

Law Enforcement and Prosecutor Trainings Faculty Biographies

Current as of 2022

Jane Anderson is an Attorney Advisor for AEquitas: The Prosecutors' Resource on Violence Against Women. Prior to joining AEquitas, Jane served as an Assistant State Attorney in Miami-Dade County where she was a founding member of their Human Trafficking Unit. In that role, Jane prosecuted many of the state's first human trafficking cases. Additionally, she helped develop the infrastructure to better identify trafficking victims, train law enforcement, prosecutors, and allied professionals, and support victims through a coordinated community response. Prior to her work with Human Trafficking, Jane supervised the office's misdemeanor Domestic Violence Unit, training and supervising new lawyers in the complexities of intimate partner violence and prosecutions. In that role, she also reviewed and signed U Visa certifications.

Jane graduated *cum laude* from American University, Washington College of Law after earning a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Washington in Seattle. She currently works remotely from the San Francisco Bay Area.

Shannon Archer is an Assistant County Attorney in the Polk County Attorney's Office in Des Moines, Iowa. Since joining the office in 2010, Shannon has represented the State of Iowa in handling thousands of cases, with a specialization in domestic violence. Shannon received her undergraduate degree in mathematics from Wartburg College and her law degree from Drake University. Shannon currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Civil Service Commission for the City of Ankeny. She is a member of faculty with the National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project and National District Attorney's Association. Shannon actively trains law enforcement officers, attorneys, judges and advocates nationwide.

Elliott Casey is a staff attorney with the Virginia Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council. He was formerly an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for the County of Albemarle and carried a cross-designation as a Special Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Virginia. He also previously worked as a prosecutor for the City of Alexandria, and the County of Arlington, Virginia. Mr. Casey specialized in prosecuting money laundering, narcotics, and complex white-collar offenses. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law and is proficient in Spanish, German, Mandarin Chinese, and Japanese. He also has basic proficiency in Korean and French.

Mr. Casey also instructs prosecutors, law enforcement agencies, and private special investigation units around the world on topics including forfeiture, money laundering, identity theft, use of technology in the courtroom, and search & seizure. He joined NIWAP's team Prosecutor Training Faculty in 2018 after our Train the Trainer event. Since 2018, Mr. Casey has participated in national, state, and local in-person trainings, virtual roundtables, webinars, and has provided national technical assistance. He has 24 years working with domestic and immigrant victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, and human trafficking. He has trained approximately 100 people nationally on U and T visa and immigrant victim relief and 1400 law enforcement agents and prosecutors.

Sergeant/Inspector Antonio Flores became a member of the San Francisco Police Department in 1982, and now has over 30 years of experience as sworn law enforcement professional. The early years of his career included training at Central Station and completing his probationary period at Richmond Station. He was then assigned to Mission Station, where he began to utilize his Spanish language skills on-duty. In 1984, he took part in a 90-day undercover assignment with the Narcotics Division in areas plagued by narcotics trafficking. Sergeant/Inspector Flores was re-assigned to the Mission Station plain-clothes unit, which ultimately led to a permanent assignment to the Narcotics Division. His assignments over the next 13 years included Buy/Bust Operations, Buy/Walk Operations, Mid-level and Major Narcotics Trafficker Investigations, Lead Investigator Responsibilities, Assignment to the U.S. Customs Service-Money Laundering, Assignment to the F.B.I. Violent Gang Task Force, Expert Witness in Superior Court. In 1998, he was promoted to Sergeant and assigned to the Tenderloin District.

National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP, pronounced *new-app*)

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Sergeant Flores was responsible for supervising officers and overseeing the Field Training Program. In addition, his role included community problem solving for issues such as homelessness, mental health, narcotics, and quality of life problems. In 2001 he was promoted to Inspector and assigned to the Domestic Violence Response Unit. In this assignment he has been responsible for overseeing cases. He has investigated over 1,000 cases involving domestic violence, stalking and elder abuse. He has testified as an expert in superior court (San Francisco, Marin and San Mateo Counties) regarding domestic violence, stalking, elder abuse cases and T and U-Visas. In 2012 he was assigned to Special Victims Unit- Human Trafficking. He has investigated over 100 cases involving human trafficking (force labor, commercial sex involving adults and underage children). Currently, he lectures on domestic violence & elder abuse to the senior community regarding the SFPD-DVRU, cycles of violence, and training at SFPD-Police Academy (Continuing Professional Training-AO) and to Emergency dispatchers, 911 operators, and staff regarding stalking and elder abuse investigations.

