



Brionna Taylor-Garrett Police Social Worker Hodgenville Police Department, Kentucky Age: 22



Kaitlyn Garcia Sergeant Delta Police Department, British Columbia Age: 25

Social Worker BRIONNA TAYLOR-GARRETT began her career at the Hodgenville Police Department (HPD) as an intern and worked tirelessly to obtain funding for her position with the department as a police social worker. In her role, Ms. Taylor-Garrett responds to certain calls for service that would usually tie up a patrol officer or HPD's single school resource officer, bringing resources from around the community and region to help fix the issue. Her goal is to expand her services to make HPD the first agency in Kentucky to have an in-house police social worker who offers immediate counseling services. Ms. Taylor-Garrett used funding from a grant received from a local wellness coalition to connect HPD and all community partners with needed resources by developing an application called Larue County Hotline and Tips (LCHAT) that connects community members to the resources they may need.

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My motivation for this line of work stems from aspiring to be the leader, mentor, and person I needed as a child. As a young child, Ms. Taylor-Garrett was exposed to police officers in unfortunate circumstances due to generational arrests within her family. However, the kindness of some officers inspired her to find a way to have a positive impact on others. Working as a social worker embedded in a police department allows her

to serve and assist her community in an innovative way.

Ms. Taylor-Garrett has only held her formal position for one year, but she has already garnered accolades and obtained fellowships and grants to continue funding her position and drive change at the agency and in her community. Sergeant **KAITLYN GARCIA** currently serves in the Major Crime Section for the Delta Police Department (DPD). Her previous experience with the DPD includes work as a patrol officer, where she became the primary field trainer for recruit constables on her shift; an undercover operator and drug expert; and a detective constable. Sgt. Garcia has received three deputy chief commendations for her command triangle roles in operations related to a large-scale drug project targeting a gang chapter. In 2022, Sgt. Garcia was provided the opportunity to become the acting sergeant for the Major Crime Section, where, within the first 60 days, she successfully navigated her first homicide investigation as both the sergeant and primary investigator.

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I have never lost sight of the importance of opening the door for those who will come behind me, and so I remain committed to doing the hard, sometimes uncomfortable, work. Sgt. Garcia is a trailblazer, advocate, and ally for diversity initiatives. Recently she cofounded the DPD's Proud Initiative, which provides an inclusive environment to support DPD's 2SLGBTQ+ members, while increasing positive police connections with the Delta 2SLGBTQ+ community.

A previous NCAA Division I athlete, Sgt. Garcia volunteers as a softball, baseball, and now soccer coach. Additionally, she is part of the British Columbia Women

in Law Enforcement (BCWLE), where she serves as both a mentor and board executive for women in law enforcement. In 2022, she was approached to stand up DPD's first formalized mentorship program, which she and her colleague designed and successfully implemented.

Sgt. Garcia's commitment to excellence makes her an exemplary employee and she has single-handily advanced equity and inclusiveness in the DPD by "coming out" publicly in uniform and through her work to build connections.





Alreem Hussain Explosives Expert Assistant Dubai Police Headquarters, UAE Age: 26



Yongwoo Seo Inspector Korean National Police Agency Age: 29

**ALREEM HUSSAIN**, an explosives assistant expert, has spent her entire four-year law enforcement career at the Dubai Police's General Department of Protective Security and Emergency, specifically in the Explosives Security Department. She is the first female officer to attain this position within the UAE. She has actively participated in numerous operations and tasks, including identifying, diagnosing, and mitigating explosive-related problems. Her role extends to post-blast investigations, where she analyzes explosive effects, identifies IED components, and collects evidence. Additionally, she has played an integral role in security search missions to ensure the security of various events and provide a high level of assurance in the Dubai police command.

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I am motivated and enthused to broaden my knowledge and explore theories to deliver technical excellence with my organization and serve the community. Ms. Hussain has attended numerous incidents and managed operations related to a wide variety of explosive materials. Her contributions have been instrumental in implementing the Explosives Security Department's SOPs, and she has participated in several international security scenarios.

In addition, Ms. Hussain was nominated by senior leaders to lead the Women's Affairs Department, and she is a member of the Women's Police Council in Dubai Police, where

she successfully empowered women in explosive fields and contributed to achieving the agency's gender equality objectives. She established the first all-women team specializing in security searches and explosives disposal.

Ms. Hussain holds an MSc degree in Explosive Ordnance Engineering. She has received acknowledgments and appreciation from the Swedish Police, the U.S. Navy, and U.S. Department of Justice for her efforts in the field of bomb disposal. She is a member of numerous teams and professional bodies, the most prominent of which are the Institute of Explosives Engineers and Collective Awareness to UXO. Inspector **YONGWOO SEO** is assigned to the Multilateral Cooperation Section, Foreign Affairs Bureau of the Korean National Police Agency (KNPA). Insp. Seo has been responsible for global cooperation between international organizations like ASEANAPOL (Association of Southeast Asian Nations Chiefs of Police) and IACP with the KNPA. He has carried out the duties faithfully and successfully completed various collaborative projects between these organizations, such the designation of IACP's Asia-Pacific Regional Office in the KNPA. He also led the Police Summit Task Force team at the 2021 and 2023 International Police Summits (IPS) in Seoul. The 2021 IPS was attended by 136 high-ranking delegation members from 37 countries.

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The direction for changing our world begins with oneself, and then extends to the family, local community, and ultimately, the nation. To promote regional police cooperation, Insp. Seo's team planned the attendance of the KNPA director general for foreign at the 40th ASEANAPOL conference, held in Cambodia. As the dialogue partner of ASEANAPOL, Insp. Seo played a crucial role in this accomplishment. Following a conversation with the ASEANPOL Secretariat, he led the team to plan the Korea-

ASEAN Crime Investigation Capacity Building Program to share KNPA's expertise in forensic science and cybercrime investigations.

As early as middle school, Insp. Seo aspired to a law enforcement career, intrigued by the role of the police In maintaining social order and protecting people from criminals. He finds himself motivated by the commitment, passion, and service of his colleagues.





Nicholas Dally Lieutenant Windsor Police Department, Connecticut Age: 29



**Megan Wade, PsyD** Reserve Deputy Oakland County Sheriff's Office, Michigan Age: 30

Lieutenant **NICHOLAS DALLY** was born in Jamaica and grew up listening to members of his community dream of moving to the United States. At the age of 12, he had the opportunity to make that move and pursue a life filled with opportunities. When a family member was killed and justice went unserved, Lt. Dally knew he wanted to help victims of crimes, which led him to a career in law enforcement.

Lt. Dally joined the Windsor Police Department in 2016 after serving eight years in the U.S. Marine Corp. As a patrol officer, Lt. Dally sought out opportunities to mentor community members and police officers, and as a sergeant, Lt. Dally mentored officers in his unit and encouraged them to achieve their goals. He simultaneously worked diligently to create innovative and engaging morale boosting programs for his unit, such as an "activity bingo" sheet.

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I decided to become a police officer to help bring closure to victims of crimes and relatives seeking justice for their loved ones. Lt. Dally currently oversees planning and research for his police department. He leads the department efforts in attaining law enforcement accreditation and serves as the coordinator of his department's peer support program, commander of the honor guard unit, commander of the North Central Municipal Emergency Services Team, the head of his department's

recruitment committee, and the head of their social media team.

