There are few who serve in higher-stress jobs than our fellow first responders and emergency service providers. The daily demands of saving lives and protecting our nation in the homeland security enterprise, while rewarding, can wear on even the most dedicated among us.

Add on a historic pandemic and an epidemic of mass shootings, natural disasters, and a whole suite of rising challenges, and our jobs can take a toll.

That's why it's so important to take care of our mental health and wellness, so we can continue to be at our best for others.

In this issue of Watermark, we explore with a handful of experts the unique mental health challenges faced by first responders and emergency services providers, and the unfortunate stigma and resistance to admitting we occasionally need help and support in our jobs. We also examine a few suggestions for improving access to mental health and wellness by making it an industry priority.

And we also take a look at the Colorado Springs Fire Department's mental health and wellness program model and initiatives ranging from peer support groups and staff psychologists to podcasts and surveys.

We can't help others if we can't help ourselves, and the first step is admitting when we need that help, and trusting that we'll receive the support we need.

Also in this issue of Watermark:

• A groundbreaking collaboration between the Center for Homeland Defense and Security and the U.S. Department of Defense on the Domestic Preparedness Support Initiative allowing CHDS Master's students to analyze defense technology for potential civilian agency use.
• The launch of the newly upgraded Homeland Security Digital Library website.
• A look ahead at the upcoming Alumni Professional Exchange (APEX) event in February.
• Checking in with a few of the scores of CHDS alums working in university higher education.
• Celebrating an award honoring longtime Naval Postgraduate School librarian Greta Marlatt.
• A look back at the 15th annual Homeland Defense and Security Education Summit hosted by CHDS’ University and Agency Partnership Program.

Remember, CHDS continues to be here for all of you as you devote your lives and careers to protecting this nation from increasingly complex and dangerous threats, globally and domestically.

Here's wishing a healthy and happy 2023 to all our alumni, students, faculty, and staff, and all their loved ones. May each and every one of you be blessed with the happiness and well-being you all deserve.

Truly yours,

Glen Woodbury
Director, Center for Homeland Defense and Security
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*Volume 14 | Issue 1 | Winter/Spring 2023*

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Watermark, the Alumni Magazine, is published semi-annually for the alumni of the Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS). Views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the official policy or position of the Naval Postgraduate School, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Defense, FEMA, CHDS, CHDS alumni or faculty, or the U.S. Government.
CHDS education programs promote collaboration, communication, and information sharing among leaders both during and after their CHDS programs. In order to keep in touch and create a national network of homeland security professionals, 33 regional chapters have been established by alumni throughout North America and United States territories.

33 REGIONAL CHAPTERS NATIONWIDE

WE WELCOME TWO NEW CHAPTERS TO THE CHDS ALUMNI NETWORK

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NATIONWIDE NETWORK OF CHDS ALUMNI CHAPTERS, CONTACT CHAPTER COORDINATORS LISTED ON THE RIGHT.

DID YOU KNOW?

ALUMNI HOLDING POSITIONS
* INCLUDES CHIEFS, ASSISTANT CHIEFS, DEPUTY CHIEFS, SUPERINTENDENTS, AND DIRECTORS

178 CHIEFS OF POLICE
177 FIRE CHIEFS
98 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTORS
27 PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTORS
### Regional Alumni Chapters

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#### Alumni Short Talks

Each year, CHDS alumni come together at the Alumni Professional Exchange (APEX) and give "TED Talk" style short talks on a broad array of critical issues in homeland security.

#### Top Five Alumni Short Talks by Views in 2022

1. How Fake News and Information Laundering Threaten Homeland Security, by Katelyn Mason and Sam Korta
2. Beats Thinking: Detecting Deception & Eliciting Truth, by Nick Cartrantzos
3. Health Equity is a Homeland Security Issue, by William Pilkington
4. Moral Injury, by Dr. Noël Lipana
5. Preparing for 2024: Lessons Learned from Countering Russian Interference during the 2020 Elections, by Elvis Chan

#### See All Alumni Short Talks Online at www.chds.us/ed

Get ready for new Short Talks coming in March 2023!

INTERESTED IN STARTING A NEW CHAPTER?
Send an e-mail to Heather Hollingsworth Issvoran at hissvora@nps.edu
SMART PRACTICES FOR CHDS REGIONAL GATHERINGS

BY HEATHER HOLLINGSWORTH ISSVORAN

There are a few things we have learned over the years to promote successful regional meetings with our alumni and greater CHDS community.

A preliminary step is to decide how far-reaching your region is. You can invite folks from anywhere, but we have learned that most will drive up to 30-40 minutes for a get-together.

- Get a current list from CHDS. Contact Heather Hollingsworth Issvoran for the latest list as we try hard to keep our directory up to date and we have graduations from programs every other month.
- Ask your people what they want to do. Most groups want to have an interesting speaker and then adjourn to a bar or restaurant to discuss. Some are doing book clubs, and some are thrill seekers and like to do events in their areas.
- Check in with CHDS to get ideas for speakers. We can help you with getting a faculty member or other amazing speakers.
- Decide how often you want to meet. Most meet quarterly or bi-annually.
- Ask your people if they can help you with a meeting space. You never know where you can meet unless you ask. We have had incredible venues!
- Make sure you take photos and send them to us, so we can share with the alumni.

We are so excited to hear how your regional meetings go!

SEND YOUR PHOTOS

SHARE YOUR CHAPTER’S PHOTOS WITH US
Heather Hollingsworth Issvoran at hissvora@nps.edu

HAWAII CHAPTER

The Hawaii chapter meets for happy hour in spite of the hectic holiday season and recent volcano activity! Left to right: Peter Hirai, Johanna Johnson, Colby Stanton, Donalyn Dela Cruz, Lydia Metyris, Michael Kern, and Arnold Kishi

CHDS students Laura Hill and Madison Miller wear goose hats to blend in with the notorious NPS geese, who have been known to harass students on their walks across campus!

WE NEED YOUR STORY!

Let us know how you are using your CHDS experience in the real world.

We learn from the strategies and policies you are implementing.

IT’S EASY!

Please send your story to Heather Hollingsworth Issvoran at hissvora@nps.edu

What makes us unique is how you network and collaborate!

Send us your testimonials, promotions, and examples.
CHICAGO IS BACK, BABY!

BY JIM JOHNSON

Led by Center for Homeland Defense and Security alum Beth Windisch (Master’s program cohort 1901/1902), the Chicago Regional Alumni Chapter held a panel discussion at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago on Oct. 28, the first such event in years and the first since the COVID-19 pandemic started.

Entitled “Evolving Threats in the Midwest,” the panel discussion featured a four-person panel of CHDS alumni representing local, state, and federal government agencies including Windisch, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Region 5 Executive Director who served as moderator, along with FEMA Region 5 Administrator Thomas Sivak (Executive Leaders Program cohort 1902), Illinois Governor’s Homeland Security Advisor Senior Advisor Jason Sanford (ELP cohort 2102), and Cook County Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security Executive Director Theodore Berger (Master’s program cohort 1405/1406).

The event was hosted by Federal Reserve Bank Assistant Vice President for Law Enforcement Richard Harlow (Master’s cohort 1001/1002, ELP 2102).

The event included the panel discussion and a question-and-answer session with about 20 or so attendees, followed by networking and refreshments. Windisch said the regional alumni chapter sent out a survey to regional alumni members who indicated they were interested in attending these types of events.

“It was difficult during COVID and I think folks were over virtual [meetings], so we wanted to get something going,” Windisch said. “It was definitely different when you’re able to be together. I hope this is the kick-off for other [alumni] who want to discuss various issues.”
After about seven years, the Homeland Security Digital Library has undergone an upgrade ranging from an improved appearance to more efficient functions.

The result, according to Center for Homeland Defense and Security Chief Technology Officer Jodi Stiles, is a “simpler, cleaner site focused on making it easier to find resources,” while longtime Naval Postgraduate School librarian Greta Marlatt said the new site “has a clean and refreshing look and is easy to navigate, adding “the results are cleaner and easier to read and the ability to refine the results is much clearer.”

Veteran HSDL librarian Sally Chapman said the upgraded site offers a “new experience” for users by providing a “clean” view of the HSDLs many features, adding that “navigating the website is a breeze.”

The nation’s premier collection of documents related to homeland security policy, strategy, and organizational management at the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security includes more than 250,000 resources and is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s National Preparedness Directorate, FEMA, and NPS/CHDS.

In addition to an upgraded appearance, the most obvious changes to the HSDL site include:

- An improved ability to refine search results on a particular topic including by keyword, resource type, subjects/topics, publisher, and more.
- Ability to resubscribe to New Content Alerts. When a user searches the HSDL site, they can save their search criteria, and every Friday our librarians check the digital document collection and automatically email users a list of any new resources that have been added that match past searches. Stiles said it’s a “great way to make sure [users] don’t miss any new items of interest.”
- Consolidation of various HSDL resources into a comprehensive In Focus section, which highlights lists in the digital collection that are highly relevant to current events or foundational topics. Hand-selected and vetted by the HSDL content team, the lists range from those that take a broad, in-depth look at the historical and contemporary analysis of a topic to others that target only the most recent that support or contextualize events affecting our nation today.

Technical Design Team
Chris Breuner, Eric Hinote, Greg Jennings, Jeff Ottinger, Jodi Stiles, Chris Tolley

Library Team
Sally Chapman, Whitney Chavez, Erin Dauphinais-Soos, Roberta Freeman, Courtney Hawley, Jenna Hillhouse, Greta Marlatt, Lindsey Mastrangelo, Vincent Milano, John Oh, Jodi Stiles, Donna Trachier, Victoria VanDerZiel-Fultz

Visit HSDL
www.hsdl.org

Ask a Librarian
www.hsdl.org/c/ask-a-librarian
To adapt national security, defense tools, and technologies for use by homeland security practitioners, the Center for Homeland Defense and Security and the U.S. Department of Defense’s Domestic Preparedness Support Initiative (DPSI) are working together in an effort to bridge a “crucial homeland defense gap in a unique way,” and apply proven innovation techniques to homeland defense and security challenges.

Led by CHDS instructors Nick Dew and Rodrigo Nieto Gomez, the partnership involves professional homeland security practitioners in the CHDS Master’s Program working with DoD technologists to co-design technologies that benefit the homeland security enterprise.

CHDS Master’s students in the Strategy and Innovation Lab interact directly with national security and defense technology developers to explore ways to adapt existing, life-saving technologies for first responders in the field.

Located in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas’ Security Affairs, DPSI coordinates DoD efforts to identify, evaluate, deploy, and transfer technology, items, and equipment to federal, state, and local first responders, according to the DoD, and is aimed at fulfilling Congress’ intent to support public safety and homeland security by leveraging taxpayer investments in defense technology and equipment.

Both Dew and Nieto said CHDS and DPSI were an obvious match from the start, especially because of the presence of experienced homeland security practitioners in the CHDS Master’s program. They said CHDS responded to a DPSI request for proposals in summer 2021, and the response from DPSI, according to Dew, was “where have you been all these years?”

“We thought this would be a great opportunity for some of our project-based learning approaches. It turned out DPSI considered us a great match to their objectives, and we created this very successful and symbiotic relationship with them.”

— RODRIGO NIETO GOMEZ

Students engage in multiple strategic development steps, Nieto said, ultimately producing a final report for the class and DoD. Dew noted that DPSI already evaluates new technologies using their own personnel and networks, but CHDS offers access to expert first responders with decades of hands-on experience.

CHDS started with a pilot program in early 2022, and both Dr. Dew and Dr. Nieto said it is still a work in progress, but the plan is to continue to form teams to evaluate the DPSI tools and technologies for each CHDS Master’s cohort going forward.

Both professors said the partnership shows that CHDS is renewing its focus on the homeland defense aspect of its historical mission after years of focusing on homeland security, and in the process helping to transfer promising technology to first responders on a nationwide basis.

“Homeland defense is in our name,” Dew said, noting that CHDS helps provide a link between first responders and defense institutions.

“We’re bringing homeland defense to the classroom in a very strong collaboration with our DoD partners,” Nieto said.

In October, Homeland Defense and Resiliency Director Stephanie Koeshall and DPSI Senior Consultant Dr. Christopher Speller, both from the Office of the DASD for Homeland Defense Integration and Defense Support of Civil Authorities, visited CHDS to discuss the DPSI partnership.

Speaking to a CHDS Master’s program cohort, Koeshall called DPSI a “very valuable tool for DoD to gain insight into
technology we are actively in,” adding that the goal is to “focus on strengthening homeland resilience through increasing our partners’ capacity and capability.”

That process, she noted, includes identifying gaps in homeland security partners’ capabilities, modifying DoD technology and equipment at a relatively minimal cost, and opening them up to the commercial market where homeland security partners can purchase them to address those gaps.

The process helps inform DOD’s decision-making on investing in certain technologies, and whether they can and should be accelerated to the market, Koeshall said, by answering four basic questions:

1. Does the technology meet first responders’ needs?
2. What is the logical cost point?
3. In a crisis, what are homeland security partners looking for from DoD?
4. How can we better collaborate?

The “transfer of DoD technology to homeland security entities” such as law enforcement, firefighters, emergency managers, public health professionals, and others, she said, is “in alignment with the National Defense Strategy” by reducing reliance on the DoD in a major crisis if an adversary attacks during a disaster.

Examples of DoD technology and equipment being adapted for first responder use include:

- Passive cloth taggant developed by the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C., that can be used to mark and positively identify first responders in the field.
- Sampling device designed to reduce exposure during the collection of fentanyl powder developed by the U.S. Army Development Command, Chemical Biological Center.
- Smart wound detection shirt designed by Legionarius, Inc. to provide remote wound reporting and triage for penetrating injuries.
- Single-pixel laser imager technology that could help firefighters navigate through structures in conditions with little to no visibility.
- Nano-Fiber wound healing device capable of applying potentially life-saving wound dressing, direct injection, burn spray, and bleeding suppression.
PROGRAM DEADLINES

MASTERS PROGRAM (MA)
APPLICATION DEADLINE MAY 1, 2023
APPLICATION DEADLINE DEC. 1, 2023

EMERGENCE PROGRAM
APPLICATION DEADLINE MAY 1, 2023
APPLICATION DEADLINE DEC. 1, 2023

EXECUTIVE LEADERS PROGRAM (ELP)
APPLICATION DEADLINE JUNE 15, 2023
APPLICATION DEADLINE JAN. 15, 2024

RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM (REP)
CHECK WEBSITE FOR LATEST DEADLINE

RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM EARLY CAREER (REPEC)
APPLICATION DEADLINE MARCH 15, 2023

PACIFIC EXECUTIVE LEADERS PROGRAM
APPLICATION DEADLINE MARCH 15, 2023

FOR MORE INFORMATION
VISIT US ONLINE AT CHDS.US
SEND US THREE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PROGRAMS ABOVE | HISSVORA@NPS.EDU

Refer a friend or colleague!
NEWEST CHDS FOUNDERS AWARD HONOREE MIKE WALKER TO BE LAUDED AT APEX 2023

BY JIM JOHNSON

For two decades, Mike Walker has been an integral part of the inception, growth, and continued success of the Center for Homeland Defense and Security.

At the upcoming Alumni Professional Exchange (APEX) Continuing Education Workshop set for Feb. 21-23, the CHDS senior consultant who played a key role in the Center’s establishment and has lectured at the Center since its inception more than 20 years ago will be presented with the CHDS Founders Award during the second day of the event.

The Founders Award was established to recognize those individuals who were instrumental to the inception and initial success of CHDS, and whose critically important efforts and contributions ensured both the existence of the Center and its strong standing as the nation’s leader in homeland security and defense education.

Walker said he considers the recognition to be “the greatest honor of my 50-plus career in national security.”

CHDS Director Glen Woodbury, who will present the award, said Walker “worked closely with all our founders, in particular Paul Stockton and Jim Morhard, to create the institutional as well as legislative foundations of the Center. His deep insights and longtime experience in working on [Capitol] Hill, at the Department of Defense, and the VA, as well as FEMA, were essential to helping create the Center and its foundational programs. Mike’s contributions didn’t end there as his wisdom and intellect brought innumerable contributions to the executive education programs both on the road and here in Monterey.”

Walker is a panelist on the CHDS Mobile Education Team, which provides educational seminars to our nation’s governors and mayors and their senior staff, and his current research focuses on all-hazards threats.