Detective Robert Frechette is a detective with the Rochester Police Dept. in New Hampshire, specializing in gender-based crimes. Detective Frechette has over 21 years of experience in which he has also served as a patrol officer, SWAT officer, and drug recognition expert. He is also a nationally registered paramedic working part-time in a hospital-based expanded scope role. He has worked in Emergency Medical Services since 1988 in various roles including ski patrol, fire service, and private ambulance services. Detective Frechette is one of the founders of the Strafford County Family Justice Center and past chair of its governing body. He co-authored legislation that made non-fatal strangulation a felony in New Hampshire. Detective Frechette also consults for the NH Attorney General's Office, various prosecutors, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), and other organizations on a variety of topics. Detective Frechette has been a consultant and trainer for IACP for over two years and attended their VAWA trainer development program in 2009. Detective Frechette's experience and professional accomplishments includes: nine (9) years working with T and U visa eligible victims in collaboration with partner agencies; 15 years of providing national technical assistance to law enforcement and prosecution officials; 12 years of providing in-person trainings and on-site technical assistance, and eight (8) years of providing webinar trainings. Detective Frechette began work with NIWAP as a law enforcement trainer in late 2020.

Assistant County Attorney Chris Freeman is currently a Senior Assistant County Attorney with the Hennepin County Attorney office in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He has worked in the adult violent crime, gang and community property divisions of the Hennepin County Attorney's office. Mr. Freeman previously worked in the Dane County District Attorney's office in Madison, Wisconsin where he was primarily a domestic violence prosecutor and manager of the domestic violence unit. He was one of the lead U visa certifiers at Dane County Attorney's Office for 3 years. Mr. Freeman has had experience trying all types of violent criminal offenses including murders, criminal sexual assault, gang violence and domestic violence.

Mr. Freeman has conducted trainings on domestic violence for police agencies and prosecutors in Minnesota and Wisconsin. After NIWAP's Train-the-Trainer event in 2018, Mr. Freeman joined the prosecutor training team. He served as expert faculty in June 2019 for a training hosted by the St. Paul City Attorney's Office and in September 2019 served as faculty for a Conference for Nebraska State Patrol and Nebraska Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Mr. Freeman has 20 years working with domestic and immigrant victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking and human trafficking. He has collaborated with AEquitas for eight (8) years and has helped NIWAP develop and distribute materials from NIWAP's online library. With his expertise, Mr. Freeman has assisted in identifying trends and gaps in training curricula and materials. Mr. Freeman's experience and professional accomplishments include: 13 years of experience working with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, and human trafficking who eligible for U and T visa; nearly four (4) years of experience in providing training and technical assistance for law enforcement officers and prosecutors on the use of U and T visa certifications as crime fighting tools to support community and officer safety, including U and T Visa requirements, how to submit certifications to USCIS, and how certification can assist with criminal investigations and prosecutions; and 13 years of experience providing in-person trainings and on-site technical assistance, including four (4) years of providing webinar trainings.

Detective Stacey Ivie with the Alexandria Police Department, currently assigned to the Financial Crimes Unit. Prior to this assignment, she was a member of the Domestic Violence Unit. That unit was responsible for investigating all domestic violence related and stalking crimes that occurred in the City of Alexandria. She has been

employed with the Alexandria Police Department for over nine years. She received her M. Ed. from American Intercontinental University. She authored and bi-annually instructed an advanced Domestic Violence Investigations Course at the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy. She also guest lectures at various institutions on the topic of Domestic Violence. She volunteers as a Rape Aggression Defense Instructor. She was the creator of an informational brochure on Domestic Violence that is disseminated within Alexandria. In 2008, she received the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal from the Sons of the American Revolution for her work in the field of Domestic Violence.

Natasha Haunsperger has been a Portland Police Officer for thirteen years and is currently assigned to the Office of Community Engagement, Chief's office. In her current position, Officer Haunsperger has been working on addressing complex criminal justice-related issues with immigrant and refugee communities in the Portland Metro area. Ms. Haunsperger created a unique police program that focuses on connecting police officers with newly arrived refugees and immigrants as a part of building trust, promoting cultural awareness and welcoming and assisting new community members in their process of adaptation. In her previous assignment at the Criminal Intelligence Unit, Ms. Haunsperger focused on both intelligence and criminal investigations involving foreign-born labor trafficking subjects in the state of Oregon. Officer Haunsperger also co-produced a documentary film on the topic of foreign-born labor trafficking "Reclaiming Their Lives" and is actively working on raising public awareness about trafficking trends in the Pacific NW. Officer Haunsperger is committed to developing a training curriculum for first responders and community-based stakeholders, focusing on early detection and identification of possible labor trafficking activities and victims identification and rescue.