Lt. Dally's long-term goal is to continue to rise through the ranks, while maintaining his remarkability as a colleague, employee, and leader. He has received multiple certificates and awards for his performance, and is recognized by his peers, subordinates, and supervisors as an exceptional servant leader. Mental health and wellness are increasingly important in our communities today, and Reserve Deputy Dr. **MEGAN WADE** has the advanced skills in mental health and experience in the critical police training needed to tackle these issues.

Dr. Wade has a doctoral degree in clinical psychology; after attending the Oakland County Reserve Police Academy, she was sworn in as a reserve deputy in 2021. She has attended several advanced training classes for crisis, stress, and mental health for both psychology in general and specific to law enforcement.

In her first years as a licensed police psychologist, Dr. Wade has responded to multiple crisis situations, including two mass shootings (at a high school and university), a murder-suicide incident, and a line-of-duty death, among others. In each of these situations, she has had to assist in making death notifications, coordinating family reunifications, and conducting stress/safety debriefs for responders and officials at crime scenes, as well as dispatchers.

/// // If I want to help
// bring about change
to a system, I need
to be fully involved
in it instead of
talking from the
safety of my office.
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Dr. Wade also assists the hostage/crisis negotiations team and works road patrol and special events for the agency. In addition to her work with the sheriff's office, she has collaborated with other first responders and experts at the Detroit, Michigan, Police Department and the International Association of Firefighters.

Serving as a reserve deputy has given Dr. Wade another level of credibility in getting buy-in from her law enforcement clients and all those she interacts with. Taking a boots-onthe-ground approach has given her more field experience in just two years that some providers see in an entire career.





Abdalla Alkindi Director, Information Security Branch (Captain) Sharjah Police, UAE Age: 31



## Saad Ahmed Almarzooqi

Major Abu Dhabi Police General Headquarters, UAE Age: **31** 

Since the time he entered policing as a student officer in 2011, Director of the Information Security Branch (Captain) **ABDALLA ALKINDI** has excelled in all areas of performance, from getting top scores in academics and research to being assigned directly to specialty units after completing his academy training. Capt. Alkindi earned his Bachelor of Police Sciences degree in 2015, followed by a Master of Police Administration degree in 2021 while continuing to work in the field.

Capt. Alkindi is currently studying as a PhD student at the Academy of Police Sciences, where he earned recognition as the "youngest certified lecturer" for co-teaching an educational course on preparing future leaders.

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Motivation in policing is more than an appreciation from the senior leadership, but rather the feeling that the police officer always prioritizes the interest of society. Early in his career, Capt. Alkindi spent time working in criminal investigations, followed by an assignment to the Electronic Services and Communications Department, where he managed the Visual Early Warning project in which hundreds of facilities were linked to a network of cameras for crime prevention. His management efforts helped increase the community's reported feeling of safety to 98 percent.

As the first Sharjah police officer to lead the Sharjah Youth Council, Capt. Alkindi

contributed to the implementation of more than 30 youth initiatives and activities, including the Entrepreneurship Hackathon that drew 300 participants. He has also pioneered initiatives for the Sharjah Police Youth Council, such as the 100 Programmers initiative, which aims to develop the efficiency of young officers from Sharjah Police In the field of software, data analysis, cybersecurity, and interface/smart app development.

Major SAAD ALMARZOOQI currently serves as the head of the International Anti-Money Laundering Cases Branch within the Criminal Investigation and Detection Directorate of the Abu Dhabi Police Force. He leads a team of eight officers and oversees facilitating the exchange of intelligence in collaboration with many international bodies, such as INTERPOL and EGMONT. He is the first Emirati police officer to become both a certified international expert in the field of anti-money laundering crimes, and an international assessor for the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the FATF for East Asia and North Africa. He exceeded his targets of the detection of unknown crimes and created a comprehensive database of important money laundering cases. This database contributed to the increase in convictions from a monthly average of 3 to 14. Maj. Almarzoogi has successfully uncovered 183 money laundering cases related to crimes such as drugs and financial embezzlement.

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I strive to gain knowledge at the highest levels, particularly in areas related to antimoney laundering and white-collar crimes, through applied theory and investigative practice. Maj. Almarzooqi always wanted a job dedicated to the service of his homeland. When he discovered his capabilities in the field of financial accounting, it became clear that he needed to combine both interests, specializing in a career in combating financial crimes and money laundering.

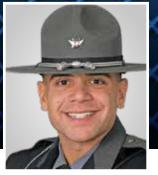
Maj. Almarzooqi is the recipient of numerous awards and special recognition including the appointment as the official spokesperson for the Ministry of Interior in the assessment of the

FATF in France, Zambia, Morocco, and Mauritius and as a representative in the international EGMONT meetings. He is completing his doctorate in money laundering at UAE University.





Rhona Hunt Superintendent Metropolitan Police, UK Age: 32



Caio Hermann Trooper Ohio State Highway Patrol Age: 32

Superintendent **RHONA HUNT's** first experience in policing was gained while attending University College London, where she volunteered as a special constable to fulfill her childhood dream of becoming a police officer. After graduating, she joined the Metropolitan Police as a full-time officer while also going on to earn a master's degree from the University of Cambridge.

Superintendent Hunt has demonstrated a significant impact in every role she has served, a trait that helped her rise through the ranks to become chief inspector at age 30 and attain the rank of superintendent a year later, becoming one of the youngest senior leaders in the Metropolitan Police.

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My vision is for a police service that serves the public with compassion, listens, learns, and has legitimacy among all communities. Community policing has been a focal point of Supt. Hunt's work, along with striving to build a more positive view of law enforcement. Her postgraduate research has influenced significant policy changes within her agency, including the implementation of groundbreaking community-led training for officers. Supt. Hunt's leadership has transformed multiple teams across departments and has steadied an otherwise

turbulent relationship with communities. Her success is reflected in the numerous awards and commendations her work has garnered.

Supt. Hunt also serves as a board member on the Metropolitan Police Ethics Board and a hostage and crisis negotiator, while continuing to mentor others. Known as an inspiring and dynamic leader, she is an excellent ambassador for the Metropolitan Police and aspiring women in leadership. Trooper **CAIO HERMANN** was drawn to law enforcement after his family immigrated to the United States from Brazil and police officers visited his school in Boston, Massachusetts. He began his law enforcement career with the Ohio State Highway Patrol after graduating from the training academy in 2019. In just four years, he has tremendously impacted many lives and provided the utmost professional service to the public. One example in particular is the time he was able to calmly communicate with a suicidal individual poised to jump from a bridge, managing to talk him down from the ledge after which Trooper Hermann connected him with a mental health provider.

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I wanted to live my life in a way that allowed me to participate in what makes this country great and serve the people. He recently completed training to become a Drug Recognition Expert, and after receiving a report of a reckless driver, Trooper Herman initiated a stop and placed the driver through a sobriety test. As the stop went on, Trooper Hermann recognized something more was wrong and contacted EMS. EMS cleared the driver; however, he continued to worsen, and

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Trooper Hermann chose to transport him to the hospital, ultimately leading to the detection of a blain breed that would likely have been fatal.