He served 32 years in federal government and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve in senior executive branch positions. He served as Acting Secretary of the Army for six months in 1998, and as Under Secretary of the Army, Army Acquisition Executive, and Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Logistics, and Environment.

Christopher Bellavita Educator Award, and the following plenary sessions:

- The Great Simplification: What HS Leaders Need to Know About the Future of Energy, with Nate Hagens, Director, Institute for the Study of Energy and Our Future
- Alumni Short Talk: Beyond Implementation: Operationalizing the National Strategy for Women, Peace, and Security (WPS), with Tiffani Phillips, DAFC, Security Cooperation Integration Deputy NORAD and USNORTHCOM, Gender Advisor
- Open Artificial Intelligence: Emerging Technologies and Threats, with Rodrigo Nieto Gomez, NPS Faculty
- Alumni Short Talk: Next Generation 911, with Karima Holmes, Director, Washington, D.C. 911 and 311
- Networking Reception hosted by the CHDS Association for all alumni, guests, speakers, faculty, and staff

Day 3 will include a workshop summary and schedule overview with CHDS Association President Kirby, as well as a remembrance of those who have recently passed. Plenary sessions include:

- Strategic Foresight Framework for Government Leaders, with John Robb, Global Guerillas
- Alumni Short Talk: Cyber Armageddon: Not Yet, with Elvis Chan, FBI Asst. Agent in Charge, San Francisco
- Alumni Short Talk: New Ideas in Homeland Security Advancing Recruitment and Retention, It’s Everyone’s Job, with Miakela Ellenwood, Mass Care Branch Director, National IMAT White, FEMA; and Scott Fenton, Region 9 Operations Branch Director, FEMA
- CHDS Alumni Meeting with the CHDS Association Board and Alumni
In her more than three decades as a librarian, the much-lauded Greta Marlatt can’t remember being honored like she was on Friday, Dec. 16.

That’s when a couple of U.S. Secret Service agents, who are also Center for Homeland Defense and Security alums, surprised her at the Naval Postgraduate School’s Dudley Knox Library in Monterey, CA, with an honorary plaque recognizing her service on behalf of CHDS students.

Presented by U.S. Secret Service Assistant to the Special Agent in Charge at Washington D.C. headquarters Chris Gojcz, who had just graduated with the CHDS Master’s cohort 2103/2104 earlier in the day, and U.S. Secret Service Special Agent in Charge in the San Francisco field office Shawn Bradstreet (Master’s cohort 1803/1804), the plaque reads “Presented in Appreciation to Greta Marlatt, Outreach & Academic Support Manager, Dudley Knox Library, Naval Postgraduate [School] Program, for outstanding assistance and support on behalf of the investigative and protective responsibilities of the United States Secret Service, 2022.”

Gojcz said the U.S. Secret Service wanted to recognize Marlatt on behalf of the many agents who have graduated from CHDS educational programs and for her “unwavering support” for the agency and its CHDS alums.

“It really has to do with quiet leaders,” he said. “People who you can depend on throughout the [educational process]. She supported me throughout my own [master’s] thesis process. All U.S. Secret Service CHDS alumni talk about Greta and they told me, ‘Make sure you get to know her.’”

NPS Provost and Academic Dean Scott Gartner, who joined a group of about two dozen people including CHDS Director Glen Woodbury at the plaque presentation, expressed appreciation to the U.S. Secret Service for honoring Marlatt’s talent and dedicated service to all students on campus.

Marlatt said she was “very surprised and very humbled” by the honor. “It means a great deal to me and it was awfully nice of them to go to the trouble of doing this. I’ve been nominated for other awards but this was special. I’ve never had anything like this.”

She said she remembers working with both Gojcz and Bradstreet, and generally working “very closely with the Secret Service folks,” who she added, “take their studies very seriously.”

“It really has to do with quiet leaders. People who you can depend on throughout the [educational process]. She supported me throughout my own [master’s] thesis process. All U.S. Secret Service CHDS alumni talk about Greta and they told me, ‘Make sure you get to know her.’”

— CHRIS GOJCZ

The closest thing to the plaque presentation Marlatt said she had ever experienced was when a group of CHDS alums from the FDNY and NYPD showed up in uniform in her honor at a gala reception a decade ago where she was presented with the “2012 I Love My Librarian Award” from the New York Times and Carnegie Corporation recognizing the nation’s top librarians.

Marlatt has more than 30 years of experience working in libraries in various capacities, including manager of the CHDS Homeland Security Digital Library, and as a member of the editorial board of the Homeland Security Affairs Journal.

She has served as a member of the Special Library Association and the American Library Association, and has received several awards including the 2019 Federal Librarian of the Year Award from the Library of Congress Federal Library and Information Network, the Armed Forces Librarians Roundtable Achievement Award, and the Navy’s Meritorious and Superior Civilian Service awards.

And, she has published several articles and authored a number of bibliographies and help guides for topics ranging from Boko Haram, Suicide Terrorism and Lone Wolf Terrorism, to Intelligence, Mine Warfare, and more.

Marlatt earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English from Arizona State University, a Master of Library Science Degree from the University of Arizona, and a Master of Arts Degree in National Security from California State University San Bernardino.
When the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery marked its Centennial last year, the anniversary held special meaning for one Center for Homeland Defense and Security alum.

That’s because Jason Biermann (Master’s cohort 1305/1306) served as a Tomb Honor Guard for two tours in the early- to mid-1990s, an experience which he calls a “foundational” part of his life.

The Snohomish County, WA, senior policy advisor to the County Executive Officer, who previously served as Snohomish County Emergency Management Director, Biermann served as a Tomb Guard from March 1992 to September 1993, then took a break before returning to the Tomb Guard as an Assistant Relief Commander for a second tour of duty from April 1995 to June 1996.

The Tomb Guard is made up of soldiers from the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, known as the “Old Guard,” who stand watch over the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier 24 hours a day. Also known as “Sentinels,” the Tomb Guards are chosen for the prestigious post only after highly rigorous training and a demanding series of examinations.

According to the Society of the Honor Guard of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Tomb Guards “come from every state in the U.S. and every walk of life,” and are “forever bonded through their shared experience of service at the Tomb … a strong bond formed through an extremely demanding and humbling experience.”

Tomb Guards are “hand-picked and rigorously trained,” according to the website, and include both men and women, including those in their first Army unit and those who are longtime Army veterans.

Since 1921, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier has served as a sacred memorial site at the heart of Arlington National Cemetery. It has been the final resting place for one of America’s unidentifed World War I service members since then, and two additional unknown service members’ graves were added in 1958 and 1984.

According to the Arlington National Cemetery website, the Tomb “connects visitors with the legacy of the United States armed forces throughout our nation’s history” and “stands as a people’s memorial that inspires reflection on service, valor, sacrifice, and mourning.”

Biermann said his Tomb Guard service will forever be a part of him.

“It was a pretty incredible thing to represent people who sacrificed everything including their identities for our nation,” he said.

According to Biermann, a visit to Arlington National Cemetery while he was in the Army Reserve and a student at the University of Iowa in the late 1980s when he saw the famed Sentinel’s Creed poem, “my standard will remain perfection,” serves as the Tomb Guard’s central precept.

Biermann noted that Line 6 from the famed Sentinel’s Creed poem, “my standard will remain perfection,” serves as the Tomb Guard’s central precept.

According to the Society of the Honor Guard website, the 99 words of the creed “capture the true meaning of their duty” and one will “often hear the words ‘Line 6’ proudly uttered by Tomb Guards as they converse with each other or with their chain of command.”

After his Tomb Guard tours, Biermann would be assigned to Fort Lewis, WA, as a squad leader, eventually retiring as a Command Sergeant Major after more than 28 years of military service in 2018.

Biermann compared the CHDS Master’s program to his time as a Tomb Guard, calling it similarly “very demanding and very challenging mentally,” adding that he was “really impacted” by the CHDS professors. He graduated from the program in 2015.
CHDS ALUMS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

BY JIM JOHNSON

While the connection between the Center for Homeland Defense and Security and the nation’s universities with homeland security and emergency management programs is extensive, Sam Houston State University and Idaho State University have taken that to another level.

Led by Sam Houston State Security Studies Department Professor and Chair Nadav Morag, a longtime CHDS instructor, and Idaho State Homeland Security and Emergency Management degree program Director and Associate Professor Laurie Holien (Master’s Program cohort 0705/0706), the two programs feature a total of 27 CHDS alumni, current and former faculty, and even a few CHDS co-founders who serve as adjunct professors, course developers, subject matter experts, and student sponsors and mentors, as well as CHDS alum Michael Aspland (Master’s Program cohort 0803/0804), who serves as Executive Director of the new Institute for Homeland Security at Sam Houston State.

In all, CHDS records show 124 CHDS alumni are teaching more than 340 courses at 106 educational institutions, and about 20 percent of the 35 current CHDS faculty also teach at other educational institutions.

CHDS University and Agency Partnership Program Director Steve Recca noted that last year’s 15th Annual Homeland Defense and Security Education Summit featured an “alumni-rich” roster of panelists during a Day 2 panel discussion entitled “Innovation in Homeland Security Practice and Education III,” including Holien, Angi English (Master’s Program cohort 1001/1002), Executive Leader Program cohort 1201), Michael Brody (Master’s Program cohort 1001/1002), and Joseph Simons-Rudolph (Master’s Program cohort 1805/1806).

The Education Summit, whose theme was “The Growing Convergence of Homeland and National Security: Educating Future Leaders to Understand Evolving Threats,” was held Monday, Oct. 31, to Wednesday, Nov. 2 at the Monterey Conference Center in Monterey, CA.

Morag, who took over the Sam Houston State program six years ago, said CHDS provides a “ready pool of really top-notch” people with both a practitioner’s background, since they’re all current and former officials in the homeland security enterprise, and an academic background as a result of their CHDS education.

“I appreciate the diverse perspectives and understanding that they don’t know everything there is to know. CHDS alumni are open to the unknown, wicked problems and have experience sense-making and acting amidst chaos.”

— LAURIE HOLIEN

He added that there’s “no equivalent” to the CHDS educational program despite the existence of hundreds of homeland security and emergency management programs across the nation, noting that CHDS was actually set up to “seed” other university educational programs through UAPP and has been “instrumental in building programs.”

At Sam Houston State, Morag said CHDS alumni who serve as adjunct professors typically teach one or two courses while continuing their homeland security careers, though some are also already retired.

According to Morag, adjunct faculty includes CHDS alums Jack Anderson, Brad Deardorff, Donna Grannan, Dominique Tarpey, and Beth Windisch, as well as CHDS co-founders Ted Lewis and Darrell Darnell, among others, while course developers include CHDS alums Dr. James Madia, Sinan Khan, Judd Freed, Tarpey, and Anderson, among others.

Meanwhile, Holien said Idaho State also “recognizes the rare combination of qualities that CHDS alumni bring to the academic setting,” describing them as “highly accomplished leaders in their professions” who have “gone through the rigorous, research-based academic program” at CHDS.

“I appreciate the diverse perspectives and understanding that they don’t know everything there is to know,” she said. “CHDS alumni are open to the unknown, wicked problems and have experience sense-making and acting amidst chaos. Embracing emergent practice when necessary and sharing those experiences with students requires a different mindset than a professor who is more inclined to teach from a textbook. There is nothing wrong with that old-school teaching style for some subjects, but it does not fit well to build the homeland security and emergency management core competencies our country needs now and in the future.”

According to Holien, adjunct faculty includes CHDS alums Jonathan Gaddy, Darren Price, David Ferguson, Jason Nairn, Michael Harryman, Susan Reinertson, Donna White, English, and Freed, along with CHDS alums who have served as subject matter experts and supported the program and students including David Riedman, Thomas Landry, and Jay Hagen.

Holien said she is a “huge advocate” for CHDS and modeled both the Idaho State Homeland Security and Emergency Management Master’s and Bachelor’s degree programs “to attain the highly rigorous and collaborative nature” of the CHDS educational programs. The department launched its new Master’s degree program in August, she said, and rolled out the first course–Critical Issues and Systems Thinking.

As for the CHDS relationship with the broader academic community, Holien, who has been a UAPP member since she moved into academics full-time in 2016, also lauded that program for providing a “welcoming
place for other academics and agencies that value research and critical thinking via fellowship and shared resources among different higher education institutions."

Holien said UAPP has been an “invaluable resource and support community” for her as an academic, and she attends summits and conferences sponsored by the program whenever she is able and makes frequent use of the program’s online resources when developing new curriculum and seminars, as well as the faculty development workshops. In addition, she said the UAPP connection helps faculty members reach out to subject matter experts and guest speakers to “enrich our students’ learning experiences.”

She said she encourages any CHDS alum looking for mentoring opportunities to reach out to her so she can pair them up with undergraduate or graduate-level students who are interested in the alum’s specialty area and the alum can also become an organizational sponsor for a student working on a complex problem.

“Working with the next generation of homeland security leaders is a very rewarding experience,” she said. “I learn something new every day.

Holien said the UAPP network also played a role in helping her relocate the Homeland Security and Emergency Management program from Concordia University in Portland, OR, a small private liberal arts college that closed down during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, to Idaho State.

After building the program, including the expansion of its name and scope to include emergency management and the addition to the teaching roster of more CHDS alums to the handful who were there when she took over, Holien said it was a relief to be able to relocate the program including all its courses, adjunct faculty, her director position, and students who needed to complete their degrees.

“It was a stressful but fortuitous transition during the challenging pandemic that shocked many universities that were not adept at converting on-ground courses to online instruction,” she said, noting that she spoke with more than 50 institutions before settling on Idaho State, which already had CHDS alums on its own teaching roster.

“I am thankful for the UAPP program that helped connect me to many strategic conversations with member universities. We need those degree programs and I didn’t want to see it disappear.”

She noted that while CHDS alumni are “prevalent” in the current academic community, there are also “many brilliant academics” outside the CHDS network “dedicating their expertise to teaching and research,” and CHDS’s acknowledgment and support is “essential.”

To that end, Holien said she would like to see CHDS become an academic accrediting body for homeland security and emergency management education programs nationwide and said she would like to help with such an initiative. Morag said he would like to see the homeland security field “mature” by starting to develop and offer PhD programs, which he is in the early stages of developing at Sam Houston State. He said a PhD program, which he attempted to start at CHDS, is needed to provide legitimacy as an academic discipline complete with academic research, theory, and a body of literature, comparing it to the development of criminal justice as an academic discipline.
It didn’t take Rear Adm. Joanna Nunan (U.S. Coast Guard, Ret.) long after her retirement from a 35-year career in the Coast Guard to find her next challenge. Just seven months after her retirement ceremony in April 2022, the Center for Homeland Defense and Security alum (Executive Leaders Program 1201, Pacific Executive Leaders Program 1101) was appointed in November 2022 as the 14th superintendent of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, NY, the first woman to take over the prestigious post.

Nunan said she actually heard in March that the previous Merchant Marine Academy superintendent was retiring and the former Coast Guard Academy supervisor and trustee said she knew she still wanted to be in public service, so she expressed her interest.

According to Nunan, the Merchant Marine Academy, charged with educating and graduating leaders committed to serve the U.S. national security, marine transportation, and economic needs as licensed Merchant Marine Officers and commissioned officers in the Armed Forces, “really encompasses everything that mattered to me in my career,” including preparing the nation’s leaders and its “infrastructure of readiness.”

“It’s [the Merchant Marine Academy] such a unique place,” Nunan said. “It’s all about talent management. We’re really creating leaders for our nation. And I truly love wearing the uniform.”

— Joanna Nunan

During her more than three decades in the Coast Guard, the 1987 Coast Guard Academy graduate rose through the ranks to top leadership positions including Deputy for Personnel Readiness, in which she oversaw the Coast Guard’s entire personnel enterprise including the recruitment, training, support, and retention of all active duty, reserve, and civilian personnel.

Nunan also served as Assistant Commandant for Human Resources where she helped lead efforts to expand diversity and inclusion in the Coast Guard, including policy changes aimed at improving retention of women in the service, and she served on the Coast Guard’s Sexual Assault Prevention, Response, and Recovery Committee.

She also served earlier in her career as military advisor to U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson and military assistant to U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta.

Nunan served nearly a decade at sea during her Coast Guard career, including commanding two buoy tenders, and also served as Commander of the Ninth Coast Guard District and as Commander of Coast Guard Sector Honolulu. She obtained three Coast Guard merchant mariner licenses, including Master of vessels under 1,600 gross tons and Third Mate on vessels of unlimited tonnage.

