

# Instructor Biographies

## Fall Conference, 2021



### Jason Abellada

Jason Abellada is a Professional Registered Parliamentarian who is available to serve at organizational membership meetings, board meetings, and conventions. Jason offers services as meeting parliamentarian, presiding officer, bylaws reviewer, and general advisor. His previous clients include nonprofits, professional associations, and service organizations. Jason has 15 years of experience in industrial control systems and information technology, and he holds a degree in computer engineering from the University of Florida. Jason currently works as a licensed realtor and programming contractor for industrial facilities. Jason resides in St. Petersburg.

### James Aguiar, Jr.

James Aguiar, Jr. started his career in law enforcement with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office in 1986. He served as a correctional officer, classification officer, sergeant, and director. In 2000, James served with the Marion County Sheriff's Office as a bailiff and fire safety officer. James is currently serving with the Sumter County Sheriff's Office as the accreditation inspector in their Professional Standards Division. James is an assessor and team leader for law enforcement and corrections for the Commission for Law Enforcement Accreditation, Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission and Florida Model Jail Standards. He also serves as an assessor for American Corrections Association and served as a PREA auditor with the Bureau of Justice from 2015 to 2019. He has completed over 134 assessments and regularly teaches various subjects for both of the commissions and FLA-PAC.

### Gary Barrett

Gary Barrett started his career in law enforcement in 1988, serving in the United States Army as a military police officer and criminal investigations command special agent. He was hired at the Leesburg Police Department in 1992 and is a lieutenant serving as the accreditation/professional standards commander. He has served in various capacities at the Leesburg Police Department including patrol, SWAT, traffic homicide, narcotics/ vice, criminal investigations, intelligence liaison, street crimes, professional standards/accreditation and grant management. He holds a bachelor's degree in organizational management and a master's degree in criminal justice administration. He is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute's Administrative Officer's Course (125th) and the Police Executive Leadership Graduate Program. He is a CJSTC general and firearms instructor. He serves as a law enforcement assessor and team leader for CFA, and enjoys family activities, hunting, fishing and boating.

## **Stephanie Boggs**

Stephanie Boggs was born and raised in Tallahassee, Florida. Stephanie graduated from Florida State University and holds a bachelor's degree in English with an emphasis in Editing, Writing, and Media. She joined the Records Management Program in January of 2019 and became program lead July of 2021.

## **Amanda Bradford**

Amanda Bradford joined PowerDMS four years ago. She is a Level II Training Specialist and is the Power DMS Certified Processional Program Coordinator.

## **Mark Brewer**

Mark Brewer began his law enforcement career with the Sarasota Police Department in 1979 and was assigned to "rookie zones." He served as a deputy sheriff with Seneca County, New York from 1981 until being accepted to law school. Mark served as a telecommunicator for Seneca County as well. After law school, he was a JAG for the 82d Airborne Division and then opened a private practice in Sarasota. In 1990-1991 he was mobilized to serve on the war crimes team during Desert Storm. After "Spring Break '91," he served as an assistant general counsel for FDLE in Tallahassee and then as the general counsel for the Lake County Sheriff's Office in Tavares. He is now the 12th Judicial Circuit chief for regional counsel in its main office in Sarasota.

## **Robert Brongel**

Bob Brongel began his career with the Sarasota Sheriff's Office, retiring after 32 years as a lieutenant. He served in uniformed patrol, SWAT, tactical unit, vice/narcotics, criminal investigations, and administrative services. He then spent four years with the Division of Insurance Fraud as a captain. He was recruited to assist the Florida Lottery in obtaining law enforcement accreditation, serving as a reserve special agent and accreditation manager. Bob has extensive experience as a team leader and assessor for law enforcement, inspector general and communications accreditation for both CFA and FLA-TAC. He was one of the first commissioners appointed to the Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission. In addition to his law enforcement activities, Bob has been very active in his community, volunteering with several organizations and serving on a number of boards.

## **Juli Brown**

Juli Brown serves as the accreditation manager for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC), Division of Law Enforcement. Ms. Brown has 33 years of experience in state government, working for the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the Department of Environmental Protection, and FWC. Her experience includes accreditation management and assessments, accounting, auditing, commercial saltwater fishing licensure, marine fisheries program management, administrative hearings, case management and presentation, document and forms management, and assistant to two law enforcement chiefs of staff. Ms. Brown has been a FLA-PAC Certified Accreditation Professional (CAP) since 2012 and is certified by CFA as an Accreditation Manager, Assessor and Team Leader, conducting assessments for both law enforcement and Offices of Inspectors General. She was awarded the 2015 Team Leader of the Year by CFA, and since receiving her CFA Assessor certification in 2010, she has conducted 57 mock and formal assessments.