He has also served as a recruitment officer and field training officer. Trooper Hermann provides public service both on and off duty. He attends many educational details with youth, providing guidance, education, and direction to make good life choices.

Trooper Hermann has earned multiple awards and recognitions for his performance including State Trooper of the Year in 2021.





Bhavna Gupta Superintendent of Police – Surguja District Chhattisgarh, India Age: 32



**Tiffiny D. Anderson** Sergeant DeKalb County Police Department, Georgia

Age: 32

Superintendent **BHAVNA GUPTA** grew up in rural Punjab, India, and as the only child of two doctors, she was always inclined to seek a career in public service. Her own experiences growing up and a strong sense of discipline naturally led her to a career in law enforcement.

From the time she entered the National Police Academy (NPA), Supt. Gupta has consistently been a top performer in all she does. She was recognized as the best all-around trainee in her NPA class in 2014, and the best all-around Sports Person in Foundation Course out of 300 India service officers.

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The only way to find happiness is to give happiness by helping others. Law enforcement allows me to positively touch millions of lives. Supt. Gupta's policing career has encompassed multiple very challenging assignments, including cases involving crime, mass violence, extremism, and murder in one of the most densely populated areas of India. She progressed to supervising the Detective Department where she established a new Cyber Police Unit. Supt. Gupta has also initiated a statewide, award-winning program to

protect the elderly, training for young tribal women in martial arts, and a program where undercover women officers would protect young girls from teasing and crime, which is particularly important is very male-dominated culture.

In her current role as superintendent, she maintains a compassionate yet strict approach to policing using a S.M.A.R.T. (Strict, Mobile, Alert, Responsive, and Tech-friendly) approach. From modernizing complaint management and establishing a new centralized control room to developing a program to combat drug problems and mentoring young officers, Supt. Gupta is a committed and authentic leader. Sergeant **TIFFINY ANDERSON** joined the DeKalb County Police Department in July 2014 after graduating from college. She is a certified crisis intervention officer and also served as a field training officer prior to her promotion to sergeant in September 2021.

Throughout her eight-year career in law enforcement, Sgt. Anderson is often seen speaking with and working with members of the community to build a better relationship with the people she serves. She makes it a point to be involved in activities both on and off duty to achieve this goal. This is an important objective for her, as she grew up in a high-crime neighborhood where positive interaction between the police and public did not exist, and her background drives her to be a voice for victims of violence.

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I feel fulfilled knowing that every interaction I have with someone has the ability to change the course of society for the better. Her interpersonal skills have also helped Sgt. Anderson perform her duties with a high level of confidence, especially in critical situations. She has been specifically recognized for her ability to resolve different types of crisis situations, often without using force. One example involved talking with an armed suicidal subject at length until the individual surrendered a weapon and

agreed to seek mental health assistance. Another situation centered around her pursuit of a homicide suspect and drawing the person's attention, putting herself at greater risk in order to allow a subordinate to get close enough to detain the subject.

Sgt. Anderson possesses an inherent ability to lead from the front while also encouraging those she works with to strive for improvement. She displays this in her daily roll call briefs and her coaching of her officers through positive, interactive communication.





Kristopher Thoreson Lieutenant Green Bay Police Department, Wisconsin Age: 33



Brandon Love Sergeant Houston Police Department, Texas Age: 34

After earning a bachelor's degree and attending a police academy, Lieutenant **KRISTOPHER THORESON** joined the Green Bay Police Department in 2013, following in his father's footsteps as a police officer.

In his 10 years with the department, Lt. Thoreson has continually worked to improve upon his knowledge. He selftrained himself on important systems at the department and helped reduce calls by assisting in managing the retail theft/AXON portal program. His broad skills, along with his remarkable memory, have made him a resource for many coworkers.

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I like working with others to help resolve problems and bring a sense of relief or peacefulness to their life. Lt. Thoreson currently serves as a field training supervisor and is a member of the Professional Standards Division where he assists in recruitment. Additionally, he assists in internal affairs investigations. Previously, he was a crisis negotiator, and a crisis team intervention coordinator. His efforts in crisis intervention have also led him to serve as a co-

coordinator and train more than 30 officers from various regional departments and get the program recognized and certified with CIT International, obtaining access for more advanced training for officers. He's viewed as a mentor and leader and serves as an example of ethical policing, leadership, and commitment for his peers across the agency.

Lt. Thoreson has completed multiple local, state, and federal training courses for investigative and instructor certification. In addition, he is part of the county's OWI Treatment Court. He is a prior Green Bay Police Department Officer of the Year (2016) awardee, and, despite working the night shift for almost a decade, he consistently participated in community groups, specialty police teams, and volunteer events. Sergeant **BRANDON LOVE** is a man who embodies the principles of hard work and resilience, refusing to succumb to the challenges that life presents. Growing up in a socioeconomically disadvantaged neighborhood where challenges relating to violence and substance abuse were prevalent significantly influenced his perspective on law enforcement and fueled his determination to enact positive transformation. Witnessing both constructive and adverse instances involving police officers, he was motivated to embark on a career in law enforcement, driven by a desire to bring about meaningful change.

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I now radiate as a beacon of light, ensuring public safety across diverse communities. I am grateful for the privilege to enact positive change. Following a degree in political science from Dillard University, his passion for law enforcement never dimmed. His exceptional academic performance earned him a coveted fellowship at the Institute of International Public Policy, where he was selected as one of only 15 students from across the United States. Moreover, during a transformative study abroad program in Geneva, Switzerland, Sgt. Love delved

into the realms of multilateral diplomacy and international justice with the School for International Training.

Sgt. Love ardently endeavors to bridge the communitypolice divide. As president of the Afro-American Police Officers' League within the Houston Police Department, Sgt. Love proudly champions the voice of more than 900 departmental personnel from all backgrounds and is committed to creating a positive and inclusive environment within the department.





**Kyle Baker** Sergeant Pittsburg Police Department, California

Age: 34



Shaikha Al-Ali Head of Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Technology Unit Ajman Police General Headquarters, UAE Age: 34

Sergeant **KYLE BAKER** currently leads the Pittsburg Police Department's recruiting, hiring, training, and retention program. This role is the perfect fit for Sgt. Baker, as he finds motivation in training, mentoring, and coaching; in fact, he created the first ever Pittsburg Polic Department Recruiting and Retention Team, which is an idea think tank and production driver consisting of 12 sworn and professional civilian staff members.

During his 13-year career, Sgt. Baker has served as a patrol officer, detective, patrol sergeant and detective sergeant of the Special Investigations Unit, training instructor, and tactical team leader. He was a member of the Contra Costa County Human Trafficking Task Force and was instrumental in a crime reduction campaign during the summer of 2022 that reduced violent crime by over 50 percent and removed more than 250 firearms from circulation in the city. Sgt. Baker also has a passion for combating human trafficking and travels the state of California teaching police officers, victim advocates, and district attorneys about human trafficking investigations.

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I have had my share of accomplishments, but I have learned the most from my failures, and have used those to motivate me to grow and adapt.

Sgt. Baker was drawn to a career in law enforcement because of his role model, his father. He grew up in and around police stations and was drawn to the profession because of the connection that it gave him to the community. He is continuing that drive for connection through consistently attending community events, hosting social media Q&As, and working alongside the school resource officers he also supervises. Sgt. Baker is the

recipient of several awards and recognitions from his city and department.