During a historic Assumption of Command Ceremony on Dec 8, 2022, Joanna M. Nunan, U.S. Coast Guard (Ret.) became the United States Merchant Marine Academy’s (USMMA) 14th superintendent and first woman to hold the role.
Chris Paquet lay on a bathroom floor in July 2020, his life ebbing away with his body in the throes of a massive grand mal seizure. After months of working 100-plus hours per week as the COVID-19 pandemic wracked the city and its healthcare system starting in early 2020, the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene’s Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response assistant commissioner had run his physical and mental health into the ground. He had seen the crisis play havoc with his blood work, which showed that he was on the verge of contracting diabetes and exhibited other major warning signs. And he says that, looking back, he was in constant “survival mode,” unable to sleep properly with his exhausted mind racing even when he tried.

But the Center for Homeland Defense and Security Executive Leaders Program alum kept working anyway, continuing to push himself beyond his limits, convinced he had to keep working to save lives as the novel coronavirus ravaged the city at the epicenter of the U.S. virus outbreak.

Fortunately for Paquet (ELP cohort 2001), his mother found him and resuscitated him several times until an ambulance could arrive to take him to the hospital. He survived, but he is well aware of how close he came to death.

“If it wasn't for my mother and my partner I wouldn't be here today,” he said, remembering waking up in the hospital with no idea what had happened and then seeing the faces of his mother and his partner as he began to realize it wasn't a dream. “I don't want this to happen to anyone else. We're great at pushing through moments of crisis but our ability to push aside the stress to save lives does have its limits, and not paying attention to our bodies can do irreparable harm. This [health scare] gave me the impetus to change.”

When he returned to work, after taking a month off and ditching his computer and cell phone, Paquet said he needed to be honest about what happened with his boss and be part of preventing this from happening to someone else. Paquet decided it was important that he tell the staff about his near-death experience.

“If my experience can help save someone from the trauma I experienced, then being vulnerable and honest with colleagues was an important part of my job as a leader,” he said.

Paquet encouraged his colleagues to take better care of themselves while acknowledging he had not taken note of warning signs to pause.

In response to his story, he said several different co-workers pulled him aside and told him they were in a “bad place,” not knowing what to do with the feelings, thoughts, and memories of what they had seen first-hand.

He said he decided to speak with his boss and the senior team he was a part of about setting up a health and healing program,
and did so with help from a fellow Wheaton College alum, Wendy Luke, who he called a “lifesaver” for both “helping me process all I had seen and how to turn my experience into changing the way we respond.”

Paquet said he remains in therapy today and believes strongly that telling his story can hopefully show others that the body truly does “know the score.”

And he continues to post on social media the reminder, “we need everyone to help anyone.”

“We need to set up the expectation that puts health and loved ones first,” Paquet said. “I believe the most important thing for first responders is to put yourself and your health and your loved ones first. We need to be honest when we need to tap out.”

However, even with the benefit of hindsight and the changes he’s made in himself and encouraged in others, Paquet said he still feels like he had no choice but to continue working during the early months of the pandemic.

“At the height of it, I had to work; there were so many people dying,” he said. “I looked at it like a war, and I expected it to have some effect. But we were so focused on saving lives."

Therein lies the dilemma for first responders such as police officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and the like, and emergency response providers, including federal, state, and local governmental and inter-governmental emergency public safety, response, medical personnel, agencies and authorities, essentially the homeland security enterprise writ large.

They entered their professions dedicated to keeping people safe and saving lives, and the very culture of the profession can result in them finding it challenging if not impossible to step away from the work even when they find themselves at their mental and physical breaking point. And there remains too much of a stigma against seeking mental health and wellness treatment among those who do such crucial work, and far too few resources provided to them.

Add to that the increased stress of dealing with large-scale, historical challenges such as COVID-19, mass shootings, crime and violence on the rise, and hurricanes, floods, fires, and other natural disasters, as well as widespread social unrest, and first responders and emergency response providers are stretched as perhaps never before.

CHDS subject matter expert and alum Angi English (Master’s cohort 1303/1304, ELP cohort 1201) said the nature of the profession lends itself to mental health challenges.

“When everybody else is running away, they run toward danger,” English said. “And they run from one crisis to the next. It has a cumulative effect.”

The result? Studies have shown that an estimated 3 out of 10 among those on the frontlines of public health and safety have or will develop behavioral health conditions including, but not limited to, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), compared to about 20 percent of the general population, as well as much higher incidences of substance abuse and suicide.

And many in the first responder and emergency response provider field have either left or considered leaving the profession as a result of the stress and burnout they have experienced, with estimates as high as more than half of those working in some fields like public health thinking about changing careers.

Watermark interviewed for this article a cadre of health and social work experts regarding the unique mental health challenges first responders and emergency response providers face, and ways to address them. They include English, who was a licensed professional counselor and marriage and family therapist before retiring.
last year; Dr. Brian Olowude, University of California Santa Barbara Counseling and Psychological Services Director and clinical psychologist; and CHDS alums Dr. Shruti Dhapodkar (Master’s cohort 2105/2106, ELP cohort 1902), the San Mateo County, CA, Deputy Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator; U.S. Department of Homeland Security Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships Regional Coordinator Noel Lipana (Master’s cohort 0905/0906), an expert on “moral injury;” and Paquet.

Olowude, who has worked with State Corrections and the Veterans Administration, said first responders and emergency response providers, and others who work in similar high-stress occupations are charged with doing work that “is so essential” and are “good at recognizing the need for help in others” but are “not the best at recognizing when they need help.”

“They’re human but we tend to lionize them as these heroes who are indestructible,” he said. “It’s a unique situation with first responders because of the frequency and duration of their assignments on a day-to-day basis, catching people on their worst day. We’re not meant to run in the red at all times. As humans,

“I believe the most important thing for first responders is to put yourself and your health and your loved ones first. We need to be honest when we need to tap out.”

— CHRISS PAQUET

Happiness ADVANTAGE
Five daily activities that focus and retrain the brain

- Journaling about a positive experience
- Delivering a daily message of gratitude to a new person
- Thinking about new things to be happy about
- Deep breathing and meditation
- 15 minutes of cardio exercise

RECOMMENDED READING

5 LESSONS FROM THE BODY keeps THE SCORE
1. The brain-body connection is real
2. Trauma causes physical symptoms
3. The mind is not tending to the present moment
4. We have the power to regulate our physiology
5. Positive relationships are fundamental to our well-being

Sources: www.myndlift.com

working on the frontlines of public health and safety develop behavioral health conditions including, but not limited to, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder, as well as much higher incidence of substance abuse and suicide.
we’re wired this way—we can live with a lot of trauma, but with what toxic and long-term effects?”

Complicating matters, according to English, is the stigma against admitting one is struggling with mental health issues.

“The whole culture of first responders is ‘don’t show any weakness,’” she said, adding that talking about trauma is somewhat taboo in the health world. “It doesn’t get discussed enough.”

Dhapodkar said governmental and other organizations also don’t prioritize mental wellness as much as they should.

“Burnout is not necessarily a personal thing but an organizational thing because [employees] don’t feel supported,” she said, adding that too many governmental organizations are dealing with minimal staffing and don’t invest enough in their workforce. “Often I think they’re just trying to survive rather than innovate and build.”

Olowude said organizations need to prioritize mental health and wellness more, noting that a “healthy first responder is a safer first responder.”

He called for organizations to include mental health and wellness in their job descriptions and evaluations, encourage taking time off, prioritize working smarter rather than harder, include wellness principles in job training, and generally convey the message that “we need you healthy and present.”

Olowude also said he wants legislators and policymakers to take the issue more seriously.

“We have such a dedicated, talented group of professionals that I refuse to accept that we can’t find a solution to this challenge,” he said, adding, “as long as we consider it important.”

English said, in a nutshell, the solution is “establishing a work environment where people can speak up without being punished.”

She called for first responder organizations to establish peer-to-peer counseling rather than the typical group debriefing.

“I think we can do better by our first responders,” English said. “We have to do better. I think the key is feeling safe, and being able to discuss mental health issues and offering a whole suite of therapies, and the ability to customize treatment programs based on what first responders are going through.”

Lipana said there’s a need to break through the cultural expectation of quick fixes and commit to long-term recovery. “We have to understand that we can’t just take a pill or sit through a 50-minute therapy session and everything will be alright,” he said.

Dhapodkar, who is in the process of instituting mental health and wellness initiatives in the San Francisco Bay Area, said there needs to be a concerted effort to build a “culture of wellness and resiliency” in the field. That can start, she said, with the “happiness advantage” including five daily activities that focus and “hack” or retrain the brain, including journaling about a positive experience, delivering a daily message of gratitude to a new person, thinking about new things to be happy about, deep breathing and meditation, and 15 minutes of cardio exercise.

The bottom line, she said, is getting rid of the idea that seeking mental and physical health treatment is a “vulnerability” and a “weakness,” which she said is actually our vulnerability as a society. ■

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**Safe Call Now 206-459-3020**
A 24/7 help line staffed by first responders and their family members. They can assist with treatment options for responders who are suffering from mental health, substance abuse and other personal issues.

**Fire/EMS Helpline 888-731-3473**
Also known as Share the Load. A program run by the National Volunteer Fire Council. They have a help line, text-based help services, and have a collection of resources for people looking for help and support.

**Frontline Helpline 866-676-7500**
Run by Frontline Responder Services. Offer 24/7 coverage with first responder call-takers.

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800-273-8255**
The national suicide hotline. Not first responder specific, but they can talk to anyone who needs help.

**Firefighter/Family Crisis and Support Line 844-525-FIRE (3473)**
A 24/7 hotline for firefighters and family members and to speak with mental health counselors who are trained in fire service culture.
When it comes to prioritizing mental health and wellness, the Colorado Springs Fire Department is on the cutting edge of the first responder industry—and has been for some time.

Starting with a year-long University of Colorado at Colorado Springs study of the department nearly two decades ago, the fire department has built a mental health and wellness program that could be a model for other first responder organizations. From implementing a peer support team model and adding a staff psychologist to active-duty firefighter podcasts and anonymous surveys, the department has invested considerable time and energy in the mental health and wellness of its firefighters.

Colorado Springs Deputy Fire Chief and CHDS alum Steve Dubay (Master's cohort 1403/1404, Executive Leaders Program cohort 1202) said the department has been “trying to bring awareness to the importance of mental health in addition to physical health for many years,” and the effort has gone through a “slow cultural change because people don’t want to talk about their mental health and be seen as somehow ‘weak’ or ‘unable to handle the job.’”

“Overall, as a department, we are trying to create awareness and make it okay to talk about and address mental health needs,” Dubay said.

The result, he said, is a program that he considers a potential model for other agencies.

“I do think it could be a model for others; it’s pretty special and cutting-edge stuff, especially for the fire service,” he said, noting that the department has made presentations at the State Fire Chiefs Association, and also reached out to other fire, police, and ambulance organizations.

“We don’t give up on selling the value of our program to others.”

Fellow Colorado Springs Deputy Fire Chief Jayme McConnellogue, who joined the department as a firefighter and currently oversees the department’s various mental health and wellness initiatives, agreed that it took some time for the program to gain acceptance, especially among the more veteran members of the department.

“If you think it’s cutting-edge now, we were really cutting-edge back then,” McConnellogue said. “It took many, many years to embrace.”

Driver-Engineer John Giacoma, a military veteran who joined the department in 2013 and is set to assume oversight of the mental health and wellness initiatives from McConnellogue, said it’s reassuring to know that help is available for the rest of his and others’ careers, no matter how long they last.

Colorado Springs Fire started its mental health and wellness program years ago by implementing a peer support team of firefighters from all ranks who are continuously trained to talk to their fellow firefighters confidentially about their mental health.

Employs a staff psychologist, Dr. Judith Long, who is available for both on- and off-duty firefighters for confidential sessions that are not reported to the department’s administration.

Regularly posts information on available assistance resources, including links on the department’s intranet page to the peer support team and SafeCallNow, and posters throughout its fire stations and other facilities.

Deploys their own Cable television channel and produces a variety of broadcasts including ones by Dr. Long and firefighters who have experienced mental health issues.

Shares podcasts featuring active-duty firefighters discussing their personal struggles with mental health and substance abuse issues.
C
onfronting what she calls a "rising epidemic of suicide" among first responders, Brandielee Baker and her organization, The Code 9 Project, have made it their mission to change the culture by educating on the detrimental, and potentially deadly, effects of cumulative stress in these types of careers.

"Pushing stress down and avoiding it does not make it go away," Baker said. "By doing so we are chipping away at our resiliency which can lead to some very serious outcomes such as PTSD and suicide."

Baker, a 20-year veteran of the health and wellness industry and president of The Code 9 Project, is also PTSD and trauma survivor who grew up in a family of military veterans and first responders.

“The cumulative effect of stress from

serving not only affects the individual, but also has a tremendous effect on the family unit and family members,” she said.

As a result, she dedicated her career to wellness and resiliency. Code 9 offers access to a whole range of resources, such as the nationally accredited SHARE programs on stress, burnout, and wellness; TUF Peer Support Training (talk, unwind, focus); and even a First Responder meditation album. Code 9 also has a specialized Critical Incident Team that responds quietly to interdepartmental suicides, mass shootings, and major natural disasters, delivering the necessary stabilization for departments in crisis facing these types of incidents.

Baker said the Code 9 team is comprised of active duty and retired first responders and military veterans with first-hand experience in the field.

"There is still a stigma present in these careers around mental health and the idea of support, and that's why it is so important to have peers who have addressed their own issues available," she said.

Baker brought her message to the Center for Homeland Defense and Security in September 2022, leading an Emergence Program session entitled "Building Personal Resilience" which addressed the challenges of balancing a "growing list of demands on our work and personal lives" that can lead to stress and anxiety. The seminar offered methods for managing the "stress, trauma, and time demands that negatively affect our well-being and performance."

Above see the accompanying list of resilience strategies.
A proposal that began in a Center for Homeland Defense and Security Master’s Program class has been transformed into a successful naturalization fraud initiative dubbed Operation False Haven that has resulted in a top award.

In July, CHDS alum Ron Dorman (MA 1703/1704) was given the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s Executive Associate Director’s Award for the multi-phase initiative the lead Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) officer crafted to identify child molesters and other egregious felons who fraudulently obtain U.S. citizenship.

Dorman developed a strategy to cross-reference criminal records with naturalization records through the National Criminal Analysis and Targeting Center and used the matches to identify felons who were convicted after naturalization for crimes they knowingly committed and concealed prior to receiving citizenship.

So far, Operation False Haven has led to 44 criminal cases, 19 civil cases, 12 judicial revocations of citizenship, 7 judicial removal orders, and more than 120 felony charges relating to naturalization and passport fraud, and violations of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act.

Dorman said the initiative started as a mission model canvas project in CHDS instructor Rodrigo Nieto Gomez’s class. However, he said he quickly realized he was “really overreaching” with the proposal and would never be able to complete it during the class and so switched to a biometrics initiative instead.

Later, he said, when asked if “anyone had anything on naturalization fraud,” he ended up “knocking the dust bunnies off” the proposal and creating an initiative that started operating on a small scale in the fall of 2019. “[The initiative] wouldn’t exist without CHDS,” Dorman said.

Naturalization fraud and detecting it has “historically been a huge issue” among the 800,000 to 900,000 annual naturalization cases, he said, noting that the initiative deals with “massive” criminal and immigration databases. Dorman figured out how to sift through the databases algorithmically, and identify fraudsters.

Dorman added that “de-naturalization is not something to be taken lightly,” and ICE wanted to target the “worst of the worst,” including convicted child molesters, as well as tax fraud and elder abuse convicts.

After proving the initiative is “scalable,” Dorman said Operation False Haven has expanded from the Eastern District of North Carolina where it started to other districts and states, including Michigan, Texas, and Florida, with Louisiana and Georgia also considering adding the initiative. He said the ICE award is a “source of pride,” and that he is “genuinely proud of the recognition.”

The award is the highest given to an individual for significant contributions to the overall success of the ERO mission.

Dorman said not only was CHDS the “best thing that ever happened to me” but that he continues to “lean on my classmates as sounding boards. CHDS has always been a monster resource for me,” he said. “It’s difficult to put into words how important it has been to me and my career. I went in blind and completely fell in love with it. It means the world to me.”
Two Center for Homeland Defense and Security alumni from Master’s cohort 1904 had a chance to meet up in Southwest Florida while both were deployed in support of Hurricane Ian relief efforts.