## **Lisa Cahill**

Lisa Cahill started her career in the 9-1-1 communications center in November of 1995. She served as a call taker, law dispatcher, and master sergeant with Marion County Sheriff's Office. In October 2011, there was a consolidation and she became a shift supervisor with Marion County Public Safety. Lisa is a highly trained public safety telecommunicator with over 23 years of 9-1-1 call center operations and management experience. Lisa's duties involve training and supervising communication center public safety professionals, the development and implementation of standard operating procedures and directives for law enforcement, fire, EMS and emergency management operations. She is diplomatic and gracious, with a desire to deliver exceptional customer service by promoting training and teamwork.

## **Tammy Farnham**

Tammy Farnham started her career with the Stuart Police Department in 1995. She has served in the uniformed patrol division, criminal investigations, professional standards, and its Community Relations Unit. Tammy has been assigned as the accreditation manager since 2007. She serves as a team leader for CFA. She has conducted more than 50 assessments. Tammy is a Certified Accreditation Professional with two re-certifications. She has served as the Public Relations Director for the FLA-PAC. She is currently the First Vice President for the FLA-PAC. Tammy was recognized as the Assessor of the Year in 2015.

## David Kennedy

David Kennedy began his career with FDLE in 2011 as a in the CJIS Director's Office and moved to the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) in 2013. While in UCR, Mr. Kennedy served as Operations Management and Consultant Manager (OMCM) and most recently as Senior Management Analyst Supervisor (SMAS). Prior to employment with FDLE, he was a Criminal Justice Instructor at Southwest Georgia Technical College. Mr. Kennedy also served as a certified Law Enforcement Officer in Georgia for nine years. During that time, he served as commander of the Patrol Division (Lieutenant) for the Valdosta State University Police Department, from 2004 – 2009, overseeing the agency's daily patrol operations, Field Training Program, and facilitated, and managed, the department's state accreditation process. He also served the Valdosta Police Department from 2000 – 2004 as a patrol officer and was a member of the department's Hostage Negotiation Team and Bicycle Patrol Team.

## Oscar Kieffer

Oscar is currently the accreditation manager for the City of Palmetto Police Department, with a background in customer service management prior to his employment with the police department. He successfully got the agency re-accredited in 2016 and 2019. He served as the training committee chair for the FLA-PAC from October 2016 – February 2018, and was appointed to 2nd vice president of the FLA-PAC in February 2018. He is an active assessor and team leader for CFA.

## Angela Kirk

Angela Kirk began her career with Monroe County Sheriff's Office in 2016 as the payroll clerk. After two years, she applied for the Accreditation Specialist position where she currently works. She had previous experience in accreditation through Joint Commission projects at a hospital. Even though she is fairly new to the Law Enforcement family, she is no stranger to discipline and attention to detail. She retired from the United States Air Force after a career of 22+ years, during which time she was a dental assistant, a flight attendant and a medical administration supervisor. She volunteers her time as an officer on the Executive Committee of American Legion Post 28 and as the adjutant of American Legion Riders, Chapter 28.

## Ryan LaRowe

Ryan LaRowe is currently a Detective Sergeant with the Palmetto Police Department and has been with the agency for 19 years. He is a Computer Voice Stress Analysis Examiner and Background Investigator as well as a member of the Association of Certified Background Investigators. Ryan is a FBI LEEDA Trilogy Graduate and holds a Master's degree in Public Administration and Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration. He also serves as a CFA assessor for law enforcement assessments.

## **Julie Leftheris**

Julie Leftheris serves as the Inspector General and Director of Compliance for the State University System of Florida. She previously spent 9 years as the Inspector General for the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and previously as the Deputy Inspector General for the Florida Lottery. Julie has worked in the Inspector General community for 28 years working in both auditing and investigative functions. Julie is a graduate of Florida State University with degrees in both Finance and Accounting. She has obtained the professional certifications of Certified Inspector General, Certified Public Accountant, Certified Internal Auditor, Certified Fraud Examiner, and Certified Information Systems Auditor. Julie currently serves as a board member of the Florida Association of Inspectors General and the Leon County School Board. She is a current Commissioner for the Florida Commission on Law Enforcement Accreditation.