Following the same path as most of her family, Unit Head **SHAIKHA AL-ALI** chose to work in the field of law enforcement for several reasons, most notably, the desire to serve and protect others while upholding the law and pursuing justice.

Initially working as an IT programmer for the Ajman Police on various projects, Ms. Al-Ali earned an MBA in 2014, along with several professional course certifications. She continues to improve her knowledge and skills, earning a master's degree in the science of artificial intelligence in 2022 and attending dozens of training courses, workshops, and conferences; she is currently completing her PhD in the UK.

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Work in the field of law enforcement is a humanitarian act to serve others, achieve justice, and serve the general community. Ms. Al-Ali's work at the Ajman Police has been equally impressive with key contributions to many initiatives. She collaborated with the Electronic Service Team to program systems for artificial intelligence and facial recognition and the development of the Smart Automated Traffic Control System for road safety and violations. She was the first female

employee to be certified as an innovation consultant and has worked on many strategic objectives for the Ministry of Justice to improve criminal case follow-up and reduce the time required for security approvals for arrest and search warrants from six hours to fifteen minutes.

Ms. Al-Ali has received national and international recognition for her efforts on several different projects and has personally been recognized at Ajman Police with multiple commendations, two promotions and a special honor from the commander-in-chief, earning her the current role as the head of Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Technology.





Bryson K. Lystrup Investigations Corporal/ Detective Lehi City Police Department, Utah

Age: 35



Tanner Muckenthaler Sergeant Brandson Police Department, Missouri Age: 35

Corporal **BRYSON K. LYSTRUP** is a detective in the Special Victims Unit Division of the Lehi City Police Department (LCPD). He was hired as a lateral officer who previously served as an investigations sergeant with the Utah County's Attorney's Office. He is devoted to protecting the vulnerable, in one case spending months conducting interviews and collecting evidence on a college man who was soliciting nude content from juvenile females and threatening them. Due to Cpl. Lypstrup's dedicated work and collaboration with other agencies, the perpetrator was identified across the country and taken into custody, and numerous other victims were identified.

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I look for ways where people outside of law enforcement can connect with an officer, share a laugh, and see the profession in a positive way.

Cpl. Lystrup has created an online persona on various social media platforms to advance police work and has amassed a large number of followers. He also earned a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice while working full-time as a police officer. He has since gained part-time employment as an adjunct professor at his alma mater, teaching future law enforcement officers, forensic technicians, lawyers, and advocates.

Cpl. Lystrup finds motivation, purpose, and joy when interacting with his community, whether it's throwing a football around; handing out stickers; or, in one case, visiting a small child who was scared of the police because she saw her mother cry following a police department-delivered death notification. He has received a number of awards and recognition and was asked to be the face of the U.S. police during the iHeart Radio Living Room Concert for America in the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Sergeant **TANNER MUCKENTHALER** currently serves as a field training supervisor and lead defensive tactics instructor with the Branson Police Department. Sgt. Muckenthaler has dedicated himself to leadership and the betterment of first responders in the region and is well respected among his peers and officers as an intelligent patrol supervisor who is fair and always encourages growth and development focused on progressive policing principles.

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I found law enforcement to truly be a noble profession that would provide me the opportunity to make a positive impact in my community. Sgt. Muckenthaler has positively impacted southwest Missouri in a way that few others have. By securing a grant from the Skaggs Foundations, he single-handedly developed and launched the Ozark Mountain Peer Support Team. He worked with partner agencies and developed a multiagency, multidisciplinary model that would ensure that all first responders in the region had access to peer support. A recent success story

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of the peer support team came after an officer-involved shooting, in which individual peer support specialists were available for each of the three officers, as well as the involved dispatchers, firefighters, and paramedics—one was even available for a records clerk who knew the deceased.

Sgt. Muckenthaler also developed an electronic tracking system to identify and provide resources to those experiencing homelessness in the region. He also worked with his fellow officers to identify and refer people experiencing homelessness to mental health professionals who would respond to a person's last known location.

Sgt. Muckenthaler has earned several departmental, city, and state commendations, to include the Medal of Valor, and was requested to present his peer support team model to the 2022 Missouri State CIT Conference.





Brandon Vande Hei Lieutenant Oneida Police Department, Wisconsin Age: 35



## **Myles Harris Cook**

Training Coordinator Walters State Regional Law Enforcement Training Academy, Tennessee Age: 36

Lieutenant **BRANDON VANDE HEI** has moved up through the ranks during his 13-year career with the Oneida Nation Police Department from dispatcher to lieutenant. Lt. Vande Hei currently leads a task force for the Wisconsin Department of Criminal Investigation (DCI) Native American Drug and Gang Initiative (NADGI). In the position of NADGI team leader, Lt. Vande Hei coordinated the nine tribal law enforcement agencies in the state of Wisconsin and acted as a liaison to the DCI for crime abatement related to gangs, drugs, and firearms within tribal communities.

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I believe healthy officers, both physically and mentally, are key to a healthy department and community. Lt. Vande Hei has also led his agency's development of an in-house, holistic wellness program based on best practices in law enforcement wellness and traditional Oneida cultural values. The program partners with a team of three licensed psychologists, is steered by an advisory group composed of agency employees, and works with a traditional Oneida Faith

Keeper to develop training, interventions, programming, and resources for employee wellness. Through his leadership in this initiative, Lt. Vande Hei acts, in the most traditional sense, as a warrior for the people.

Lt. Vande Hei was born and raised on the Onieda Reservation, a location he would later patrol. Growing up, he had a first-hand look at several of the issues and challenges facing the Oneida community. This experience, combined with his passion for his community and people, led to his choosing a career in law enforcement. Training Coordinator **MYLES H. COOK** has not had what one might consider the conventional law enforcement career. After earning his master's degree, he started his first assignment with the Carter County Sheriff's Office in the corrections unit. He held six different positions within the agency, ranging from patrol to command-level operations, reaching the rank of patrol lieutenant. He has also served on task forces involving federal and local agencies. During this time, he taught as an adjunct instructor at a local university. In addition, Mr. Cook served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve as a squad leader.

Walking the walk' with new officers, building those relationships, and showing this noble career is a gift to be cherished—this motivates me daily. Beginning in 2019, Mr. Cook's career took a path toward full-time instruction when he became the director/lead instructor for law enforcement and corrections at the Tennessee College of Applied Technology. He developed and taught a training program that has been recognized for its effective merits and was implemented at multiple Tennessee technical and community colleges in 2022.

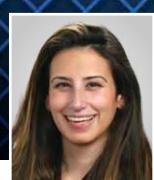
He joined Walters State in 2022 as the training coordinator, where he redesigned the physical training program and transformed the firearms training model, leading to measurable improved outcomes for graduating cadets. Perhaps more impressive, he accomplished this without alienating long-time instructors and has become a source of motivation for instructors and cadets alike.

As a result of his dedication and innovation, Mr. Cook has received multiple awards and commendations in both law enforcement and the military and has been tapped to serve as a representative on key criminal justice boards.