Mickey Ellenwood was serving as the FEMA project manager for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers “Blue Roof” Mission. Blue Roof refers to temporary roof repairs, which keeps people in their homes and alleviates pressure on the voluntary agencies and state governments to provide shelter.

Chris Repair, Federal Air Marshal Service, was leading a Quick Response Team (QRT) of federal agents providing site security for a Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) FL-5 at Cape Coral Hospital in Lee County, FL.

The DMAT was deployed by the Department of Health and Human Services to provide medical care to those needing medical care and helped alleviate the burden on the local health care system.

In addition, CHDS alums Erik Rau (Master’s Program cohort 1805/1806) and Rob Root (Master’s Program cohort 2001/2002) also responded to Hurricane Ian during a two-week stint with the Oregon State Fire Marshal Incident Management Team.

The two responded as part of a 13-person incident management team comprised of fire service professionals from around Oregon state. Emergency managers at the Florida Division of Emergency Management assigned the team to Hardee County in central Florida to support Emergency Operations Center operations.

Hardee County was subjected to the full brunt of Hurricane Ian on the northern edge of the storm path. The community experienced storm damage and extreme flooding, including washed-out bridges and roads throughout the county. The team arrived in Wauchula, FL, on Sept. 30 and were set to return to Oregon on Oct. 13.

The Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal administers three all-hazard incident management teams with members from the structural fire service. The teams mobilize primarily to fire incidents threatening lives and structures but also manage a variety of other incidents.

Having never worked together previously, Rob and Erik reported that it was great to work with another alumnus of the CHDS Master’s program. Both found CHDS camaraderie in the response, where they were faced with numerous issues, unique situations, and dire conditions.
Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS) Executive Leaders Program (ELP) alum Jason Sanford is at the forefront of a nationally recognized effort to address targeted violence and domestic violence extremism prevention.

As the senior policy advisor to Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker’s Homeland Security Advisor and Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) Director Alicia Tate-Nadeau, another CHDS ELP alum, Sanford (ELP cohort 2102) is taking the lead on IEMA’s efforts to address targeted and domestic violence extremism prevention in a two-part strategy drawing national attention.

“It’s a critical item in the homeland security world and we think the work in Illinois is one of the best examples,” Sanford said.

According to Sanford, IEMA applied through the National Governor’s Association (NGA) in 2021 for technical assistance aimed at devising a strategy for addressing targeted violence and participated in the NGA Policy Academy on Preventing Targeted Violence to develop a statewide prevention strategy.

Sanford said the proposal was given the go-ahead to build a targeted violence prevention coalition as part of that effort. The agency started with the existing K-12 and higher education violence prevention program because it was already well-developed with existing partners, with plans to expand to other areas of targeted violence.

“It was more a matter of connecting the dots rather than creating new dots,” Sanford said.

Coalition experts including the University of Illinois Chicago and Western Illinois University devised and built out the strategy and the resulting Illinois Targeted Violence Prevention Strategy coordinates information and resources, builds partnerships, and empowers local communities to prevent targeted violence, which is generally defined as “any intentional act against a pre-identified target based on that target’s perceived identity or affiliation that is intended to intimidate or coerce or generate publicity about the perpetrator’s grievance.”

Sanford said the initial efforts will focus on grassroots and community programs that will be at the forefront of efforts to prevent targeted violence. The coalition determined that K-12 and higher education would benefit from strengthening community-based targeted violence prevention resources.

“[Targeted and domestic violence] is a critical item in the homeland security world and we think the work in Illinois is one of the best examples.”

— JASON SANFORD

“Primary prevention involves reducing population-level risk factors such as bullying, domestic violence, gang membership, drug and alcohol abuse, and strengthening population-level protective factors such as linkage to mental health services,” Sanford said. “Secondary prevention involves helping people who are at risk for targeted violence with wrap-around services aimed at enabling them to reduce or cease their risk for potential violence, while tertiary prevention involves helping people who have been convicted of a crime related to targeted violence with wrap-around services that enable them to diminish their risk of further similar crimes.”

In addition, Sanford said the strategy calls for strengthening higher education and K-12 based Behavioral Threat Assessment Management (BTAM) teams aimed at establishing and maintaining the capabilities of regional community-based teams.

The strategy will remain flexible to respond to changing conditions. “Like any document, it’s a living document. It has to change,” he said. “But the ‘Illinois model’ of focusing on building coalitions and community partnerships is seen as the predominant trend of the future.”

Meanwhile, the Illinois strategy is getting plenty of attention, including from other states working with the NGA on the issue, and the plan went all the way up to the Department of Homeland Security’s leadership.

Another facet of the state’s domestic violence extremism strategy will focus on behaviors outside the education system that might require law enforcement intervention. Led by Illinois State Police, a domestic violence extremism working group including law enforcement, emergency management, and community organizations was formed and started meeting in September, and assessment and development of law enforcement-specific strategies has begun.

Sanford said his experience at CHDS in the Executive Leaders Program helped prepare him for working with diverse coalitions and partnerships, noting that the program examined complexity in executive decision-making and complicated national issues like prevention. Being able to share experiences and learn from each other helped to form courses of action in developing coalitions and strategies, including respect for diversity of thought, he added.

Sanford has worked for IEMA since 2019 and among his missions are state homeland security policy, and prevention programs and partnerships.
CHDS ALUM, U.S. SECRET SERVICE AGENT ON CRYPTOCURRENCY FRAUD

BY JIM JOHNSON

When it comes to the growing trend of cryptocurrency fraud, U.S. Secret Service Special Agent in Charge Shawn Bradstreet is at the forefront of the enforcement battle.

According to the Center for Homeland Defense and Security alum (Master’s Program cohort 1803/1804), the San Francisco field office has seen an explosion in cryptocurrency scams that has led to the seizure of more cryptocurrency than traditional “flat” currency over the past five years. It’s a trend he said has been seen all along the West Coast from Seattle and Denver to San Diego, and cryptocurrency fraud complaints now exceed traditional financial fraud complaints. In just the past year, he said, incidents of a specific kind of cryptocurrency scam called “pig butchering” has tripled.

“It’s running rampant,” Bradstreet said.

Over nearly a decade, Bradstreet said he has seen the cryptocurrency fraud landscape grow exponentially from relatively humble beginnings to the behemoth it is today, and law enforcement officials have been working hard to keep up with the trend by enlisting the help of private sector and academia.

In 2014, Bradstreet was the supervisor over the U.S. Secret Service San Francisco field office’s Electronic Crimes Task Force, which is now called the Cyber Fraud Task Force, when the task force began receiving periodic complaints about criminals stealing bitcoin from victims throughout the Bay Area.

Since the task force was “completely unfamiliar” with cryptocurrency and the functionality of blockchain technology, Bradstreet said it turned to the private sector and academia for “guidance and training.”

Bradstreet said the task force reached out to the Director of Investigations at Coinbase, the cryptocurrency exchange then headquartered about a mile from the San Francisco Field Office, and the company was “really instrumental in training our agents and providing guidance to start pursuing cryptocurrency investigations.”

Earlier this year, Bradstreet said, the San Francisco field office created the first Digital Asset Technology Alliance consisting of local, state, and federal law enforcement along with the private sector and academia to “combat the increasing threat to the digital asset ecosystem.”

“Our private sector and academia partners are instrumental as the technology continues to evolve into the DeFi [decentralized finance] space,” he said.

Bradstreet said he has recently seen the pig butchering scam emerging as a top threat in the Bay Area, where the majority of global cases are located, and the scam has hit the local Asian American community particularly hard.

In the past year, high-profile pig butchering cases that drew media attention included a Bay Area software developer losing $1.3 million and a San Francisco man with a financial and accounting background losing $1.2 million.

Other common cryptocurrency scams include phishing, false romance, rug pulls, and Ponzi, among others.

Bradstreet said cryptocurrency scams and other virtual currency fraud are an important homeland security issue, especially because he predicted that the U.S. and the rest of the global financial markets will continue to transition to a digital currency of some type.

While cryptocurrency presents enforcement challenges, Bradstreet said it is “not bad on its face” and plays an “important role in finance,” offering myriad benefits including reaching the unbanked, quicker currency movement, operating around the clock, cheaper transaction fees, and others.

Meanwhile, Bradstreet said his experience in the CHDS Master’s Program helped him deal with cryptocurrency issues because of the focus on analyzing issues objectively, conducting academic research, and promoting innovation and “pushing the envelope.” If not for CHDS, he said he probably wouldn’t have pushed the San Francisco Field Office as aggressively in the fight against cryptocurrency fraud.
This season, cozy up and make time for yourself to find your next favorite homeland security informational book or podcast. You can listen and subscribe to podcasts through iTunes, Spotify, Google Podcasts, or your preferred listening service.

**Books | TIME TO READ**

- **2034: A NOVEL OF THE NEXT WORLD WAR**
  BY ELIOT ACKERMAN
  A chillingly authentic geopolitical thriller that imagines a naval clash between the US and China in the South China Sea in 2034—and the path from there to a nightmarish global conflagration.

- **AI 2041: TEN VISIONS FOR THE FUTURE**
  KAI-FU LEE & CHEN QUIFAN
  AI will be the defining development of the twenty-first century. Within two decades, aspects of daily human life will be unrecognizable. AI will generate unprecedented wealth, revolutionize medicine and education through human-machine symbiosis, and create brand-new forms of communication and entertainment. In liberating us from routine work, however, AI will also challenge the organizing principles of our economic and social order. Meanwhile, AI will bring new risks in the form of autonomous weapons and smart technology that inherits human bias. AI is at a tipping point, and people need to wake up—both to AI’s radiant pathways and its existential perils for life as we know it.

- **AMERICAN TIME BOMB: ATTICA, SAM MELVILLE, AND A SON’S SEARCH FOR ANSWERS**
  BY JOSHUA MELVILLE
  This memoir by Melville’s son opens a window into the personal life of a legend, revealing the universal and all-too-human foibles motivating those driven to make change through violence. In the current political climate, at the fiftieth anniversary of the Attica Uprising, this nation grows increasingly interested in the racially biased incarceration and violent social activism that has shaped our nation.

- **APOLLO’S ARROW: THE PROFOUNDED ENDURING IMPACT OF CORONAVIRUS ON THE WAY WE LIVE**
  BY NICHOLAS A. CHRISTAKIS
  Apollo’s Arrow offers a riveting account of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic as it swept through American society in 2020, and of how the recovery will unfold in the coming years. Drawing on momentous (yet dimly remembered) historical epidemics, contemporary analyses, and cutting-edge research from a range of scientific disciplines, bestselling author, physician, sociologist, and public health expert Nicholas A. Christakis explores what it means to live in a time of plague—an experience that is paradoxically uncommon to the vast majority of humans who are alive, yet deeply fundamental to our species.

- **ART OF WAR IN AN AGE OF PEACE: U.S. GRAND STRATEGY AND RESOLUTE RESTRAINT**
  BY MICHAEL O’HANLON
  Russia and China are both believed to have a “grand strategy”—a detailed set of goals backed by expansive ambitions. In the United States, policy makers have tried to articulate similar plans but have failed to reach a widespread consensus since the Cold War ended. While the United States has been the world’s prominent superpower for over a generation, American thinking has oscillated between the extremes of isolationist agendas versus interventionist and overly assertive ones.

- **BETWEEN CRIME AND WAR: HYBRID LEGAL FRAMEWORKS FOR ASYMMETRIC CONFLICT**
  BY JENS DAVID OHLIN
  The threat posed by the recent rise of transnational non-state armed groups does not fit easily within either of the two basic paradigms for state responses to violence. The civilian paradigm focuses on the interception of demonstrable immediate threats to the safety of others. The military paradigm focuses on threats posed by collective actors who pose a danger to the state’s ability to maintain basic social order and, at times, the very existence of the state. While the United States has responded to the threat posed by non-state armed groups by using tools from both paradigms, it has placed substantially more emphasis on the military paradigm than have other states.

- **CAPTURING THE UNABOMBER**
  BY JIM FREEMAN
  This fascinating story written by the FBI Agents who led the chase to capture the notorious Unabomber is presented in a two-dimensional manner: the story from the FBI’s perspective and the story culled from captured documents, the thoughts and perspective of the Unabomber concurrent to that of the pursuing FBI Agents. It is a treatment that only the FBI could present. This unique treatment focuses on the final two years of the almost two decades long chase of the Unabomber previously treated by the authors in Unabomber: How the FBI Broke Its Own Rules To Capture the Terrorist Ted Kaczynski.

- **CHIP WAR: THE FIGHT FOR THE WORLD’S MOST CRITICAL TECHNOLOGY**
  BY CHRIS MILLER
  Economic historian Chris Miller explains how the semiconductor came to play a critical role in modern life.
and how the U.S. become dominant in chip design and manufacturing and applied this technology to military systems. America’s victory in the Cold War and its global military dominance stems from its ability to harness computing power more effectively than any other power. But here, too, China is catching up, with its chip-building ambitions and military modernization going hand in hand.

**CREATING CONSPIRACY BELIEFS: HOW OUR THOUGHTS ARE SHAPED**
BY ALBARRACIN ET AL.
This timely book focuses on making sense of how and why some people respond to their fear of a threat by creating or believing conspiracy stories. It integrates insights from psychology, political science, communication, and information sciences to provide a complete overview and theory of how conspiracy beliefs manifest.

**DEFENDING DEMOCRACIES: COMBATING FOREIGN ELECTION INTERFERENCE IN A DIGITAL AGE**
BY OHLIN AND HOLLIS
Defending Democracies examines the problem through an interdisciplinary lens and focuses on: (i) defining the problem of foreign election interference, (ii) exploring the solutions that international law might bring to bear, and (iii) considering alternative regulatory frameworks for understanding and addressing the problem. The result is a deeply urgent examination of an old problem on social media steroids, one that implicates the most central institution of liberal democracy: elections.

**DIVIDED WE FALL: WHY CONSENSUS MATTERS**
BY ALICE RIVLIN
Alice M. Rivlin, with decades of experience in economic policy making, argues that proven economic policies could lead to sustainable American prosperity and opportunity for all, but crafting them requires the tough, time-consuming work of consensus building and bipartisan negotiation.

**EXPLORING HATE: AN ANTHOLOGY**
BY GELTZER, GHOSH, & MCKENZIE
Exploring Hate: An Anthology is uniquely positioned to shape and drive a vital public conversation on the issue of hate. As the global public grapples with emergent and evolving forms of hate, this volume will provide a guide for understanding that hate—and the options for addressing it.

**EYES TO THE SKY: PRIVACY AND COMMERCE IN THE AGE OF THE DRONE**
BY MATTHEW FEENEY
At a time when low-flying drones are affordable and ubiquitous, how useful are the airspace regulations and privacy laws designed for traditional airplanes and helicopters? Is there a way to build a regulatory and legal environment that ensures entrepreneurs and hobbyists can safely use drones while also protecting us from intrusive aerial surveillance? In Eyes to the Sky: Privacy and Commerce in the Age of the Drone, experts from legal, regulatory, public policy, and civil liberty communities tackle these pressing problems.

**HACKER’S MIND: HOW THE POWERFUL BEND SOCIETY’S RULES, AND HOW TO BEND THEM BACK**
BY BRUCE SCHNEIER
In A Hacker’s Mind, Bruce Schneier takes hacking out of the world of computing and uses it to analyze the systems that underpin our society: from tax laws to financial markets to politics. He reveals an array of powerful actors whose hacks bend our economic, political, and legal systems to their advantage, at the expense of everyone else.

**INFORMATION WAR: HOW ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IS DRIVING U.S.-CHINA MILITARY COMPETITION**
BY TOM STEFANICK
This ground-breaking book by an expert in technology and national security argues that the two contemporary superpowers will base their security competition primarily on the fight to dominate information and perception.

**ISOLATING THE ENEMY: DIPLOMATIC STRATEGY IN CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES, 1953–1956**
BY TAO WANG
Tao Wang offers a new account of Sino–American relations in the mid-1950s that situates the two great powers in their international context. He reveals how both the United States and China adopted a policy of attempting to isolate their adversary and explores how Chinese and American leaders perceived and reacted to each other’s strategies.