## **Yvonne Luster-Harvey**

Yvonne Luster-Harvey started with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) in 2017 as a manager in the Firearm Purchase Program (FPP). She joined the Uniform Crime Reports Program (UCR) in February 2021 as the manager for the Summary Reporting System (SRS), Florida Incident Based Reporting System (FIBRS), Use-of-Force (UOF) collection and the Statewide Records Management System. Before joining FDLE she worked as a data scientist for the Florida Department of Health in Disease Control and Environmental Health and Preparedness. She specialized in exploratory data analysis that included computation of numeric summaries, data visualization and statewide reporting of collected statistics. OMCM Luster-Harvey holds a Master's Degree in Public Health with a specialization in Biostatistics and Epidemiology and a Bachelor's degree in Biology from Talladega College.

## **Tammy Matthews**

Tammy Matthews is the inmate programs and accreditation manager for the Okaloosa County Department of Corrections. She has been with the department for 20 years. She supervises all inmate programs, including visitation, commissary, education, and re-entry programs. As the accreditation manager, she ensures policies and practices meet or exceed Florida statutes and established FMJS and FCAC standards. Ms. Matthews has conducted assessments for correctional facilities and pre-trial agencies throughout Florida. She earned her undergraduate degree from Emory University and holds a master's degree in clinical psychology from University of West Florida. She is an active member of the FLA-PAC, currently serving as its public relations director. She was selected as the FCAC Accreditation Manager of the Year in 2012 and Team Leader of the Year in 2019. She is a certified accreditation professional (CAP).

## Flora Miller

Flora Miller started her career in state government in 2000 in Public Assistance Eligibility and Public Assistance Fraud Investigations, joining the Office of Inspector General in approximately 2003 as a regional investigator and regional investigator supervisor. She currently serves as both a regional investigator, covering portions of the Central, Northeast, SunCoast, and Southeast Regions, and as the accreditation manager for her agency. Mrs. Miller is a team leader for Inspector General assessments for the Florida Commission for Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA), completing over 25 assessments (mock, formal, and technical assists) as both a team leader and team member. She has completed approximately 20 peer reviews as both a team leader and team member for the Association of Inspectors General (AIG) Peer Review Committee. She is the chair of the AIG's Peer Review Committee. Mrs. Miller is an instructor for the Florida Police Accreditation Coalition (FLA-PAC) and the AIG Institute. She holds certifications as a certified inspector general investigator (CIGI) and certified accreditation professional (CAP). In her downtime, Mrs. Miller is active in the martial arts community with her husband, sanctioning amateur competitive events through the Florida Boxing Commission and in the Bahamas.

## Vie Miller

Vie Miller grew up in Tallahassee, Florida. They graduated from New York University in 2012 with a bachelor's degree in Individualized Study and worked as a manager in Florida's non-profit education and advocacy sector for several years. Vie joined the Records Management Program training team in 2021.

## Melissa Moon

Melissa Moon began her career with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) in December of 2016, she has previously worked in the Firearm Eligibility Bureau and Professional Compliance Section. She then joined the Uniform Crime Reports Program (UCR) in 2020, where she started out assisting with the development and implementation of various UCR programs including the Florida Incident Based Reporting System (FIBRS), the Uniform Arrest Affidavit (UAA), and collection of Uniform Crime Reports Summary data that makes up the crime report statistics that are published today. Currently, she serves as the subject matter expert for the UAA project. In addition to the UAA project, Melissa assists agencies with the transition from Summary reporting to FIBRS.

## **Tawnie Murdoch**

Tawnie Murdoch has been with the Venice Police Department since 2013. She has been a Criminalistics Specialist for almost six years. Prior to that she was Administrative Assistant to the Detective Bureau, and prior to that she was a Dispatcher. As a Criminalistics Specialist, daily duties include Crime Scene investigation and Property & Evidence Custodian. She is a member of IAPE, and is a Certified Property and Evidence Specialist. She received her training from Florida Gulf Coast University, in Fort Myers, FL. She has a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Forensic Studies and a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre. She did her internship in Lee and Collier Counties with Dr. Heather Walsh-Haney, the Forensic Anthropologist who now heads the Forensic program at FGCU. Additional training has been on-the-job and with the CSI Academy in Alachua, FL. She is a wife, soccer mom, film and television enthusiast, and loves to play board games.