Ms. Haunsperger received her B.A. in Russian Language from Portland State University in 2004. In 2015, Ms. Haunsperger was a recipient of the Rotary International Peace Studies scholarship and completed a three-months course in "Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies" at the Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. Ms. Haunsperger is currently enrolled in the Masters Program at the Post-Naval Graduate School. Her volunteer work includes serving as a member of the Immigrant Refugee Community Organization (IRCO) Slavic House, a member of the Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ) Immigrant Crime Victim's Rights subcommittee, and a member of the United States Attorney's Office Foreign-Born Human Trafficking Taskforce. As a former war refugee and an immigrant from Croatia, Ms. Haunsperger is very involved with the immigrant and refugee communities in Portland.

Sharla Jackson graduated cum laude from Spelman College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish, then graduated from the University of Miami School of Law with her Juris Doctorate. Her upbringing in the multi-cultural mélange of Miami instilled in her a great love for people and respect for diversity. Ms. Jackson currently serves as the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Resource Prosecutor for the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia where she oversees domestic violence and sexual assault training for prosecutors, law enforcement officers and victim advocates throughout the state of Georgia, Basic Mandate Training for the Georgia State Patrol, and all prosecution-delivered training funded under the Violence Against Women's Act. She also supervises Georgia's Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Task Force. An expert trainer in trial advocacy, law enforcement response and victim's rights, she has increased training opportunities for underserved and rural areas of the state and was recently recognized with the "Shining Light Award" given by the Partnership Against Domestic Violence for her innovative program, *Court School for Victims Advocates*.

Ms. Jackson has drafted legislation on the issues of Elder Abuse, Domestic Violence, and Animal Abuse. She began her career at the City Solicitor's Office in Atlanta, prosecuting cases including Domestic Violence before being appointed as a Senior Assistant District Attorney at the Atlanta Judicial Circuit. While there, she achieved a 95% conviction rate on a variety of cases including family violence crimes, sexual assaults and homicides. Ms. Jackson engaged the community to reduce crime and enlisted citizen support for victims of domestic violence to hold offenders accountable. She honed her training skills working with the Atlanta Police, the National Retail Federation, the Atlanta Hawks and other organizations. The City of Atlanta designated June 24, 2010, "Sharla Jackson Day" in recognition of her service. As Vice Chair of the Georgia Retail Association's (GRA) Loss Prevention Council, she co-drafted the Georgia Smash and Grab Act, signed into law in June of

2010. She was honored by the GRA her for contributions to the Retail Community. Ms. Jackson actively serves as the Southern Area Executive Committee of the Links Incorporated, the Board of Directors of the Atlanta Police Athletic League, and Leadership Atlanta Class of 2019.

Officer Irene-Lee Klein began her career in Law Enforcement in 2008 and now works in the Community Relations Division for the West Hartford Police Department. Some of her responsibilities as a police officer has included: working as a patrol officer, community outreach, organization of the Behind the Badge internship program, Citizen's Police Academy, organization of the first CT SRO Active Shooter response training, safety lessons in elementary and middle schools, and domestic violence instruction for the Greater Hartford area. Officer Klein is an active member of the GA-14 Domestic Violence docket meetings, where domestic violence cases are reviewed by advocates, law enforcement agents, and prosecutors who work closely together to hold offenders accountable and to increase victim safety. She is also responsible for instructing local town and city police departments in matters related to Domestic Violence and Victim/Witness Advocacy; more specifically, Domestic Violence legal updates, the Lethality Assessment Program, Dual Arrests, and Advocacy for Domestic Violence victims and Strangulation (investigations, documentation, and victim impact). Officer Klein instructs new recruits in the dynamics of Domestic Violence and legislation as well as developing and teaching curriculum to certified officers in Greater Hartford area cities and towns for recertification training.