**OUT OF THE RED: MY LIFE OF GANGS, PRISON, AND REDEMPTION**
BY CHRISTIAN L. BOLDEN
Incarcerated during the Texas prison boom, the teenage former gangster was thrust into a fight for survival as he navigated the perils of adult prison. As mass incarceration and prison gangs swallowed up youth like him, survival meant finding hope in a hopeless situation and carving a path to his own rehabilitation. Despite all odds, he forged a new path through education, ultimately achieving the seemingly impossible for a formerly incarcerated ex-gangbanger.

**AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT**

**NORMAL SUCKS: HOW TO LIVE, LEARN, AND THRIVE, OUTSIDE THE LINES**
BY JONATHAN MOONEY
Confessional and often hilarious, in Normal Sucks a neurodiverse writer, advocate, and father meditates on his life, offering the radical message that we should stop trying to fix people and start empowering them to succeed.

**ISLAND OF SEA WOMEN**
BY LISA SEE
Mi-ja and Young-sook, two girls living on the Korean island of Jeju, are best friends who come from very different backgrounds. When they are old enough, they begin working in the sea with their village’s all-female diving collective, led by Young-sook’s mother. As the girls take up their positions as baby divers, they know they are beginning a life of excitement and responsibility—but also danger.
ALUMNI HOUR

STAY CONNECTED, STAY INFORMED

The Alumni Hour is an hour-long virtual interactive discussion that provides a trusted place to discuss current challenges and smart practices for CHDS faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

Held on the third Thursday of every month

September 2022 Alumni Hour, “Current and Future Impacts of Water Security,” with Michael Larrañaga, Managing Principal, R.E.M. Risk Consultants, Dallas, TX; Chris Vicino, Director of Security Services and Emergency Management, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power; Katrina Wright, Senior Immigration Services Officer, DHS—USCIS, Albuquerque, NM; and moderator Tom Mackin, CHDS Instructor

Podcasts | TIME TO LISTEN

• BEDROCK, USA
  Bedrock, USA is a podcast about political extremism, small town life, and the fight for democracy, hosted by Laura Bliss, a reporter at Bloomberg CityLab.

• BEFORE, DURING & AFTER
  Before, During & After is a podcast for emergency managers. Join us for insights into where emergency management is headed, conversation about preparing for the threats of tomorrow and how everyone has a role in keeping communities safe from disaster. Future podcast episodes will cover FEMA’s work in implementing its strategic plan as well as recent disaster recovery efforts and resources available to better prepare for future risks.

• CLIMATE CHARGE
  The Climate Charge podcast provokes policy discussion on environmental science innovations, global sustainability, and international development in an era of unprecedented change. Jeremiah and Carly interview guests from all perspectives of policy—government, private industry, academia, and more!

• CORONAVIRUS CRISIS UPDATE
  Coronavirus Crisis Update is the podcast series of the CSIS Global Health Policy Center (GHPC) focused on the COVID-19 pandemic. In Coronavirus Crisis Update, J. Stephen Morrison, GHPC’s Director, and H. Andrew Schwartz, CSIS Chief Communications Officer, speak to those leading the global response and fighting the pandemic in the United States. These conversations dive deep into how the pandemic is impacting America across economics, national security, foreign policy, and health, and where we go from here.

• THE CURRENT
  The Current brings you smart, timely, and quick analysis from Brookings experts on breaking news and changing policies. In under ten minutes, learn not only what happened, but why, and how to make sense of it.

• DISASTER ZONE
  Disaster Zone is hosted by Eric Holdeman, an emergency manager with over 30 years of experience at the federal, state and local levels of government. Disaster Zone is a podcast that focuses on all facets of disasters; the before, during and after of events that are increasingly impacting communities around the world.

• EXTREMELY
  Extremely is a podcast for anyone that wants to understand and interrupt modern hate and extremism. Hosted by Oren Segal and brought to you by ADL and American University. These conversations feature expert analysis and fresh perspective on this global threat and what it might take to stop it in its tracks.

• FIGHTING TERROR
  Fighting Terror is a podcast that brings together counterterrorism experts and practitioners from Europe, the United States, and beyond to address different approaches to combating terrorism in our society. Our frank discussions cover the lifecycle of terrorism from propaganda and recruitment, to financing, action, and failure.

• HOMELAND: THE PODCAST
  In Homeland: The Podcast, the Southern California Regional Alumni Chapter of the Center for Homeland Defense and Security brings you yesterday’s pioneers, today’s leaders and tomorrow’s visionaries within homeland security.

• ICHIEFS
  Fire Chief Tom Jenkins and ESCI President Sheldon Gilbert engage with fire service leaders to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing you and your agency. If you’re seeking out new ideas, looking to improve your leadership skills, and wanting to make a difference within your organization, this podcast is for you.

• IN PUBLIC SAFETY MATTERS
  Public safety professionals face ongoing challenges and struggles. American Military University brings you In Public Safety Matters, a podcast featuring experts in law enforcement, corrections, the fire service, and municipal leadership discussing some of the most relevant and challenging issues in public safety today.

• INSIDE CYBER DIPLOMACY
  Inside Cyber Diplomacy presents a wide-ranging and thought-provoking look at international cybersecurity, its challenges, and practices. Through candid interviews with experts around the world, co-hosts Jim Lewis and Chris Painter explore how diplomacy and negotiation have shaped the field.

• LSU NCBRT PREPAREDNESS PODCAST
  The LSU National Center for Biomedical Research and Training is a nationally recognized center for emergency preparedness and response training located at Louisiana State University’s flagship campus. Each week on the LSU NCBRT Preparedness Podcast, we will bring in some of the nation’s top experts to cover topics related to the wide field of emergency response.

Listen online or through your favorite music streaming device
• TECH AGAINST TERRORISM
Want to learn more about how terrorists and violent extremists are using the internet to communicate and share propaganda? Perhaps you’re interested in why terrorists share their manifestos online and livestream their attacks? The Tech Against Terrorism podcast is a deep dive into the evolving use of the internet by terrorists and violent extremists, how this relates to real world harms, and what can be done to support the tech sector to disrupt this threat. Join us as we speak to the world’s leading experts in this field and uncover everything from the online propaganda behind an IS prison break in Syria, to the online network of neo-Nazis behind a foiled terrorist plot in Texas.

• TERRORISM 360
Terrorism 360 is a podcast brought to you by the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) headquartered at the University of Maryland. The central organizing principle of this podcast is that sensible policy on terrorism requires an objective, science-based approach, as well as a wide variety of perspectives.

• TERRORISM AND POLITICAL VIOLENCE
Terrorism and Political Violence (TPV) is a podcast series produced by the journal Terrorism and Political Violence external link in collaboration with Utrecht University and Security in Open Societies. In the podcast series we dive deep into the world of terrorism, radicalisation, and research. The editors of the TPV journal, together with special guests, will discuss a range of topics: the history of terrorism, its causes and consequences, questions about political violence, and major global trends and threats.

• U.S. FIRE ADMINISTRATION PODCASTS
Join the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) and our nation’s fire and emergency medical services (EMS) experts as we learn to reduce fire and life safety risks to our communities and emergency responders.

• WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?
AEI’s Danielle Pletka and Marc Thiessen address the questions we’re all asking in their podcast, “What the Hell Is Going On?” In conversational, informative, and irreverent episodes, Pletka and Thiessen interview policymakers and experts, asking tough, probing questions about the most important foreign policy and security challenges facing the world today.

• AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT
• A WAY WITH WORDS
An upbeat and lively public radio show and podcast about language examined through family, history, and culture. Language debates, variations, and evolution, as well as new words, old sayings, slang, family expressions, word histories, etymology, linguistics, regional dialects, word games, grammar, books, literature, writing, and more.

• HOW DID THIS GET MADE?
Have you ever seen a movie so bad that it’s amazing? Paul Scheer, June Diane Raphael, and Jason Mantzoukas want to hear about it! We’ll watch it with our funniest friends, and report back to you with the results.

• THE MOTH RADIO HOUR
A weekly series featuring true stories told live on stage without scripts, notes, props, or accompaniment. Each Moth Radio Hour mixes humorous, heartbreaking, and poignant tales that captivate, surprise, and delight audiences with their honesty, bravery, and humor.
The Center for Homeland Defense and Security Master’s Program continued to implement its curriculum redesign with the most recent graduating cohort helping to provide valuable feedback.

According to Master’s Degree Program Manager and Senior Lecturer Shannon Brown, the ongoing iteration of the redesigned curriculum is now being run a second time with Master’s cohort 2203/04, while the recently graduated Master’s cohort 2103/2104 took the same, albeit “refreshed” series of courses.

Brown said the Master’s “legacy” courses were given a “refresh” when the program was being delivered online during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, and cohorts that started the program before the curriculum redesign began implementation benefitted from what he called the “effort to update course objectives.”

In addition, Brown said recent cohorts helped provide critical feedback that he said will “inform” the redesign, noting that he met with the graduating cohort in October as part of the Capstone course to discuss their perspectives on the legacy curriculum and incorporate that into the redesign.

“Our students are very thoughtful and insightful about their classroom and distance learning experiences, and the Master’s degree instructional teams work diligently to keep the courses current based in part on the feedback from the students we serve,” Brown said.

Brown pointed to the topic of social media platform content moderation and the recent purchase of Twitter by Elon Musk which has increased the visibility of the topic for homeland security practitioners recently. This is in part, Brown says, because of the new owner’s approach to content including suspensions, user verifications, and regulatory compliance that might “disrupt the ability of the public sector to use the platform to effectively communicate with different audiences.”

While Brown said “fears have proven to be unfounded,” changes to the company’s content moderation approach will “nonetheless be a focus of attention in the months to come.”

Meanwhile, Master’s cohort 2103/2104 graduated 30 homeland security professionals with Master’s of Arts degrees in Security Studies during a graduation ceremony in the King Auditorium at the Naval Postgraduate School on Friday, Dec. 16.

“Nothing more embodies CHDS than the multi-disciplinary nature of the program,” Luedtke said.

In fact, Balak and Luedtke decided to reach out to the entire cohort via Zoom last year even before formal instruction began because they said they realized the “value of coming together and leaning on each other” through the 18-month term.

Both also said their favorite part of the program was learning concepts “out of our wheelhouse” and having their assumptions challenged. And they said CHDS instructors were expert at incorporating national and global events such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol, and the Russian invasion of Ukraine into their instruction and used them to “contextualize and apply the principles” of homeland security.

Luedtke said the Master’s program was “very difficult,” but added that CHDS “does such a great job of offering resources and support” that the cohort was able to succeed.

Cohort standouts include:
- State of Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission Technical Advisor II Matt Davison, who was chosen as the Outstanding Thesis Award winner for his thesis entitled “Reconstruction Terror: Origins, Applications, and Implications.”
- Finalists for the award included Balak, Luedtke, U.S. Customs and Border Protection Supervisor Officer Jeni Best, FDNY HazMat Operations Battalion Chief Timothy Rice, and U.S. Coast Guard Combat Systems Manager Joshua Henson.
- Davison was also chosen as the Curtis “Butch” Straub Achievement Award winner for classroom leadership.
- FEMA Region 6 Deputy Division Director of Response Denise Bordelon and Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management Deputy Director of Operations Michael Giardina were chosen for the Mark Carr Esprit De Corps Award, which recognizes students whose actions instilled, sustained, and created a spirit of unity and pride within the cohort.
Executive Leaders Program Spotlight

NEW ELP SESSIONS IN 2022

BY JIM JOHNSON

From Public Safety and Public Health Collaboration in August to Space Force and Space Command in November, the Center for Homeland Defense and Security’s Executive Leaders Program offered a range of new educational modules during the latter half of 2022.

New modules included:

August 2022:
Public Safety and Public Health Collaboration
St. Mary’s County Health Officer Dr. Meenakshi Brewster, who was an ELP participant at the time of the session, and Sheriff Tim Cameron, an ELP alum (ELP 0901), led a discussion on how safety and public health leaders can successfully collaborate to address complex homeland security issues such as community behavioral health, violence, and emergency response.

Terrorism and Targeted Violence: Research and Prevention
University of Nebraska Omaha National Counterterrorism Innovation, Technology, and Education Center (NCITE) Director Dr. Gina Ligon led an ELP discussion on the current science of preventing terrorism and targeted violence, how NCITE fosters interdisciplinary collaboration to advance counterterrorism research, and how leaders across the homeland security enterprise can contribute to the protection of their communities by recognizing terrorism mobilization indicators.

November 2022:
Climate Change and Resilience
Argonne National Laboratory Center for Climate Resilience and Decision Science, Decision and Infrastructure Sciences Division Director Kyle Pfeiffer led a discussion on climate science and policy, climate risks for the national and homeland security enterprises, and adaptation planning. The session’s goal was to increase climate literacy and to help homeland security leaders to better understand climate risk.

Thinking in the Homeland Security Enterprise
What is critical thinking, and why is it a worthwhile skill for homeland security leaders to enhance? How do homeland security leaders make sense of rapidly changing complex adaptive systems? Led by CHDS Director Glen Woodbury and ELP Director Sara Kay, this session opened up a conversation on critical thinking as well as how leaders can use strategic foresight and rethinking to their advantage.

Space Force and Space Command
U.S. Space Force Deputy Director of Strategy, Plans, and Policy Brig. Gen. Devin R. Pepper led a session on the United States Space Force, the newest military branch of service, and the U.S. Space Command, the newest Combatant Command in the Department of Defense. Students had an opportunity to learn about Space Force and SPACECOM’s missions and how they intersect with the homeland security enterprise.

Understanding and Overcoming Disinformation
Led by NPS/CHDS Senior Lecturer Shannon Brown, this presentation explored how well-established media studies concepts can be applied to the current social media environment—and the larger global media ecosystem—to improve senior leaders’ awareness of disinformation threats as challenges to both day-to-day operations and long-term strategic matters. The presentation also served as a forum for participants to discuss agency strategies for dealing with disinformation; how leaders assess risks and damage to agency reputation, morale, and legitimacy; and opened up a dialogue about the value of Red-Blue exercise development in support of public or private sector information operations, to include counter-narrative development and amplification, strategic silence, and working through third parties to promote agency or organizational messaging.

You’re It: Meta-Leadership for Crisis Situations
While this module has been presented to ELP previously, this session introduced new content presented by one of the original CHDS Founders, ELP alum Darrell Darnell (ELP 1102). Presenting with Darrell was U.S. Coast Guard Vice Admiral (ret.) and former TSA Administrator Peter Neffenger. This session allowed participants to explore how the three dimensions of meta-leadership practice can help them lead through complex, fast-evolving incidents of crisis and change.

Meanwhile, in December, ELP and the CHDS Emergence Program held a joint virtual session that allowed participants from both programs to interact and discuss timely homeland security issues.

New books assigned to ELP students in 2022 included Think Again by Adam Grant and How to Lead by David Rubenstein.
MASS SHOOTING PREPAREDNESS OUTREACH TO STATE, LOCAL LEADERS HIGHLIGHTS EEP OFFERINGS

BY JIM JOHNSON

With the proliferation of mass shootings in locales of every size and population, the Center for Homeland Defense and Security’s Executive Education Program focused its preparedness efforts on reaching out to state and local leaders during the latter half of 2022.

According to EEP Director Dawn Wilson, the EEP is conducting everything from leadership briefings and expert panel discussions featuring current and former city mayors who have dealt with mass shootings including Orlando, FL, Mayor Buddy Dyer, former El Paso, TX, mayor Dee Margo, former Parkland, FL, mayor Christine Hunschofsky, and former Dayton, OH, mayor Nan Whaley, to regional forums and executive seminars in partnership with organizations including the Florida League of Cities, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, and the International City/County Management Association.

Wilson said additional regional forums are set for the Los Angeles County, CA, and Orange County, CA, areas in early 2023.

In addition, EEP worked closely with Northeastern University Law School’s Public Health Advocacy Institute researchers on the mass shooting preparedness issue, spotlighting Northeastern’s Mass Shooting Protocol and Playbook that was presented at the 15th annual Homeland Defense and Security Education Summit held in Monterey, CA, in 2022.

“There has been so much attention on the issue, and coming out of Uvalde, I think we all understand this is not just a big city problem. This was an enhanced opportunity to speak with local leaders about the issue.”