## **Cheryl Prevatte**

Ms. Prevatte serves as the Manager of the Criminalistics Division. Daily functions include Property and Evidence, Crime Scene, Exposure Control Officer and Quartermaster. Cheryl joined the Venice Police Department on September 11th, 2000. She was hired in as a crime scene tech, and property and evidence custodian and has been dedicated to these fields for the past 20 years. For a significant portion of those years, she was the sole functioning member of the Criminalistics Division. She used that opportunity to develop many of the organizational tactics which are still in place today and have kept the division running smoothly. On May 10th, 2021 she was promoted to Criminalistics Manager. She is a member of IAPE and is Certified in Property and Evidence Management. She has attended Property and Evidence Management Training and holds many certificates related to her field. She is an animal lover, with experience in the Veterinary Clinical field. She is also a skilled wood-worker and epoxy-resin art, who creates many projects in her free time.

## **William Walls**

William "Billy" Walls is a senior program manager for the Florida Accreditation Office and is responsible for assisting agencies in the Southeast Florida region. He has previously been an active assessor and team leader for CFA and has over twenty years of law enforcement experience. His career began in municipal law enforcement with the Havana Police Department. He then moved to the Tallahassee Police Department. While with TPD, he served as a patrol officer, DARE officer, and fraud investigator. Billy was hired in 2000 by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Inspector General as an investigative lieutenant and in 2002 he was promoted to captain. In 2003, he was promoted to the chief of training in the Division of Law Enforcement. In that position, he was a member of the State Law Enforcement Chiefs Association and a member of the Training Center Directors Association, Chairing Region 15 which oversaw funding for all state law enforcement officer advanced training. Billy holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Flagler College and is instructor certified through the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission.

## Meghan Warman

Meghan Warman started her career in the private sector, working as a Customer Service Agent with Florida Power Corporation, Knowledge Manager/Corporate Trainer with Arthur Anderson and a Project Manager with Certegy/Fidelity Information Services. In 2013 she started with the Palatka Police Department as a part time clerk in the Traffic and Code Enforcement divisions. In 2016 she moved to the Professional Standards division as the Accreditation Manager and is now also the Executive Assistant to the Chief of Police. She began working at the St. Augustine Beach Police Department as the Accreditation Manager in 2021. Meghan currently serves as an assessor and team lead for law enforcement assessments. She was awarded Assessor of the Year in 2018 and earned her Certified Accreditation Professional (CAP) designation in 2019. When not working Meghan loves to travel internationally. She has visited 15 countries so far and hopes to add to that number soon.

## Dawn Wever

Dawn Wever, M.A., LMHC, is a licensed mental health counselor and earned her master's degree in counseling psychology from St. Leo University. She works with adults, children, families, therapists, and law enforcement statewide. Ms. Wever is passionate about teaching mental health awareness and effective treatments, communication skills and de-escalation techniques. In her private practice, she specializes in treating depression, anxiety, complex PTSD and relational problems. Ms. Wever has been the primary instructor and coordinator for the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training for law enforcement in Hernando county since 2014 and taught CIT for the Citrus County Sheriff's Office from 2016-2020. Ms. Wever presented at the Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association's Adolescent statewide-conferences in 2010 and 2011, Mental Health First Aid for the State of Florida Department of Health for several county health departments in Florida from 2014 - 2017, Dialectical Behavior Therapy Skills for Therapists for Big Bear Behavioral Health in 2017, and Mental Health for Law Enforcement and Critical Incident Response Training for the FLA-PAC conference in 2018. Ms. Wever served as the executive board vice president in 2013 and president in 2014 for the Hernando County chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).

## Wanda White

Wanda White retired in 2016 after 41+ years with the Escambia County Sheriff's Office (ECSO) and Escambia County Corrections. She served as accreditation manager for both law enforcement and detention at the sheriff's office and as the accreditation manager for Escambia County Corrections. Wanda has over 20 years of experience in accreditation and has earned and maintained the designation of Certified Accreditation Professional for 10 years. She has been an active assessor conducting 50+ assessments for CFA, FCAC, FPAP, and FLA-TAC, usually as team leader. Wanda has been actively involved with FLA-PAC, serving on the executive board and many committees. She currently serves as chair of the CAP Committee. Wanda has been a member of the FMJS Subcommittee/Task Force since 2003. Prior to her assignment to accreditation at the ECSO, Wanda worked in administration, operations, investigations, training, human resources, traffic, records, detention, public records, and planning & research. Wanda is currently the CEO of Accreditation Consultants of Florida, LLC.