaired the Professional Education committee during her tenure on the Executive Committee. In 2003, she was awarded APSAC's Outstanding Service Award, given annually to an APSAC member in recognition of outstanding service to the organization. Lamb is a past president of the North Carolina Professional Society on the Abuse of Children and the 1999 recipient of NCPSAC's Kimberly Crews award, given annually to an NCPSAC member in recognition of professional excellence for service to abused children statewide. Lamb has provided training for the past 25 years at local, regional and national child abuse conferences throughout the United States. Lamb also serves on the CACNC Board of Directors.

ALVERA LESANE, Ed.D

Dr. Alvera Lesane has served as the Associate Superintendent for Iredell-Statesville Schools since 2010. She also serves as an adjunct professor for The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in the School of Education. Previously, Dr. Lesane has worked in Iredell-Statesville Schools and Durham Public Schools as the director of professional growth and development. Her passion centers on serving children and adults from diverse backgrounds. Among other community activities, she serves on the Board of Directors for the Dove House Children's Advocacy Center in Statesville, NC.

MARTA MARTINEZ HASTY, LCSW

Marta Martinez Hasty, LCSW, is Director of Kristi House's program for child sex trafficking survivors, Project GOLD, which operates its Drop-In Center for teen girls. She oversees a staff of 12 full-time employees at the center and works closely with multidisciplinary community partners coming together around cases. She has served Kristi House in a variety of capacities since 2007 including in this role, as a therapist and as a board member from 2013 to 2018. At Project GOLD and previously in private practice she provides therapy to female survivors of sex trafficking. She is working with the Kristi House clinical team in adaptations of evidence-based practices to identify intervention(s) effective with this population typically overcoming complex trauma.

RICARDO RUBIALES, LCSW

Ricardo Rubiales, LCSW, is Associate Director for Project GOLD, which is the Kristi House Child Advocacy Center's program for commercially sexually exploited children. He is overseeing Project GOLD's U.S. Department of Justice-funded program for job training and career development, "*Bridges to the Future*," as well as service provision to youth in the program and education outreach in the community. Previously, he served for four year as Kristi House's Clinical Supervisor and four years as a therapist. His career has focused on vulnerable populations, including overseeing programs and providing direct services for homeless and runaway youth, and youth in foster care. He holds the highest credentials in South Florida as an approved national Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy trainer. He holds a Master of Social Work degree from Florida International University.

JENNIFER SCHUETT, ADVOCATE

Jennifer Schuett is a proud victim advocate and victorious survivor of an attack that nearly killed her when she was eight years old. Jennifer continues to speak out and share her story with others in hopes she may encourage other victims of crime to speak out along with her in conquering crime. She has shared her journey for justice on the Today Show, America's Most Wanted, CNN & Investigation Discovery, among many other places, and has touched many lives through her website, www.justiceforjennifer.com. Jennifer is a co-recipient of TAASA's 2010 "Champions For Social Change" Award, was named a "Galveston County Champion" in 2012 and was also named Girl ExtraOrdinaire 2012 by Girl ExtraOrdinaire in California.

MICHELLE SCOTT, BA

Michelle Scott currently serves as Victim Witness Coordinator with the U.S. Attorney's Office in Raleigh, North Carolina, where her primary duties include provision of service to federal crime victims and witnesses. Prior to joining the U.S. Attorney's Office, she was employed with Pitt County District Attorney's Office as the Child Abuse Coordinator, where her duties included serving child victims of rape and sexual assault. Ms. Scott served on the Governor's Domestic Violence Subcommittee, North Carolina Conference of District Attorneys Victim Witness Revised Manual Committee and Pitt County Child Fatality Team. In 1998, Pitt County Tedi Bear: Children's Advocacy Center presented her with its first annual leadership award; in August, 2004, she received Outstanding Victim Advocate Award from North Carolina Victim Assistance Network; in April 2012, she received the Federal Service Award for Outstanding Service on Behalf of Victims of Crime from the Office for Victims of Crime; and in October 2012, she received The Attorney General's Award for Excellence in Furthering the Interests of U.S. National Security. Ms. Scott serves as a member on numerous boards and organizations and was appointed to U.S. Department of Justice Victim-Witness Rapid Response Team. Ms. Scott has a Bachelor of Arts in Justice Studies from North Carolina Wesleyan College.