— DAWN WILSON

Also during the latter half of 2022, Wilson pointed to the EEP’s partnership with FEMA Region IX to offer the first-ever Tribal Preparedness Workshop in August as well as a series of workshops/symposia using “near future” scenarios to help state and local leaders consider what they can do to prepare for an almost certain “tomorrow.” Also, looking at near-future issues, EEP hosted a five-part webinar series entitled “America in Transition: How Homeland Security is Changing and What Leaders Need to Know in 2023.” The series featured national experts discussing the evolving homeland security and emergency management landscapes during a time of transition and increasing concern domestically and globally.

The series was held in partnership with the American Logistics Aid Network (ALAN), Big City Emergency Managers (BCEM), Governors Homeland Security Advisors Council (GHSAC), International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM), International City/County Management Association (ICMA), National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), Naval Postgraduate School Alumni Association and Foundation, and the CHDS Alumni Association.

Each of the webinars was recorded and is available on the CHDS website at the EEP link.

In the lead-off webinar held on Wednesday, Nov. 30, and titled “What Keeps Us Going? Understanding Vulnerabilities in the Energy Sector and Our Supply Chains,” the panel included moderator David Kaufman (CHDS Executive Leaders Program cohort 0601), Vice President and Director of Safety and Security at CNA, as well as University of Tennessee Supply Chain Management Lecturer Mary Long, former White House COVID-19 Supply Chain Coordinator Tim Manning (CHDS ELP cohort 0601), and University of Texas at Austin Bureau of Economic Geology Director and Texas State Geologist Dr. Scott Tinker. The panel discussed a range of topics including the need for improved cooperation between government and the private sector and a shift from a focus solely on efficiency and lower cost to maximizing optimization with regard to supply chains, and the need for pursuing a range of options for current and future energy sources while maintaining the goal of reducing global emissions, as well as security threats as a result of U.S. reliance on foreign resources for batteries and technology manufacturing.

Manning said government and the private sector still have much to learn from each other on supply chains, while Long, who has worked at food and beverage companies including Campbell’s Soup, General Mills, Pepsi, and Domino’s, said there is a need for the private sector to better understand the government’s ability to influence public policy on supply chains.
Tinker argued that government should avoid picking "winners" in energy resource policy, and should instead set emission reduction goals and allow the pursuit of a range of energy sources to meet those goals instead of eliminating those that are disfavored. He noted that about three-quarters of the globe is emerging from poverty and access to energy will be the key to their development.

Webinar participants asked a series of questions during the event, including what the panelists saw as the greatest security threats to power systems and supply chains. Manning said there has been a lack of adequate investment in our nation's infrastructure, Long said we need improved information flow and to address our future water supply issues, and Tinker said we need to find a way to engage in civil dialogue and be ready to pursue all options if we are to address our energy needs.

Other webinars in the "America in Transition" series included:

Dec. 7: The Global Picture: What Do Foreign Threats Mean for Us Here at Home?
Experts look at how the global threat landscape is evolving as we transition into 2023, including the evolution of domestic terrorism, the use of "gray zone" tactics to target the homeland, and what local and state leaders should know about how the global picture impacts the security landscape for our nation's communities. A panel featured moderator Russ Porter, Senior Executive, Office of the Director of National Intelligence; Dr. Seth Jones, Senior Vice President and Director for the Center for Strategic and International Studies and CHDS Instructor; John Cohen, former U.S. Department of Homeland Security Acting Under-Secretary of Intelligence and Counter-Terrorism Coordinator; and Laurie Doran, New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness Director.

Dec. 14: Fighting with Nature: How Society is Changing its Approach to Natural Hazards
This webinar explored what we've learned about how we interact with our environment and what leaders should know about our ever-changing natural hazard landscape. The session considered the insights gained from recent U.S. natural disasters and what leaders need to know when facing ever-growing challenges to resilience in the next several years. Panelists included moderator Jonathan Gaddy (Master's cohort 1401/1402), CHDS subject matter expert; former Federal Emergency Management Agency Director of Individual and Community Preparedness Natalie Enclade; former FEMA Deputy Associate Administrator for Insurance and Mitigation Roy Wright; and Center for Climate Resilience and Decision Science Argonne Labs Director Kyle Pfeiffer.

Dec. 21: The Evolving Cyber Threat: How Do We Face a National Threat to Distributed Infrastructure?
Cyber experts considered recent trends in cyber-attacks and how the cyber landscape will continue to evolve over the next few years. The session explored the threats of criminal cyber-attacks including ransomware from adversarial foreign actors as well as mitigation and response options available to U.S. communities. Panelists included moderator Eileen Decker (Master's cohort 1205/1206), CHDS subject matter expert; White House Assistant National Cyber Director Drenan Dudley; former DHS Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy Paul Rosenzweig; and Global Forum on Cyber Expertise Foundation President Christopher Painter, a former U.S. Department of State Cyber Diplomat.

Jan. 11: America in 2023 and Beyond: Changes in the Homeland Security Landscape
The final webinar in the series which looked at how America continues to evolve in the post-COVID world amid persisting global and domestic threats, explored local and global trends and how they will create challenges and opportunities for policymakers in the near future. The final webinar in the series reflected on the diverse threats discussed during the entire five-part “America in Transition” series and how homeland security leaders can address these with an ever-changing workplace and workforce over the next few years.
PELP CONTINUES TO BRING THE BEST OF CHDS TO THE PACIFIC

BY DAVID FUKUTOMI

In 2022, CHDS’s Pacific Executive Leaders Program (PELP) continued its tradition of supporting preparedness, resilience, and capacity building across the Pacific region. The ongoing success of PELP is a result of a sustained partnership between CHDS, FEMA Region 9, which provides funding for the program, and the U.S. Pacific jurisdictions within Region 9 which include the Hawaiian Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). What began as a pilot offering in 2011, has grown to become an umbrella under which collaboration, preparedness, resilience, and capacity building issues in the Hawaiian Islands and U.S. Pacific Territories can be addressed utilizing an executive education focus and building on FEMA’s strategic priorities in the Pacific Region. This allows CHDS to provide center-wide resources in a strategic manner to address those priorities.

Under the PELP umbrella, CHDS’s Executive Education Program (EEP) also offers topic-specific and Executive Education sessions and supports other events in the Pacific based on priorities established by FEMA and its Pacific partners. Previous PELP topic-specific sessions included port resilience, power restoration, capacity building, and post-disaster housing plans.

CHDS has also conducted executive education workshops for the State of Hawaii, Hawaii Islands Executive Leaders, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CHDS closely coordinates all CHDS and EEP activities in the Pacific Region to leverage every opportunity and resource. PELP engagements are often linked to other jurisdictional and agencies initiatives and events. Collaborating organizations include government and private sector organizations such as all four U.S. Pacific states and territories, FEMA Region 9, NOAA, U.S. INDOPACOM, U.S. Army Pacific, the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Hawaiian Island Counties, and the Pacific Basin Development Council (PBDC).

Leaders from the maritime, transportation, utilities, financial industries, and non-government organizations regularly participate.

As a result, CHDS has developed a diverse network of alumni in the Pacific. Participation in PELP and EEP events has led to participants choosing to continue the CHDS experience by applying to the Master’s Degree Program and Executive Leaders Program (ELP). CHDS alumni and staff are an important element of the success of PELP and CHDS’s efforts in Pacific.

PELP Speaker Series

On June 14, 2022, a PELP Speaker Series event was held at Hawaii Pacific University’s Aloha Tower Campus in Honolulu, HI. The keynote speaker was Drenan Dudley, who had recently retired as a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee Professional Staff and is now the Assistant National Cyber Director for Budget Review and Assessment at the White House. Drenan shared her experiences and observations on the legislative and budget process and how agencies and jurisdictions in the Pacific could ensure their priorities and concerns were shared with Congress.

CHDS periodically conducts the PELP Speaker Series, which features a keynote speaker format to discuss relevant topics of interest, promote CHDS programs and generate applications for the Traditional Hilo PELP. The next PELP Speaker Series event is scheduled for January 24, 2023, in Honolulu.

Return to Hilo

The week of September 12 marked the return of the “Traditional Hilo PELP” in person. The Traditional Hilo PELP is a weeklong in-residence session held at the Imiloa Astronomy Center at the University of Hawaii Hilo, where PELP was born. The last in-person session was held the week of March 2–6, 2020, just prior to the COVID related interruptions.

The Traditional PELP builds on efforts of regional leaders and stakeholders by providing a unique educational experience to individuals serving in key roles. Much of the curriculum is delivered in a way that allows participants to “take home” the learning and share the knowledge.

Participants in the Hilo sessions are selected from open applications, nominations from the jurisdictions, relevant organizations, and the FEMA Region 9 Administrator and must have significant responsibilities in the Pacific.

PELP Topical Workshops and the Pacific Partnership Meeting (PPM)

One of the most significant benefits of CHDS’s sustained engagement is the ability to coordinate and leverage delivery of educational workshops and forums from many organizations. For example, CHDS and FEMA have jointly conducted multiple sessions of the PELP topical workshops and the FEMA Region 9 Regional Administrator’s Pacific Partnership Meeting (PPM). PPM brings homeland security and emergency management leaders from the Pacific Jurisdictions together with FEMA Region 9 Regional Administrator Bob Fenton and his team to address strategic preparedness priorities and issues. Jointly planning and conducting the session reduces travel, increases learning across a wider audience, and maximizes the limited opportunities these leaders get to collaborate in person.

Topics discussed during the 2022 sessions included Complexity, Ethics, Managing Transition, and Complexities of Major Incidents.

In 2023, areas of focus will include Logistics and Supply Chain Resiliency, Port Resilience, and leveraging federal resources to address preparedness priorities.
ROWING threats to the safety of the U.S. judicial system. Ongoing and new challenges to the water supply. Emerging cyber attacks and the use of ransomware by both nation-states and criminal organizations.

All were crucial topics discussed during the Center for Homeland Defense and Security’s Alumni Hour events in the latter half of 2022.

Following are excerpts from articles about each of the Alumni Hour events:

**Emerging Threats to Judiciary Topic of July Alumni Hour**

U.S. federal judges were targeted by more than 4,500 “threats and other inappropriate communications” in 2021, according to a Reuters article that quoted U.S. Marshal’s Service Director Ronald Davis, saying such threats have been increasing for a couple of years and the threat risk is “growing exponentially.”

On July 28, the Center for Homeland Defense and Security explored the issue of growing threats to the U.S. Judicial System and the impact on homeland security and our democracy with a panel of alumni experts during the July Alumni Hour webinar entitled “Emerging Threats to the Third Branch.”

Led by moderator, CHDS Executive Leaders Program Director, and Master’s alum Sara Kay, the panel included Pennsylvania Supreme Court Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts Judicial District Security Administrator Robert Granzow, a CHDS ELP participant, and Aequitas Global Security LLC Principal and retired U.S. Marshal John Muffler, a CHDS ELP alum.

Kay started off the webinar by noting that the judicial branch is “probably the least understood” of the U.S. government’s three branches, and added that there are a total of 2,700 federal judges and 30,000 state and local judges in the judiciary, as well as thousands more court officers and employees.

Kay pointed out that there is no “uniform approach” to judicial security, noting that the federal courts are protected by the U.S. Marshal’s Service while state and local courts are typically protected by state and local law enforcement agencies.

Asked by Kay why CHDS alums should understand the judiciary better, Granzow called the judiciary “absolutely essential for a free society,” adding that judicial independence and security is also essential in a functioning democracy.

“If that’s threatened, it has a ripple effect on the other branches [of government],” he said.

**Current, Future Water Security Challenges Explored During September Alumni Hour**

Increasing challenges and conflict over access to the essential resource of water in a climate change-driven world will have a major impact on our nation’s homeland security enterprise, according to an expert panel during the Center for Homeland Defense and Security’s September Alumni Hour.

Led by CHDS instructor and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo Prof. Thomas Mackín, who served as moderator, the alumni panel included R.E.M. Risk Consultants Managing Principal Michael Larranaga, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power Director of Security Services and Emergency Management Chris Vicino, and Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Senior Immigration Services Officer Katelin Wright.

After introducing the panelists and noting the diversity of their expertise, Mackín said the panel would help CHDS alumni attendees understand what threatens the security of our water systems, why it matters to all of us, particularly with regard to the water-energy-food nexus and how we are so intimately interdependent, and how water security differs from more traditional security concerns, including how we must adapt our systems to the threat posed by climate change.

During the online event, the panel discussed everything from the intrinsic necessity of water and existing limitations on access to the resource in certain parts of the globe to the widely anticipated climate-driven migration and legal battles over water now and in the next quarter century.

**Cyber, Ransomware Attack Prevention in Government Subject of October Alumni Hour**

More than two decades after 9/11, retired NYPD Intelligence Bureau Ltn. Gus Rodriguez says he believes our nation is facing another existential threat with similar challenges.

CHDS alum Rodriguez (Master’s Program cohort 0905/0906), who worked for years on the FBI New York Cyber Task Force, said while serving as an expert panelist during the October CHDS Alumni Hour that the challenge of cyber attacks on critical infrastructure requires cooperation and coordination among government agencies at all levels to prepare for and prevent major damage.

“With cyber we are where counter terrorism was [on 9/11],” he said during the online event. “Here we are again 21 Septembers later and we have this [cyber] problem. It’s the intersection of public safety and technology.”

Entitled “Protecting Cyber and Preventing Ransomware in Government,” the Alumni Hour event held on Thursday, Oct. 20 featured an expert panel that included CHDS instructor and alum Bijan Karimi (Master’s Program cohort 1401/1402) serving as moderator along with fellow CHDS alumni Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency Deputy Director Nitin Natarajan (Master’s Program cohort 0601/0602), U.S. Secret Service Special Agent in Charge of the San Francisco Field Office, Shawn Bradstreet (Master’s Program cohort 1803/1804), and Rodriguez.
A blending of national and homeland security studies, including intersections and divergences, helps frame the “wicked problems” being seen on the domestic and international fronts. Data analysis is critical to addressing complex challenges such as school and mass shootings and border security, particularly with the level of “noise” throughout social media and our nation’s polarized politics. There is an emerging consensus that traditional security studies must include more national, homeland, and other underrepresented security areas. And, areas of theory and practice will be driven in the future by PhD programs in the field of “integrated security.”

Those were some of the key takeaways from the 15th annual Homeland Defense and Security Education Summit hosted by the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security’s University and Agency Partnership Program Oct. 31 to Nov. 2, 2022 at the Monterey Conference Center in Monterey, CA.

Entitled “The Growing Convergence of Homeland and National Security: Educating Future Leaders to Understand Evolving Threats,” the three-day summit was held almost entirely in-person for the first time since 2019, and featured an impressive roster of top federal, state, and local agency officials and university representatives, in a series of discussions, research panel sessions, and presentation sessions.

The annual event was held in partnership with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

In all, 90 participants attended the event in-person or virtually.

After opening comments from CHDS UAPP Director Steve Recca, FEMA National Training and Education Division Director Charlotte Porter kicked off the summit with CHDS Director Glen Woodbury and NPS Pres. Vice Admiral (Ret.) Ann Rondeau with Porter noting it was her first UAPP summit.

During her remarks, Porter offered an overview of FEMA’s educational programs, which includes CHDS programs, and noted the agency’s main themes including equity, climate change, and workforce development.

And in his welcome comments, Woodbury noted that in its early days homeland security focused inward while national security focused outward, but events like the Oklahoma City Federal Building bombing, the Y2K scare, and the 9/11 attacks increasingly blurred the lines between the two areas. He noted that during the Obama Administration the two were acknowledged as interconnected and virtually indistinguishable, and in the last six years or so had increasingly merged as a result of a range of domestic threats from election security to cybersecurity involving state-based and non-state actors, and criminal organizations.

During the summit’s keynote session with Woodbury and Harvard Kennedy School of Government Belfer Center senior lecturer and Homeland Security and Global Health Projects faculty chair Juliette Kayyem, who appeared via Zoom, the discussion ranged from election security and violence in politics to recurring natural disasters, including preparedness and resilience, and COVID-19 health inequities.

As for the convergence of homeland and national security, the former DHS Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs noted that her boss, then-DHS Sec. Janet Napolitano, was not in the White House Situation Room when Osama Bin Laden was killed during a U.S. raid in Pakistan, and that it had taken her four years at the Belfer Center to get people to recognize the connection between homeland and national security.