Shaikh Khaled Rashed Abdulla AlKhalifa General Director of Sentence Enforcement & Alternative Sanctions Directorate Ministry of Interior, Bahrain Age: 36



Karen N. Baroudi Sheriff Operations Assistant III/Foreign Relations Specialist Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, California Age: 36

General Director SHAIKH KHALED RASHED ABDULLA ALKHALIFA currently serves as the inaugural general director of the Sentence Enforcement & Alternative Sanctions Directorate of the Kingdom of Bahrain's Ministry of Interior. His motivation and dedication to pursue an alternative sentencing program in Bahrain benefited inmates significantly by providing them a second chance and path to reintegration into society. While under General Director Alkhalifa's oversight, the Alternative Sentencing Program was expanded by the king of Bahrain in 2021. The expansion applied alternative sentencing to all inmates regardless of time served and was praised by several international human rights organizations. General Director Alkhalifa's most notable work has been his pursuit and implementation of two programs focused on training inmates in skills and capabilities that would help them become productive members of the community, thus preventing recidivism.

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Overall, I am not merely looking after the inmates' welfare and their families, but also the better future of my beloved nation. General Director Alkhalifa was drawn to law enforcement by his role model, his father. He is motivated and rewarded by effecting change in the lives of inmates and witnessing the looks of gratitude on their and their families' faces. He has been a strong advocate of providing second chances and protecting the rights of inmates and detainees.

General Director Alkhalifa is the recipient of the Prince Salman bin Hamad Medal for Medical Merit; The Police Medal for Distinguished Service; the Bahrain Police Centenarian Medallion; and the Certificate of Appreciation from His Excellency Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, the minister of interior, for the success of alternative sanctions implementations and *Fael Khair* "Person of Goodwill" project applications. Serving the international community in any city is always challenging. Doing so for the largest U.S. sheriff's department in an extremely diverse region takes it to a whole new level, as Foreign Relations Specialist **KAREN BAROUDI** knows firsthand.

Ms. Baroudi joined the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department (LASD) in 2009. In her current position. Ms. Baroudi serves as a point of contact for all foreign governments and coordinates foreign police requests for assistance. Her work also includes liaising with the Los Angeles Consular Corps, which is composed of approximately 100 consulates in the area. Ensuring that the LASD fulfills its notification and access obligations to the Consular Corps under the Vienna Convention is paramount to Ms. Baroudi's work. Additionally, she has arranged officer exchanges and coordinated cross-agency training on a variety of policing topics.

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We are blessed to live in a country with a functioning political system, with rule of law, respect for differing opinions, and the opportunity to make something of oneself. Ms. Baroudi's command of multiple languages and her knowledge of various cultures have proven valuable in many complex situations. Her expertise was recently called upon following a January 2023 shooting in the diverse community of Monterey Park, California. Amid the chaos, Ms. Baroudi fielded hundreds of inquiries from foreign governments, provided information to the U.S. State Department, and ensured the sheriff's department effec-

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tively addressed the international matters at hand.

As an immigrant and a survivor of the Lebanese Civil War, Ms. Baroudi views working with law enforcement as her chance to serve and open doors. In 14 years on the job, she has received multiple commendations and awards for her accomplishments, all while staying rooted in the belief of service to the community.





Mohammad A. Alqassim, PhD Head of Forensic Engineering Section (Lieutenant Colonel) Dubai Police Headquarters, UAE Age: 36



#### Charles Bradley III Judicial Security Inspector

Inspector United States Marshals Service Age: 36

Lieutenant Colonel **MOHAMMAD A. ALQASSIM**, PhD, worked to establish the first forensic engineering lab in the region, where he is the section head, as well serving as the health and safety manager and risk coordinator for the General Department of Forensic Science and Criminology. In addition, he was the first Dubai police officer to attain certification from the International Board of Forensic Engineering Sciences.

Driven by a passion to make a difference in his community, Dr. Alqassim started his full-time work for Dubai Police in 2004 while simultaneously working to attain a postgraduate diploma in police science and criminology and earning a PhD in science and engineering at the age of 29. As a leader, he is noted for a natural ability to inspire and motivate others while leading by example.

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Every day presents a new challenge and opportunity to learn and improve my skills ... I am constantly learning and growing. Dr. Alqassim has volunteered with several organizations, both locally and outside the UAE, demonstrating his commitment to aiding the wellbeing of others. As a result of his impactful research in science and engineering, Dr. Alqassim is also a member of the Arab Youth Center's Researchers Council.

Dr. Alqassim represents the Dubai Police in several international professional organizations, and he has written published articles in peerreviewed journals, as well as serving as founding member of the first Dubai Police Scientists Council. Dr. Alqassim is also a member of the ASTM E58 committee on Forensic Engineering and ASCE committee of Forensic Practices. He is a graduate of the Mohammed Bin Rashid Center for Leadership Development (MBRCLD) and has been honored with multiple awards.

Judicial Security Inspector (JSI) CHARLES BRADLEY III is responsible for implementing physical security measures and mitigating threats to a myriad of United States Marshals Service (USMS) protected persons, facilities, and events. He oversees all USMS missions that ensure the safety and security of 14 federal facilities and their occupants in the Eastern District of Virginia. He also directly manages the training and contract oversight of more than 95 court security officers assigned throughout the state of Virginia. Over a 14-year career, JSI Bradley has regularly demonstrated leadership, flexibility, adaptability, and professionalism in carrying out USMS missions while assigned to Operations, Fugitive Investigations, and Judicial Protection. He dedicates a lot of his time to his local community while shedding a positive light on law enforcement, including giving talks at schools, scouting organizations, and youth clubs and creating the Eastern District of Virginia's internship program.

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I believe it is important for minority children to see police officers who look like them and are making positive changes in and outside of the community. JSI Bradley decided to pursue a career in law enforcement after having several significant yet unfounded interactions with the police as a youth. He made it his goal to change the narrative toward law enforcement. His motivation stems from the potential of being the one ripple that causes change within law enforcement.

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JSI Bradley has been nominated for USMS Employee

of the Year for three consecutive years, as well as being the recipient of many other community and USMS awards. He is dedicated to health and fitness, placing five years consecutively in Virginia's Law Enforcement Fitness Competition, inspiring others, and being selected to participate in a USMS recruitment video.





Jonathan Herring Detective Jeffersonville Police Department, Indiana Age: 37



Christopher Shaw Chief of Police University of North Texas at Dallas Age: 37

Detective **JONATHAN HERRING** is currently assigned to the Jeffersonville Police Department's (JPD) Major Crimes Section, Crimes Against Children. He transferred from the Louisville, Kentucky, Police Department in 2020 and immediately adjusted to the Investigative Division with the JPD and attained excellent results.

Det. Herring's work ethic has been second to none. He has tirelessly worked to bring criminal cases against all who would seek to exploit and harm children. He has prepared an astronomical number of cases for criminal prosecution against child molesters and abusers of victims who are otherwise unable to protect themselves. He personally attends all his forensic interviews with child victims and works closely with the Clark County Prosecutor's Office to see that he prepares cases for the best chance of obtaining criminal convictions, as evidenced by 21+ cases being closed with successful prosecution in 2022 alone. He believes that the families of victims deserve 100 percent effort during an investigation and makes himself available to them 24/7, and he has built important relationships with multidisciplinary experts and federal partners.