JIM SEARS, RETIRED LE

Jim Sears has been a law enforcement officer for over 30 years working with the Irving Police Department (TX) where he retired as a sergeant, serving 17 years in the Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Unit. A dedicated advocate of children, he currently serves as a law enforcement consultant/instructor with the Shaken Baby Alliance for the Serious Physical Child Abuse and SIDS Program, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement instructor specializing in Domestic Violence and Child Abuse, Instructor at the Crimes Against Children's Conference in Dallas, is a Certified Instructor for Advanced Child Abuse Investigations through the Texas Municipal Police Association, instructor for the Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center and National Criminal Justice Training Center. Sears is the 2011 recipient of the Lt. Bill Walsh Award from the Dallas Children's Advocacy Center for career achievements in the field of child abuse investigations. He frequently lectures on topics related to child abuse investigations, interview and interrogation, and crime scene investigations for domestic violence and child abuse.

DAVID A. THORNELOE, JD

Assistant United States Attorney Thorneloe has been prosecuting federal criminal cases in the Asheville office of the U.S. Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina since 2009. He is a veteran of the United States Army and currently serves as a Lieutenant Colonel Judge Advocate for the North Carolina Army National Guard. David is the Project Safe Childhood coordinator for the Western District of North Carolina where he is responsible for focusing the district's efforts to combat federal child exploitation offenses. In his legal career, he has developed his expertise in prosecuting crimes against children, protecting federal lands and natural resources, and supporting domestic military aid responses to natural disasters. David has trained a wide array of federal and local law enforcement agencies throughout the United States and across the globe.

HOLLY WARNER, FNP, B-C

Holly Warner, FNP-BC joined the Child Abuse Team at UNC Hospitals in January 2014. In her current role, she provides inpatient consultation services for children admitted to UNC when there is a concern of abuse or neglect. Prior to her current role, she worked as a child medical evaluator at SAFEchild Advocacy Center in Raleigh, NC. She earned her undergraduate degree (BSN) as well as her master's degree (MSN, FNP) from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

PATRICK WILHELM, BM

Patrick Wilhelm is a Special Agent with Homeland Security Investigations specializing in digital forensics and child exploitation investigations. Agent Wilhelm has participated in a wide variety of cases requiring analysis of data from computers and mobile devices. Agent Wilhelm has testified federal court on multiple occasions as an expert witness in computer forensics and child pornography. In addition to his agency's training, Agent Wilhelm has obtained the Certified Forensics Computer Examiner (CFCE) certification through the International Association of Computer Investigative Specialist (IACIS), as well as the GIAC Certified Forensic Examiner (GCFE) and the GIAC Security Essentials Certification (GSEC) certifications through Global Information Assurance Certification. Prior to joining Federal law enforcement, Agent Wilhelm worked as an Information Technology professional, and had obtained the Microsoft Certified System Engineer certification (MCSE).

KAREN VADINO, MSW, LPCC, OCPSII

Karen Vadino is a Motivational Speaker, Humorist, Trainer and Consultant. In her thirty-six plus years as a human service professional, most of Karen's experience has been in the field of chemical dependency, both as a licensed clinician and as a certified prevention specialist. She has considerable experience working with children and families, having served as a clinician and supervisor in Children's Services group homes and a Children's Psychiatric Hospital. Karen also has been a part-time instructor in Social Work, Sociology, Juvenile Justice and Human Development at Youngstown State University, Penn State University and Westminster College. Karen draws from her extensive and varied experience to form the foundation of her unique and distinctively humorous approach to life and work. For the past twenty-five years, she has been an internationally recognized speaker and trainer sharing her inimitable insights with thousands of people – adults and youth – each year. Karen has been described as “one of those rare people who can make you laugh and cry in the same moment”. Regardless of the topic, Karen's workshops and presentations are humorous in nature, reflecting her own insightful approach to dealing with life's daily challenges. She is well known for her “Vadinoan Theories”, including her exhortation to “release your dolphins” and her firm belief that we should never wait until we are entirely happy before we laugh. Karen is working on finishing a book or two, including a compilation of her original workshop materials and activities.