Later in the morning, Recca and Emergency Management Institute Superintendent Jeff Stern, who also appeared via Zoom, led a discussion on the theme, “Leveraging Education and Training to Prepare for Security Threats.” Stern offered a historical look at the emergency management field, and argued that at its “core” there is no separation between emergency management and homeland and national security, as well as disaster sciences and resilience. “They can’t be separate,” he
said. “They need to interact and be related.”

In the afternoon of the summit’s first day, several research panel sessions were held under the subject titles of “Innovation in Homeland Security Practice and Education I and II,” and “New/Evolving Domestic and Foreign Threats,” with presentations ranging from the role of extracurricular activities in support of homeland security education, the role of Historically Black Colleges and Universities in educating the next generation, short study abroad programs, and shaping an inclusive future by incorporating vulnerable populations into homeland security curricula, to proactive student threat assessment techniques for improved school safety, the most vulnerable time for America being during a tragedy, and the identification and forecasting of emerging cyber-social threats.

Day 2 of the summit began with a series of presentations including “School and Mass Shootings: Homeland Security’s Role,” featuring Northeastern University’s James Alan Fox discussing school and mass shooting statistics and misconceptions, along with CHDS Subject Matter Experts Sarah Peck, who discussed her Mass Shooting Protocol and Playbook for City Mayors, and Eileen Decker, who spoke about her experience with mass shootings at LAX and San Bernardino.

Later in the morning, former CIA officer and journalist Alex Finley regaled summit attendees with tales of writing satirical spy novels and exposing Russian oligarchs’ yachts at #YachtWatch, as well as her thoughts about the U.S. and politics as an expatriate living in Spain, and the efficiencies and challenges of CIA operations, in a presentation entitled, “Intersection of Media & Intelligence.”

And in a presentation entitled, “Homeland Security 2022–Border(less) Threats,” former U.S. Customs and Border Protection Commissioner and U.S. Border Patrol Chief David Aguilar offered a bracing view on everything from the recent, unprecedented wave of illegal border crossings of migrants, drugs, and terrorists to the family separation policy, the overwhelmed border patrol system, and the need to revisit the asylum process and finally achieve comprehensive immigration reform.

In addition, on Day 2, the Third Annual David McIntyre Award was presented by last year’s winner St. John’s University’s Keith Cozine to U.S. War College Center for Strategic Leadership and Development Homeland Defense and Security Issues Group Director Bert Tussing for his “significant contribution to homeland defense.”

In a surprise presentation, the UAPP board also presented Recca with the 2022 Educators Award featuring a naval sextant.


Day 3 began with presentation sessions on “COVID-19 Impacts and Issues Entering: Year 3” including a presentation on Long Covid by North Carolina Central University’s William Pilkington, and “Navigating Change and Complexity in Non-Traditional Threats” including “Communicating Risk: Lessons Learned from Cybersecurity and the COVID-19 Pandemic” from University of New Hampshire’s Maeve Dion, as well as presentations under the headings of “Emerging Biological/Pathogen Threats: Health & Human Services Security and Assistance Program” and “Maturing Homeland Security and Emergency Management Education.”

The afternoon sessions included presentations on the “Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab,” “Opportunities for University and College Students to Participate in the Human Rights Violators and War Crimes Center’s Outreach Partnership Program,” and “Accreditation for Homeland Security and Emergency Management Education.”

A workshop entitled “What is Humanistic STEM and Why Do We Need It?” by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University’s Debra Bourdeau capped off the summit.
CLASS NOTES

Updates from your colleagues since the last edition of Watermark

MA0301
Susan Jones-Hard started a new position as Executive Director of the Kayssing Basin Regional Planning Commission.

MA0403/0404
On July 2, 2022, Thomas Nestel celebrated his 40th year in policing (much of which was spent in the Philadelphia PD and as Chief of Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority). Following Philadelphia’s Independence Day celebration on July 4, he retired from service.

Ray Guidetti has been chosen to lead the Hackensack Police Department after its recent history of turmoil.

MA0601/0602
Indian River Shores Chief of Police Rich Rosell recently earned his doctorate from Drew University.

CISA Deputy Director Nitin Natarajan has been awarded the 2022 ASTORS “Excellence in Homeland Security” Platinum Award by American Security Today.

In addition to his current position as the Chief of Staff for Operation Blessing International Relief and Development, Jeffrey Westling is serving as an Adjunct Professor at Regent University’s Robertson School of Government.

MA0603/0604
Albert Ponenti started a second position as Senior Vice President at Citigroup and Senior Lead for the Executive Protection Program. (+Executive Leaders Program 1801, +Fusion Center Leaders Program 1403)

Chris Bertram received tenure as an Associate Professor at Salt Lake Community College.

Judy Boyd started a new position as Senior Fellow at The Arctic Institute.

MA0701/0702
Kiewit Infrastructure Alternative Delivery Director William Crosbie participated in the 2022 Public-Private Analytic Exchange Program (AEP). The AEP facilitates teams of government analysts, including from the Intelligence Community, and private sector analysts to better understand emerging threats through collaboration and development of unclassified analytic deliverables.

Jay Emley retired from his position as Kansas Deputy Attorney General on Dec. 5, 2022.

MA0705/0706
John Brown has been promoted to Lead Emergency Management Specialist at U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Bentley Nettles started a new position as Beverage Consultant on GrayRobinson’s Nationwide Alcohol Industry Team.

Bruce Martin is serving as the Interim Executive Director of the California Fire Safe Council while it conducts a national search for a new Executive Director.

Amanda Bogard started a new position as Emergency Management Specialist at USDA – Agriculture Marketing Services.

MA1001/1002
Tracy Montgomery graduated from the EMI-NEMAA Advanced Academy Graduation - Class 22-1.

William Sweeney Jr. recently started a new position as Chief Security Officer | Managing Director, Global Head of Security & Investigative Services at Citibank.

FEMA Center for Domestic Preparedness Instructor David Linticum was selected as the Instructor of the Quarter (1st Quarter).

Oregon Department of Emergency Management Director Andrew Phelps has been appointed by FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell to the National Advisory Council. (+Executive Leaders Program 2202)

MA1101/1102
Eric Powell has been selected for the Excellence-in-Service Award for his hard work and commitment in support of the educational mission of the U.S. Army War College.

Stephanie Yanta started a new position as Account Manager at NEC National Security Systems.

Al Poirier recently started a new position as Deputy Fire Chief for the city of Beverly Hills, CA.

MA1201/1202
After leading the Surprise Fire-Medical Department for eight years, Chief Tom Abbott officially retired in Oct. 2022.

MA1203/1204
Lebanon Fire Department Fire Chief Chris Christopoulos has retired from fire service after 40 years of service. Christopoulos started a new position as Sr. Manager, Global Fire Protection for Universal Studios. He is responsible for fire safety for all of Universal’s Theme Parks Worldwide (Japan, China, Singapore, LA, and Orlando) and based in Orlando.

MA1205/1206
Max Geron started a new position as Senior Director of Health and Public Safety at Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute.

Marc Shaw has been selected as the new Chief of Law Enforcement and Licensing at the CA Horse Racing Board.

Todd Tuggle has been selected to serve as Chief of the San Luis Obispo City Fire Department. His appointment is covered in an article titled “SLO City Appoints New Fire Chief.”

MA1401/1402
Jonathan Gaddy started a new position as a Clinical Assistant Professor at Idaho State University.

Christopher Kimrey started a new position as Lead Associate at Booz Allen Hamilton.

James Robinson has been selected as the new Chief for Thompson Valley Emergency Medical Services.

Michelle Maliek started a new position as Compliance Counsel with Verizon.

MA1403/1404
Eric Saylors accepted a new position as Fire Chief at El Centro Fire Department.

U.S. Border Patrol Chief Raul L. Ortiz recently announced the selection of Gloria I. Chavez as the new Chief Patrol Agent of the Rio Grande Valley Sector.

Nabeela Barbari started a new position as Executive Vice President at OTHSolutions.

Maggie DeBoard started a new position with Dept. of Criminal Justice Services Executive Board at Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services.

Steven Polonsky organized “Conversation on Compounding and Cascading Events” for the quarterly meeting of the Transportation Research Board’s Committee on Critical Infrastructure Protection. The session addressed a recent report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine pursuant to a FEMA request to identify applied research topics as part of the NAS Resilient America Program. (+ Advanced Thinking in Homeland Security 2017)

MA1405/1406
Ray Bisogno started a new position as Program Analyst at the National Institute of Health – Office of Strategic Coordination.

Crowd Operations Dynamix Owner Robert Leverone recently gave a virtual presentation to the U.S. Secret Service’s quarterly meeting of the Law Enforcement Policy Community of Interest. The focus was on policy as it relates to crowd management and control. Thirteen federal agencies with law enforcement responsibilities participated.

FDNY Deputy Assistant Chief Frank Leeb has been nominated for a 2022 ASTORS Homeland Security Awards.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MA1501/1502</td>
<td>Thomas Lakamp</td>
<td>has been selected to serve as the next Chief of the Fairfield, OH, Fire Department.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MA1601/1602</td>
<td>Kate Roberts</td>
<td>has been promoted to Senior Manager, Lafayette Group.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mike Alvarez</td>
<td>has been promoted to Chief with the California Highway Patrol.</td>
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<td>Susann Kimmelman</td>
<td>started a new position as Risk Manager with Investigative Duties at Caesars Entertainment.</td>
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<td>MA1603/1604</td>
<td>Nicole Rosich</td>
<td>is transitioning to a new role at the DHS Office of Partnership and Engagement as a Senior Director for NGO Engagement.</td>
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<tr>
<td>MA1605/1606</td>
<td>James Pendley</td>
<td>retired from the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office on July 8, 2022 (after 29 years), and started a new position as the Manager of Emergency Preparedness at JEA on July 18, 2022. JEA is the largest community-owned utility in Florida and one of the largest in the United States. JEA is created and authorized by the City of Jacksonville Charter to manage the city’s electric, water, and wastewater services.</td>
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<td>MA1703/1704</td>
<td>U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Deportation Officer Ronald Dorman</td>
<td>has been selected as the recipient of the 2021 ICE-ERO Executive Associate Director’s Award, the highest award given to an individual for significant contributions to the overall success of ERO’s mission.</td>
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<td>Captain Daniel Harrington</td>
<td>Captain Jonathan Dorrough</td>
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<td>Lieutenant Andrew Horos</td>
<td>ELP2201</td>
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<td>Lieutenant Brian Hollan</td>
<td>ELP2101</td>
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<td>Captain Michael Pulliam</td>
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<td>Captain Ryan Small</td>
<td>Heidi Fieselmann</td>
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<td>Lieutenant Carlos Mejia</td>
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<td>Lieutenant Valerie Patete</td>
<td>ELP1802</td>
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<td>ELP1801</td>
<td>Nicholas Koven</td>
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<td>ELP1701</td>
<td>Officer Carinmy Benitez-Garcia</td>
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<td>ELP1601</td>
<td>Officer Jessica Navarro</td>
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<td>ELP1501</td>
<td>Lieutenant Nathaniel Porter</td>
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Charity Menefee has been appointed by Governor-elect Jim Pillen as the next Director of Public Health for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

Ben Berger has been promoted to Section Chief at FEMA.

Liane Jollon obtained her Senior Executives in State and Local Government certification from Harvard Kennedy School.

Colby Stanton has been selected as the new Executive Director of the Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board. [+Pacific Executive Leaders Program 1101]

Cynthia Holmes started a new position as Preparedness Bureau Chief at New Mexico Department of Homeland Security.

Joshua Gilbert has been re-assigned to the DHS Joint Task Force - East (JTF-E), in the Operations Division (JS).

Mark Poland has been named the Sugar Land, TX, Chief of Police.

Kenneth Pravetz has been appointed as Chief of the Virginia Beach Fire Department.

Kevin McMahan recently started a new position as Executive Director - Elections & Cybersecurity at the Washington Office of the Secretary of the State.

Ryan Ford accepted a position with CISA as a Requirements Manager for their new Cyber Resilient 911 Program.

Carl Makins retired from law enforcement on Aug. 4 from the Charleston County Sheriff’s Office in South Carolina. After a short retirement, he is now employed with NABCO Systems, LLC, as their Manager – Sales, Technical Support and Training as of Aug. 22, 2022.

Erik Rau responded to Florida for Hurricane Ian as a part of the Oregon State Fire Marshal Incident Management Team.
Kore Redden has been promoted to Deputy Director of Pinal County Public Health Services District.

Erik Litzenberg started a new position as Senior Wildfire Policy Advisor for the International Association of Fire Chiefs. [+Executive Leaders Program 1201]

MA1901/1902
Natasha Haunsparger will be serving as a webinar panelist for, “Community Engagement as Part of Your Human Trafficking Response,” an event held by the IACP’s Anti-Human Trafficking Team.

Beth Windisch started a new position as Adjunct Faculty at Sam Houston State University. Windisch was also selected as a 2023 Truman National Security Project Member.

Watsonville, CA, Wastewater Division Manager Ryan Smith has been selected as a subject matter expert to develop a Water Security course for Sam Houston State University. Additionally, Smith recently presented a container-based sanitation pilot project proposal to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors. The Board voted unanimously to move the project forward.

Katelin Wright has been promoted to Adjudication Officer (Training) at USCIS.

MA1903/1904
Mikaela Ellenwood has been promoted to Mass Care Branch Director, National IMAT White at FEMA.

St. Louis Fire Department Deputy Fire Chief Derrick Phillips has successfully completed the process that awards the professional designation of “Chief Fire Officer” (CFO). Chief Phillips becomes one of only 1,764 CFOs worldwide, and the only member of the St. Louis Fire Department to receive the distinction.

Center for Prevention Programs & Partnerships (CP3) Associate Director, Field Operations-Midwest Bruno Dias recently presented at the 2022 Oklahoma City Violence Prevention Symposium.

MA1905/1906
Christopher Bagby accepted an appointment as a LEADS (Law Enforcement Advancing Data and Science) Scholar with the National Institute of Justice.

Lauren McLane presented at the European Commission’s 7th European Civil Protection Forum in Brussels, Belgium.

U.S. Army Urban Search and Rescue Training instructor Robert Wagner accepted a new position as a Senior Weapons of Mass Destruction Subject Matter Expert at the Defense Threat Reduction Agency through Octant Associates. Wagner has also been accepted to the Nonproliferation Policy Education Center’s Public Policy Fellowship.

Jonathan Graham received a U.S. Attorney’s Law Enforcement Award from the District of Connecticut for his recent case work related to disruption of a threat to the national security of the United States. Graham also started a new position as Intelligence Counsel for the DHS Office of the General Counsel.

MA2001/2002
Rob Root responded to Florida for Hurricane Ian as a part of the Oregon State Fire Marshal Incident Management Team.

Sommerville, MA, Director of Emergency Management Justin Kates was recently named to the Federal Emergency Management Association’s new National Advisory Council. His appointment is highlighted in an article titled “Lewes Native Justin Kates Named to FEMA Advisory Council.”

MA2005/2006
Christina Soto has been promoted to Intelligence Research Specialist III at the New York Police Department – Intelligence Bureau.

Kristin Duquette has been promoted to Policy Analyst at FEMA’s Office of Policy and Program Analysis.

MA2101/2102
Shaun Kuzia started a new position as Group Supervisor at Homeland Security Investigations.

MA2103/2014
Michael Giardina was recently promoted to Deputy Director of Operations at Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management. [+Emergence 1901]

Pawel Frankowski started a new position as Section Chief / Human Rights Violators and War Crimes Unit with Homeland Security Investigations (HSI).

Michael Jenkins was recently promoted from Lieutenant to Captain with the Virginia State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Special Investigations and Program Division.

FEMA Region 6 Deputy Division Director of Response Denise Bordelon has been awarded the Emergency Preparedness Award by the Dallas-Fort Worth Federal Executive Board. The award was made during The Public Service Awards, also known as The FEBies, an annual award ceremony recognizing excellence in Federal Service. [+Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program 1802]

MA2201/2202
Jacob Black has been appointed to serve as the new Fire Chief of Santa Fe County (NM).

MA2203/2204
Brent Baker has been promoted to EMS Operations Supervisor II (Senior Captain) at Allina Health Emergency Medical Services.

Nick Golden has been promoted from Sergeant to Lieutenant with the Atlanta Fire Rescue Department.

Kathleen Shull started a new position as Special Agent with the FBI.

EMERGENCE 2001
Keith Salzman has been promoted to Assistant Chief of Training at Minot AFB, North Dakota.

Raul Gomez graduated from the EMI-NEMAA Advanced Academy Graduation - Class 22-1.