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# I believe victims of crime deserve to be heard and justice should be fought for on their behalf.

Det. Herring is well respected by his peers as a seasoned investigator who assists others in Major Crimes regularly. Additionally, Det. Herring is a founding member of his department's Officer Wellness Unit and has taken a leadership role in peer support.

He has won numerous

awards for his work, including a 2023 Legendary Hero Award by the Kosair Charities Child Advocacy Center. Chief **CHRISTOPHER SHAW** began his career in law enforcement with his first job as a correctional officer while he was completing his bachelor's degree. He then relocated back to his hometown of Dallas, where he became a police officer at the University of North Texas in 2009.

Early on, Chief Shaw wore many different hats on the job in addition to being a patrol officer. He was also a criminal investigator and training coordinator and assisted with many administrative functions to review and update the department's general orders and training materials.

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I chose the career of law-enforcement because I wanted to be a catalyst for change, bridging the gap between law enforcement and community relations. Chief Shaw was promoted to chief of police/emergency management in 2018. In his current role, he has increased the hiring of officers and led the effort to obtain certification for the department as contractual training provider for the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. He has excelled at building relationships with surrounding agencies and has led several innovations to ensure a safe, secure, and well-prepared campus. He is an active

participant in the campus culture, including presenting at student and new employee orientations and coordinating safety programming and domestic violence awareness programs. As the inaugural chair of the Campus Safety and Security Committee, he contributed to efforts to improve the campus' video surveillance system and develop the framework for implementation of the LiveSafe application along with a new emergency notification broadcasting platform.

Chief Shaw serves on a number of advisory boards and is an active volunteer in his community, a member of several community and professional organizations, and a recent graduate of the FBI National Academy.





Claudia Cormier Corporal San Marcos Police Department, Texas Age: 38



Cherylynn Lee, PhD

Police Psychologist Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office, California Age: 38

Corporal **CLAUDIA CORMIER** currently serves in the San Marcos Police Department's Patrol Division. She began her career with San Marcos Police Department as a dispatcher for eight years before graduating from the Peace Officer Academy in 2016. During her first year on the job, she responded to a massive structure fire, an effort for which she and her fellow responding coworkers received a commendation award.

One evening in May 2019, while clearing debris from the road, Cpl. Cormier was struck by a passing vehicle, leaving her severely wounded with life-threatening injuries including the loss of her right leg; she spent three months in the hospital and had more than 20 surgeries. During her lengthy rehabilitation and healing process, Cpl. Cormier went back to school and is currently working on her master's degree in public administration, and she was reinstated to full duty in 2022. She recently took on the lead role for the agency's Peer Support Team, which provides pre-incident, on-scene, and post-incident support to officers and families.

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I wanted to prove to my family and myself that, as a woman, I was already empowered to make a difference and encourage others to step out of their comfort zone. Today, Cpl. Cormier is part of the Master of Public Administration Advisory Board and is completing an applied research project that focuses on assessing and creating a return-to-duty program for the officers and civilian staff after a traumatic incident, injury, or extensive absence.

Cpl. Cormier received the Star of Texas Award in September 2019 and the San Marcos Police Department Purple Heart Award. Most recently, she has been the

recipient of a number of academic awards and initiated as a member of the National Political Science Honor Society at Texas State University. Dr. **CHERYLYNN LEE** is a police psychologist specializing in law enforcement operations and officer wellness. She has been a full-time employee with the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office since 2016. She currently manages the Behavioral Sciences Unit (BSU), which encompasses the Mental Health Co-Response Teams, Crisis Intervention Training, and Wellness Unit, which houses Peer Support. Dr. Lee also assists with threat assessment and management, serves on the crisis negotiation response teams for both the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office and the Santa Barbara Police Department, and teaches in the FBI 40-hour negotiations school

As the sheriff's office's first full-time police psychologist, she provides consultation for mental health crisis calls and follows up on high-risk cases; she also assists the Intelligence Unit with behavior threat assessment and psychological autopsies. In 2018, Dr. Lee spearheaded the agency's co-response program that pairs a CIT-trained deputy with a mental health clinician to respond to mental health crisis calls. The program has grown from one team to four.

I am inspired daily to show up and give the profession the best I have to offer because that is what our officers do for our communities. Dr. Lee is widely known for her expertise and is frequently requested to teach and consult as a subject matter expert with outside law enforcement agencies all over California. She has led dozens of critical incident stress debriefs for officer-involved shootings, line-of-duty deaths, and natural disasters and maintains a private practice where she exclusively treats first responders and

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specializes in trauma. She sits on the California State Sheriffs Association wellness board, works with CA POST as a wellness subject matter expert, and contributes wellness articles to a number of police-related publications.





Henry Wang Director, Risk Analytics New York City Police Department, New York Age: 38



William Gonzalez Lieutenant Miami Police Department, Florida Age: 38

**HENRY WANG** has been with the New York City Police Department (NYPD) since 2015, where he currently serves as the director of risk analytics. Prior to joining the NYPD, he worked in the field of public health, dealing with chronic disease statistics and data.

Mr. Wang was first exposed to law enforcement while working on a joint venture between the New York Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the NYPD on a co-responder program composed of police officers and social workers who responded in teams to individuals in crisis situations. This intriguing work encouraged Mr. Wang to learn more about law enforcement and take a more direct approach in the law enforcement field.

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I believe to have a greatest impact on society, I must constantly challenge myself to constantly grow and learn. Working as the director of risk analytics has given Mr. Wang the opportunity to take part in several key initiatives to improve daily operations, ensure accountability, and promote continuous improvement of the NYPD and its more than 35,000 officers. These efforts include the integration of business intelligence products to brief NYPD executives and supervisors;

the Body-Worn Camera dashboard, which ensures compliance to department policies; the Terry Stop dashboard, which addresses constitutional policing issues centered on the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments; and the Civilian Complaint and Review Board dashboard, allowing for realtime review of civilian complaints.

Mr. Wang is affiliated with several law enforcement and community groups, including the NYPD Triathlon Team, and is also the first non-sworn NYPD employee to be selected for the National Institute of Justice–Law Enforcement Advancing Data and Science (LEADS) Scholar's program. Lieutenant **WILLIAM A. GONZALEZ** currently serves as the commanding officer of the Miami Police Department's Homicide Unit within the Criminal Investigations Division. Lt. Gonzalez began his career in 2005 as a patrol officer in Little Havana, then went undercover with the Tactical Operations and Crime Suppression Units working narcotics and gang-related cases. He worked his way up to lieutenant in 2018 and has served as the unit commander for the Tactical Investigations, Robbery, and Homicide Units.

While overseeing Tactical Investigations, which includes the Felony Apprehension Team, he received special deputation from the U.S. Marshals to assist with safe apprehension of fugitives. More recently, under Lt. Gonzalez's leadership, the Homicide Unit ended 2022 with a murder clearance rate of 71.4 percent. Year-to-date, the Homicide Unit boasts a 100 percent murder clearance rate. Lt. Gonzalez's demeanor is humble and unassuming, but he inspires those around him to perform to their maximum potential. He holds others accountable, but he accepts responsibility when expectations are not met, and he credits his team members when expectations are met or exceeded.

**44** Don't keep your knowledge and your experience to yourself—use it as motivation to help others succeed and grow. Lt. Gonzalez chose law enforcement as a profession because he wanted to be part of something bigger than himself. There were many career paths that could fulfill that desire, but law enforcement was the only one that provided an atmosphere of selfless service and a team environment that he could relate to.

During his tenure, Lt. Gonzalez has received several citations, commendations, and awards for his hard work to the benefit of Miami and his department.





Melissa Thompson Sergeant Waco Police Department, Texas





Michael Thiele Police Officer Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Nevada

Age: 39

Sergeant MELISSA THOMPSON began her law enforcement career in 2007 when she joined the Waco Police Department. After five years of experience in the patrol division, she was promoted to the rank of detective and assigned to the Special Crimes Unit. In her role as a detective, Sgt. Thompson investigated many complex cases such as homicide, robbery, and sex crimes. In 2020, due to her accomplishments, Sgt. Thompson was assigned to the Narcotics Unit and the prestigious Texas Anti-Gang Center (TAG). In this role, she was responsible for narcotics and drug distribution investigations in Central Texas, working closely with state and federal law enforcement partners. She was promoted to the rank of sergeant in 2021 and assigned to the Street Crimes Unit and TAG to oversee a task force of Waco police officers, county law enforcement officers, Texas Department of Public Safety personnel, and federal agency personnel.

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I enjoy mentoring younger officers and helping to shape our region's law enforcement future. Sgt. Thompson recently implemented the Law Enforcement Against Drugs & Violence (LEAD) program in the Waco area to prevent drug use and violence by children. For her diligence and dedication to bringing LEAD to Texas, she was given a place on the newly formed National Law Enforcement Leadership Council within

LEAD. She is the first person from Texas to serve in this capacity. Sgt. Thompson is also a subcommittee member for the Texas Police Chiefs Association Women's Law Enforcement Executive Committee, and she developed a mentoring program for women law enforcement officers in the state of Texas.

Officer **MICHAEL THIELE** wanted to be a police officer from a young age. When he was old enough, he joined the Explorers Program with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and then joined the department as an officer in 2006.

Officer Thiele possesses a passion for traffic safety, and he has developed extensive skills in dealing with impaired driving, including attaining certification as a Drug Recognition Expert instructor.

In 2021, Officer Thiele was assigned to the role of traffic intervention officer and tasked to develop new initiatives to combat impaired driving. To this end, he partnered with a social worker to visit offenders at their homes after they were arrested for a second impaired driving offense. The idea was to offer various resources for counseling and treatment sooner, instead of waiting for a court mandate. In 2022, 80 percent of those visited used the resources provided to them, and the program was 97 percent successful in preventing recidivism in those who accepted resources.

I have always found happiness in helping people throughout their trials and tribulations in life.

Officer Thiele also created a Traffic Safety Officer course that has led to 130 trained officers and 1500+ DUI arrests by those students, and there is already a waitlist of internal and external officers for the next two upcoming courses. This program has a 12 to 1 ratio in impaired driving arrests when compared to non-TSO patrol officers.

Officer Thiele has also received multiple awards for his community service, crisis response, and emergency response, including the Medal of Valor for his role in the response to the 2017 Las Vegas festival shooting.





Kaleigh Paddon Sergeant Surrey Police Service, British Columbia Age: 39



Daniel Saldana Lieutenant Apache Junction Police Department, Arizona Age: 39

Sergeant **KALEIGH PADDON** joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) in August 2005 as a member of Surrey Detachment, later transferring to the Surrey Police Service (SPS). She has performed a variety of tasks in various units, including frontline policing, major crime, gang investigations, witness relocation, and cold case homicides.

Health, fitness, nutrition, and well-being have been an integral part of Sgt. Paddon's professional and personal life. She volunteers as a hockey and lacrosse coach and is certified as both a nutrition coach and a personal trainer. She has used her skills and knowledge to promote health and wellness throughout her career, and, in July 2021, Sgt. Paddon was placed in charge of the Wellness Unit

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I feel incredibly privileged to have the opportunity to create programs and bring awareness to the importance of both mental and physical health in the world of policing and first responders.

at SPS and the creation of programs supporting both sworn and civilian mental and physical health programs. She is the first sworn officer in Canada to integrate an occupational stress intervention dog into a police unit for daily operations. Sgt. Paddon has also partnered with a subject matter expert to build a robust Peer Support Program and Critical Incident After Care team, with a goal of creating programs based on the science of trauma.

Sgt. Paddon's expertise and passion have been well

received, and her training and leadership abilities were vital to the creation of a truly trauma-informed police agency. She continues to go above and beyond to focus on the care and support of her fellow officers and their families while modeling proactive mental health. Lieutenant **DANIEL SALDANA** grew up in the city of Apache Junction and joined his hometown police department in 2005. He spent his first years as an officer on patrol and as a detective while also learning to assist the SWAT team as a crisis negotiator. During this time, he was also enrolled in classes to obtain his associate and bachelor's degrees. He moved up the ranks to achieve his current position in July 2022.

Lt. Saldana serves in Support Services, where he is responsible for planning and coordinating security and safety at special events such as parades, concerts, festivals, and other community events. He also provides oversight to the Professional Standards Bureau, positively influencing hiring practices, training, and community relationships. He has helped build and manage the agency's social media accounts, and his bilingualism has been crucial in connecting with Spanish media outlets and Spanish-speaking community members.

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My motivation grew from others who helped me, and now I hope to be that same motivation to those I interact with daily. Throughout his career, Lt. Saldana has been a positive and well-respected role model and mentor to his peers and community members. This is most evident in his efforts to create a peer support team and his bringing the National Faith and Blue initiative to the City of Apache Junction. For this event, several hundred people from three different church congregations, repre-

senting multiple ethnicities from around the world, came together for a community event with the police department to share and celebrate their cultures.





#### **Hamad Mohammad** Al Zeyoudi, PhD Major

Fuhjairah Police General Headquarters, UAE Age: 39



## A. Scott Walter, Jr. Captain Harford County Sheriff's

Office, Maryland Age: 39

Major HAMAD MOHAMMAD AL ZEYOUDI, PhD, currently serves as the head of the Strategic Planning Department, Innovation Center, and Future Foresight Department for the Fujairah Police General Headquarters, under the Ministry of Interior, UAE. Maj. Al Zeyoudi supports long-term goals and short-term strategic frameworks with innovative direction and emerging technologies in all areas of police work. He led the implementation of five core strategic plans over the last five years, which resulted in 53 global, regional, and local awards. Due to his excellent leadership and supervisory value, Maj. Al Zeyoudi has been selected to lead several key committees and teams at both the Ministry of Interior and Fujairah Police Headquarters. He is a permanent member of the Creativity and Innovation Council and was selected by the ministry to be a member of the team responsible for approving security standards, measures, and policies.

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It is my desire to be an integral part of the justice system in my beloved country... and to leave a clear imprint in the field of law enforcement. 77

Maj. Al Zeyoudi was encouraged at an early age to join the police school scouts, by his father, who worked in the training department at the Minister of Interior-Federal Police School. This led to his love of police work and desire to represent justice and fairness. His dedication to his community goes beyond policing-he launched the first women's sport council in his emirate, is a Nabati poet

in the House of Folk Poetry, and a member of the Happiness Volunteer Team, among other contributions.