NYPD Sergeant Meline Turk has been awarded the NYPD 28th precinct 2022 Supervisor of the Year award.

EMERGENCE 2101
U.S. and Canadian subject matter experts, including Adams County OEM Emergency Management Coordinator Kyle Lopez, met at IAEM in Falls Church, VA, on Aug. 25-26 to participate in the standard setting which establishes the cut-scores for the new version of the IAEM Certification exam launching on Nov. 15, 2022.

Morgan Thomas started a new position with At Risk International as a Workplace Violence Prevention Manager.

Roger Hamlet has been promoted to Deputy Superintendent at Boston Emergency Medical Services.

EMERGENCE 2102
Ben Gates graduated from the EMI-NEMAA Advanced Academy Graduation - Class 22-1. Gates was also elected as the Vice President for the North Dakota Emergency Management Association (NDEMA). Additionally, Gates was approved for the first-ever North Dakota Certified Emergency Manager (NDCEM) designation and was appointed as a committee member for the National Association of Counties (NACO) Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee.

Rosemary McDonnell recently presented, “Radiological MCI: Black Swan or Gray Rhino? Preparing for Communicating the Unthinkable,” at the Radiation Injury Treatment Network (RITN) Annual Workshop in Alexandria, VA. The presentation focused on McDonnell’s experience as the Emergency Manager at an RITN
hospital site, how she has helped to highlight the threat of a radiological mass casualty incident (MCI), and established initiatives to prepare for it. And on Thursday, Dec. 1, McDonnell presented at the National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference. The title of her presentation was “Vulnerable Populations in Hospital Emergency Planning,” and she spoke about her dissertation study research, as well as progress on her CHDS Emergency change initiative aimed at forming a Vulnerable Populations Subcommittee for her hospital’s Emergency Management Committee to address any gaps in emergency and resiliency planning for the DAFN community they serve.

Taina Lopez started a new position as the Director of Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response for Orange County, NY.

EMERGENCE 2201
Christian Cunnie started a new position as Public Information Program Supervisor at Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency.

EXECUTIVE LEADERS PROGRAM (ELP)

ELP0702
Scott Kelberg started a new position as Deputy Superintendent at FEMA’s Emergency Management Institute (EMI).

ELP0901

Timothy Cameron has been chosen to lead the Wyoming Highway Patrol starting in January 2023.

ELP1002
John Wheeler has been named by Ski New Mexico “Ski New Mexico Ski Patrol Individual of the Year” of 2021-2022.

ELP1101
Dr. Carol Cunningham, State Medical Director at Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of EMS, has been invited to serve on the panel of the upcoming webinar titled “EMS as an Essential Service Town Hall.”

ELP1102
Darrell Darnell started a new position as Adjunct Faculty at Sam Houston State University.

Andrew D’Amora started a new position as FEMA Region 2 Deputy Administrator.

Jay Farr started a new position as Assistant Professor at the University of Virginia.

ELP1201
Pete Gaynor, CEM, started a new position as Senior Vice President and Director, National Resilience Response, and Recovery Programs at GEI Consultants. Additionally, McChrystal Group has welcomed Gaynor to its Senior Advisory team. Gaynor also recently served as a keynote speaker for the Community College of Rhode Island Opening Day 2022.

In addition to his role as Deputy Director of the Center for Arctic Security and Resilience (CASR) at the University of Alaska, John Pennington started an additional role at the University as Program Director, Master of Security & Disaster Management (MSDM).

Rear Admiral Joanna M. Nunan (U.S. Coast Guard, Ret.) has been appointed as the next Superintendent of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA). [+Pacific Executive Leaders Program 1101]

ELP1302
James Redick has been appointed by FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell to the National Advisory Counsel for a three-year term of Dec. 1, 2022 – Nov. 30, 2025.

ELP1401
Don Alway has been promoted to Assistant Director in Charge at the FBI.

Brian Kyes officially retired as Chief of Police of the Chelsea, MA, Police Department.

ELP1601
Eric McBride started a new position as Principal at Palican Group.

Eric Thomas has been promoted to Chief, Liaison Officer Program at U.S. Department of Homeland Security. [+Fusion Center Leaders Program 1501]

Eric Thomas received the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Meritorious Service Award for his work as the I&A Senior LNO to ICE from September 2018 to September 2022. [+Fusion Center Leaders Program 1501]

ELP1602
Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) Director Patrick Sheehan was named president of the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), for a one-year term leading the professional organization of emergency managers. [+Radiological Emergency Preparedness 2001]

ELP1801
A.J. Gary has been appointed Secretary of the Arkansas Department of Public Safety.

ELP1802
Angela McGuirl has been promoted to Senior HR Professional at U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

New York City Mayor Eric Adams has announced the appointment of Laura Kavanagh as commissioner of the New York City Fire Department (FDNY).

ELP1901
Brian Harrell has joined Shooter Detection Systems (SDS), an Alarm.com (NASDAQ: ALRM) company, as a member of the SDS Advisory Board and the company’s National Security Subject Matter Expert. Additionally, Harrell joined the Hakimo board of advisors. Hakimo is a technology company dedicated to modernizing physical security through its artificial intelligence software.

Ron Thomas has been promoted to Chief of Police at the Denver Police Department.

Curtis Brown, co-founder of the Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management, met with FEMA Region 5 to speak with the team and provide insight on how they can continue to move the needle forward.

ELP1902
Ohio Jewish Communities Executive Director Howie Beigelman recently presented on the topic of “Futureproofing High Value Targets: A Jewish Community Proposal,” at the 2022 Ohio Public Safety Symposium.

Linda Lindamood started a new position as Director of Operations at The National Cherry Blossom Festival.

Sasha Larkin started a new position as Assistant Sheriff at the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. [+Fusion Center Leaders Program 1201]

In addition to his current position as academic medical faculty in Maine, John Martel started a position as Physician Medical Officer with the U.S. Border Patrol.

ELP2001
John J. Hodgens started a new position as Chief of Department at FDNY.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection recently announced the appointment of a new Port Director at the San Ysidro Port of Entry, Mariza Marin.

Assistant Director Eli Owen and his team at Cal OES received a plaque from the City of Clearlake in appreciation of exemplary support of the city’s recovery from the Cache fire. [+Fusion Center Leaders Program 1503]

Mordechai Goldfeder received the Guardian of Life Award from the Regional EMS Council of NYC for his efforts to support the NYC EMS system during the COVID-19 response.

ELP2002
Emergency Management Accreditation Program Training Coordinator Todd Livingston recently presented at the North Dakota Emergency Management Conference on the Kentucky Disasters and US&R capabilities. Livingston also presented at the Kentucky Emergency Management Conference in developing and enhancing Urban Search and Rescue capability in their state search and rescue system.
Robert Duer started a new position as Supervisory Air Marshal in Charge (SAC) of the Chicago Field Office.

Lee Alexander has been promoted to Superintendent at Boston Emergency Medical Services.

Mike Antoine started a new position as Special Government Employee (SGE) with FEMA’s National Advisory Council.

ELP2101
Capt. Warren D. Judge recently assumed command of the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center Cape May, N.J.

Charles Husted retired as Chief of Police for the city of Sedona, AZ, after a 34-year public safety career.

Nevada Division of Emergency Management Chief David Fogerson discussed how fire and burn areas have increased risk of flash flooding during the “Growing Wildfire Risk Across the U.S. Workshop” at the 2022 NEMA Forum.

ELP2102
NCIS Special Agent Clifton J. Everton III has been appointed to the Senior Executive Service as he assumes the position of NCIS Executive Assistant Director for Global and Atlantic Operations.

Cesar Escobar, Louis Libin, and Meghan McPherson met up at the U.S. OPEN Billie Jean King Tennis Center in Queens, NY, while McPherson met up at the U.S. OPEN Billie Jean King Tennis Center in Queens, NY, while McPherson met up at the U.S. OPEN Billie Jean King Tennis Center in Queens, NY, while McPherson met up at the U.S. OPEN Billie Jean King Tennis Center in Queens, NY, while McPherson met up at the U.S. OPEN Billie Jean King Tennis Center in Queens, NY, while McPherson met up at the U.S. OPEN Billie Jean King Tennis Center in Queens, NY.

RADIATIONAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM (REP)

REP1701
Robert Pesapane started a new position as Acting Deputy Director – Public Assistance Division at FEMA.

REP2202
Courtney Eckstein transitioned into a new position of Radiation Program Director for the state of Indiana.

MA0503/0504

MA0803/0804

MA0905/0906

MA1001/1002
Joselito Ignacio, Acting Director and Public Health Advisor with FEMA’s Chemical, Biological, Radiological/Nuclear Office wrote an article published by NCT Magazine titled, “Planning and Decision Framework: Large-Scale Chemical Incident Consequence Management.”


MA1003/1004
Counter Threat Group, LLC Threat Assessment/Training Specialist Rodney Andreasen wrote an article published on domesticpreparedness.com titled, “Applying Environmental Design to Prevent Active Shooters.”

MA1205/1206

MA1703/1704
SF Fire Department Paramedic Captain Jeff Covitz recently authored, “In Honor of the Worst Day of Someone’s Life,” an article published in the Journal of Emergency Medical Services (JEMS).

MA1805/1806
Torrance Police Department Chief of Police Jeremiah “Jay” Hart wrote an article published on LinkedIn titled, “How 21st Century Policing is Transforming Strategic Planning.”

MA1903/1904
St. Louis Fire Department Deputy Chief Derrick Phillips penned two articles that were recently published titled “Professional Presence: Regaining Trust and Confidence in the Fire Service” and “When It Comes to Leadership Styles, Context is King.”

MA1905/1906
Captain Stephen Espinoza, a member of the NYPD’s Emergency Service Unit, recently authored, “A Culture Shift in Decision Making,” a piece published in the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) publication, The Police Chief.

ELP1001
Contextue Chief Information Officer Deanna Towne wrote on the lessons from 9/11 and how they relate to the COVID response and future of public health in “Lessons We Could Have Learned From 9/11.”

ELP1102
Darrell Darnell was quoted in “Security Convergence and Business Continuity: Reflecting on the Pandemic Experience” regarding a report on physical and cybersecurity integration in which he was the lead author of the report.

ELP1801
Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority Director Michael Marino wrote an article on fire as a weapon for the Homeland Security Enterprise titled, “Defining Fire as a Weapon (Faaw); Clarity, Implications, and Opportunity for the Homeland Security Enterprise.” [+Master’s Degree Program 1901/1902]

ELP2001
FEMA Federal Coordinating Officer Judy Kruger and NYC Department of Health - Office of Emergency Management and Response Assistant Commissioner Chris Paquet co-authored an article featured on domesticpreparedness.com titled, “Workplace Strategies to Reduce Burnout and Build Resilience.”

ELP2102
ELP cohort 2102 wrote an article that was published in Homeland Security Today titled, “Perspective: Prevention and Mitigation Recommendations to Target the Epidemic of Gun Violence.”

ELP2201
USCG Captain Samson Stevens wrote an article for the U.S. Naval Institute titled, “Serve First, Lead Second, Be Humble.”

REP2001
NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene Radiological Projects Planning Manager Mark Maiello recently authored “The COVID-19 Public Health Response: Similarities and Differences to a Radiological Emergency Response with Implications for Radiological Planning.”
Our CHDS Family is Everywhere

ALUMNI PHOTO ALBUM
Photos of CHDS Alumni from Around the Nation

Former FEMA Administrator and ELP alum Pete Gaynor and current FEMA Administrator and MA, ELP alum Deanne Criswell

Marcy Gallagher, MA alum, and Dee Neely, MA alum, and CHDS instructor, at WIFE Conference Phoenix 2022

NPS alumni Tracy Montgomery, Ben Gates, Raul Gomez, and instructor Ed Smith at the EMI-NEMAA Advanced Academy Graduation

Andrew D’Amora being sworn in as FEMA Region 2 Administrator

Masters alum Liane Jolton obtained a new certification: Senior Executives in State and Local Government from Harvard Kennedy School

Kathleen Kiernan, Tracy Frazzano, and Kristen Ziman meet up at IAEP
Emergence participant and TSA/DHS Executive Assistant Lanita Puentes with DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas on detail for the DHS Advancer Team to assist cross-organizational efforts in response to ongoing travel.

Clif Everton, Felipe Colon, NCIS Director Lopez, and now-retired EAD Snowdon during an event on the USS Constitution.

Chris Tubbs being sworn in as the new President of the California Fire Chiefs Association with his SMFD family and Association Presidents in attendance.

Dr. Lito and Administrator Criswell celebrate his latest accomplishment.

Masters alum Lt. Andrew Horos (MPD/CDU Branch Director on January 6th) and colleague Lt. Peter Sheldon (MPD/CDU Platoon 51 Lieutenant on January 6th) at the Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony.

An ELP1701 mini-reunion for Thomas McNeal (left) and Andrew Pickett (center) at IAEM 2022.
CHDS alum Amanda Bogard and family run into fellow Masters alum Steve Sund on his book circuit

Masters alum Donna Cayson White receives her Doctorate in Public Administration, University of LaVerne

Rosemary McDonnell presenting at the Radiation Injury Treatment Network (RITN) Annual Workshop in Alexandria, VA, in August

ALUMNI PHOTO ALBUM

William J. Walker, Sergeant at Arms and Chief Protocol Officer of the U.S. House of Representatives, welcomes President Emmanuel Macron of France to the Capitol

FEMA Associate Administrator for Response and Recovery Anne Bink, FEMA Region 9 Regional Administrator Bob Fenton, and FEMA Region 9 Recovery Director Robert Pesapane (center) with the team from Guam

ELP alum NCIS Special Agent Clifton J. Everton, III assumes the position of NCIS Executive Assistant Director for Global and Atlantic Operations

ELP alum Seth Komansky, Deputy EMS Director for Wake County EMS and current Masters student Shawn Royall, Special Operations Battalion Chief, Charlotte Fire Dept. met at the North Carolina Information Sharing and Analysis Center training in Wilmington, NC
FDNY’s Tim Carroll and Frank Leeb attend fellow alum NYPD’s Kathleen O’Reilly’s retirement ceremony. The trio, who met at CHDS, said that their friendship is an unquantifiable value of the CHDS programs and to the residents of NYC.

Tony Russell congratulates David Linthicum on his nomination as instructor of the quarter.

Cesar A. Escobar, Meghan McPherson, and Louis Libin “working” at the U.S. Open Billie Jean King Tennis Center in Queens, NY. Mt. Sinai Hospital, Broad-Comm, and FDNY protecting the event.

ELP alum David Hall recruiting new students in LA.

Friendly sparring between FDNY and NYPD grads.

Robert Wagner presenting his thesis research at the CBRNe Summit USA in Denver, Colorado.
Classmates Vince Noce and Martha Ellis attended Brig. Gen. Wendy Wenke’s promotion ceremony.

Masters alum Maggie DeBoard was invited to New York City to attend the David Lynch Foundation’s Meditate New York Gala to speak about the Herndon Police Department’s pilot program, which brought meditation to their first responder community.

ELP alum and co-founder of the Institute for Diversity and Inclusion in Emergency Management Curtis Brown met with FEMA Region 5 (including ELP alum/Region 5 Administrator Thomas Sivak) to speak with the team about how they can move the needle forward.

Fusion Center Leaders Program alum Jorhena Thomas (left) presented at the National Homeland Security Conference in Cleveland, OH, with David Schuld and Michael Satter.

Scottsdale, AZ Police Department Director and Masters alum Cassie Johnson receiving the Robert J. DeWitts Accreditation Leadership Award at the Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police along side Chief Jeff Walter.

CHDS storyteller Jim Johnson interviewing the newest Master’s graduates.

Angi English presenting on sense-making to the CHDS faculty and staff.
Welcome TO THE CHDS FAMILY!

Congratulations to our most recently completed CHDS cohorts

Outstanding Thesis Award: Matt Davison
Curtis “Butch” Straub Award: Matt Davison
Mark Carr Esprit De Corps Award: Denise Bordelon and Michael Giardina

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ELP0701

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MA1103/1104
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Provides a comprehensive, curated collection of resources to aid CHDS students, academics, officials, researchers, policy makers, and the public on the topic.
www.chds.us/ssdb

What CHDS is Reading
An in-depth reading list of books assigned in the Master’s, Executive Leaders, and Emergence programs within the last two years.
www.chds.us/ed/chds-booklist

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