Maj. Al Zeyoudi has received several distinguished honors and awards and received 83 patents and intellectual property rights for his many innovations.

Captain A. SCOTT WALTER, JR.'s career with the Harford County Sheriff's Office has spanned over 20 years. He has served in various roles within the sheriff's office's most challenging and specialized units, including the Gang Unit, Traffic Unit, Special Operations Division, Motorcycle Unit, and Patrol Division. Capt. Walter is also a motors instructor. defensive tactics instructor, drill instructor, firearms instructor, and polygraph examiner.

Capt. Walter was involved in many critical incidents as a Special Response Team operator, including officer-involved shootings and a hostage rescue, as well as active shooters and other large-scale events as a team commander. Additionally, as a commander, he has overseen civil unrest, riots, rallies, barricades, and other critical incidents.

Beyond serving the county as a law enforcement officer, Capt. Walter is a role model and pillar of his community. He has devoted hours to working on charitable events at the Moose Lodge for fundraising events, volunteering for the Valor Program (a program dedicated to recognizing first responders and the military), and making countless presentations on his own time for elementary schools.

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**Even when it feels** like the deck is stacked against you, if you can help one person at a time, you are making a difference.

Throughout his distinguished career, Capt. Walter has received numerous accolades, commendations, and awards for his outstanding service, including the HCSO Valor Award and the Marvland Smooth Operator Enforcement Award. Capt. Walter has shown a remarkable ability to inspire and motivate his subordinates to achieve their full potential. His leadership style is characterized by com-

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passion and respect for those under his command, and his tireless dedication to their welfare and professional growth.





Jacob Herrera Commander Denver Police Department, Colorado Age: 39



Jillian McLaren Staff Sergeant/ Detachment Commander Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Saskatchewan Age: 39

Commander **JACOB HERRERA** has been serving with the Denver Police Department since 2007. After working in patrol, the Internal Affairs Unit, and Conduct Review Office, he worked for the chief of police as a lieutenant, managing movement of personnel for the entire department for two years.

Promoted to commander in 2022, he currently oversees the Operational Innovation Bureau. In this capacity, he has incorporated many new ideas and processes into the department's day-to-day operations. From updating procedures to improve communication with the public and provide accountability briefings to implementing new systems to reduce vehicle theft, Commander Herrera is always thinking innovatively and finding ways to work collaboratively with diverse groups.

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I am deeply motivated by the selflessness and commitment of the officers whom I have had the privilege to supervise. His recent achievements include two initiatives to meet strategic objectives for the department. The Strategic Allocation for Emergency Response (SAFER) protocol adjusts the response to calls based on priority, officer staffing, and volume of calls for service. The DPD Vicarious Stress and Trauma (VAST) score is used as a metric for officer wellness as part of an early warning system and is based on data from officer

calls for service. Commander Herrara also launched an internal command college to coach command staff through the entire strategy development lifecycle.

His service to the community is reflected by a program he developed that pairs high school students from schools that experienced shootings with nonprofits, such as a local arts center, to explore the students' interests.

Staff Sergeant **JILLIAN MCLAREN** joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) at the age of 19, graduating Depot in 2004. S/Sgt. McLaren spent her first years on the force as a detachment investigator serving First Nations areas in her home territory of Saskatchewan. Her primary duties were to provide frontline policing services for all types of crimes ranging from property offenses to serious crimes. She also served as a recruit field training officer.

During her almost 20 years with RCMP, S/Sgt. McLaren has traveled across Canada and worked a variety of assignments, encompassing 11 different postings, from frontline constable to her current role as detachment commander. Her positive demeanor and attitude in each of these positions has earned her multiple awards and recognition from both her peers and the communities she serves.

S/Sgt. McLaren was selected as the first RCMP female tactical training instructor for British Columbia Pacific Regions Training, where she taught firearms skills and other in-service training classes. She has maintained multiple certifications and is an adjunct instructor.

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My ability to mentor and assist other members now gives me as much satisfaction as any of my own experiences. The opportunity to interact with the community and lead on the front lines has always been a focal point of S/Sgt. McLaren's career and service. Her ability be an effective leader in critical situations serves her well in this endeavor, including in one incident involving a challenging technical rescue of a woman who was trapped on a cliff 300 feet up. S/Sgt. McLaren main-

tained command and coordination of all RCMP and partner agency assets to ensure the woman was rescued, an outcome achieved due to S/Sgt. McLaren's leadership.





Raj Jaswal Sergeant Vancouver Police Department, British Columbia Age: 39



#### Raymond Richards Lieutenant

Brookline Police Department, Massachusetts Age: 39

Growing up as a member of the Sikh community, Sergeant **RAJ JASWAL** recognized the value of being part of a closeknit group and serving one's community at any early age. Additional influences from his family and education led to his decision to become a police officer, and he joined the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) in 2008.

During his time with the VPD, Sgt. Jaswal has been connected to several high-profile organized crime investigations in British Columbia, establishing himself as a subject matter expert in organized crime, gang violence, and culture. His expertise is sought after across North America, and he provides critical training to officers in Canada and beyond on strategies to interdict organized crime groups.

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I am motivated by the opportunity to make meaningful change and positive, lasting impacts in the community. Exemplifying discretion, compassion, and empathy, Sergeant Jaswal has been successful in engaging with diverse communities to help families and youth tackle gang violence through education, intervention, and prevention strategies. His strong desire to protect vulnerable at-risk communities has made him a positive role model in the communities he lives and works in.

In addition, Sgt. Jaswal is dedicated to teaching, mentoring, and coaching fellow officers to help them reach their professional goals and full potential. As a member of the Strategic Plan Development Team, his efforts measurably increased employee buy-in into the strategic planning process and employee satisfaction. He also leads the VPD EDI (equity, diversity, and inclusion) Review Team and has participated in several EDI initiatives. He has received multiple awards related to both his skills in combating organized crime and his community policing work. Lieutenant **RAYMOND RICHARDS** is a premier dual career law enforcement professional who, in addition to his role with Brookline Police Department, is also a lieutenant colonel with the Massachusetts Army National Guard. In his civilian role, Lt. Richards currently serves in the Patrol Division with concurrent duty as tactical commander of the Special Response Team. In 2018, he received a public service award for his efforts with veteran outreach as a member of the Crisis Intervention Team. He is a certified instructor in several areas, including patrol procedures, active shooter, health and wellness, and communications.

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Providing opportunities for the next generation of dual career professionals while strengthening my community fulfills and motivates me. In his military role, he is assigned as the program director for the Massachusetts National Guard's nationally recognized Civilian Military Police Academy. Lt. Richards is a highly decorated combat veteran with two deployments to Iraq and is the recipient of two Bronze Star Medals. He is also the recipient of the prestigious Military Police Regimental Association Order of the Marechaussee in

Bronze Award for leadership excellence highlighting significant impacts to the Military Police Corps on the national level.

Lt. Richards has held and successfully excelled in significant leadership roles within both the Military Police and civilian law enforcement communities. He demonstrates an unyielding passion for building the next generation of police leaders through innovative initiatives exemplifying his steadfast commitment to the profession.

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