Officer Michael LaRiviere has been a member of the Salem Police Department since 1989. His duties during his 6 years as Domestic Violence Liaison Officer (DVLO) included domestic violence investigations, policy/procedure development, and training. Michael's work as DVLO significantly changed the way domestic violence cases are investigated in Salem and surrounding communities. Michael is currently assigned to the Patrol Division where he continues to actively respond to and investigate crimes against victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse and other violent crimes. He has conducted extensive training and is certified through the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center to train law enforcement, medical, social services, and legal professionals on these issues. Michael currently provides consultation and technical assistance nationally and has assisted in the development of training curriculums on victim dynamics, elder abuse, immigration relief to survivors of gender-based violence, and language access for local, state, national and military audiences.

Officer LaRiviere earned his B.S. in Human Services at Springfield College. He has been honored with a community award from HAWC (Help for Abused Women and Their Children) for taking concrete steps to end domestic violence and in 2002 he was recognized by the Office on Violence Against Women for his extraordinary contribution to the prevention of domestic violence. Office LaRiviere served as a member of the congressionally appointed Department of Defense Taskforce on Domestic Violence.

Rocío Molina is the Deputy Director of the National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project. As an immigration attorney, she has served immigrant survivors seeking immigration relief for over ten years. At NIWAP she leads the Family Law for Immigrant Survivors Community of Practice and Law Enforcement Roundtables and training on Language Access and U Visa. She is a Former Attorney at the Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence and a founding board member of the Community Immigration Law Center (CILC), a free walk-in clinic in Madison, Wisconsin. She is a member of the Wisconsin State Bar and graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School.

Leslye E. Orloff is an Adjunct Professor and Director of the National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP) at American University Washington College of Law. Ms. Orloff's 40-year career includes working collaboratively with experts across the country to develop and implement immigration relief, public benefits access and family law protections for immigrant women, children and survivors. She was involved in drafting the Protection for Immigrant Victims of Violence Against Women of the Violence Against Women Acts of 1994, 2000, 2005, and 2013, the Trafficking Victims Protection Acts of 2000 and 2008, legal services access for battered immigrants in 1997 and 2005 and welfare access for battered immigrants in 1996. She is a co-founder and co-chair of the National Network to End Violence Against immigrant Women (1992-2011). Ms. Orloff's work on behalf of immigrant women has received national recognition, including the 2007 Sheila Wellstone

Award awarded to the National Network to End Violence Against Immigrant Women, the 2007 Annual Rosalynn B. Bell Award, presented to Ms. Orloff by the Women's Law Center of Maryland for her contributions to the field of family law, a Kellogg National Leadership Fellowship in 1994 and a Harvard Law School Wasserstein Public Interest Law Fellowship in 2002.

Ms. Orloff received her J.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles, and graduated *magna cum laude* with a B.A. from Brandeis University.

Supervising Attorney Tara Patet is a senior prosecutor with the City Attorney's Office in St. Paul, Minnesota, where she oversees the Crimes Against Persons Division. She's been a prosecutor for 27 years, specializing in domestic violence and elder abuse cases. Ms. Patet has prosecuted misdemeanor and felony-level cases as part of the Joint Special Victims Unit focusing on high-risk domestic violence and crimes perpetrated against elders and vulnerable adults. She has assisted in the ongoing development of training curricula in these areas and conducts national training for the Dept. of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women, and National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life. Ms. Patet will be a new recruit to NIWAP's prosecution training team under this grant. She aided NIWAP in hosting a training in St. Paul where she secured the training CLE credit and helped identify gaps and trends for NIWAP's curricula. In 2018, Ms. Patet was the recipient of the Elder Justice Center's Jane Ochrymowycz Award for her work in the pursuit of justice for older adults.

Officer Shelli Sonnenberg graduated *cum laude* from the University of Idaho in 1998, with a degree in Crime and Justice Studies/Sociology (Go Vandals!). Shelli began her law enforcement career with the Boise Police Department in 1999, at which time she was honored to be voted the first female President of her POST Academy. Shelli spent the first 4 years of her career working the same geographical area in patrol. In 2003, she joined the Community Policing Team, as a Neighborhood Contact Officer; she is currently the Community Outreach Officer and Refugee Liaison for the department. Shelli works closely with the refugee resettlement agencies and community outreach groups in the area, providing educational and safety information to the New Americans when they arrive in Boise. She is a member of the Crisis Negotiation Team and a member of the Honor Guard.

In 2006, Officer Sonnenberg was chosen BPD Officer of the Year by her peers, something she considers to be a highlight of her career, thus far. In an attempt to assist her fellow officers in the field, Shelli teaches a refugee awareness class to all the new recruits and created, and is currently running, the Interpreter/Translator Program for the department. In March 2011, Officer Sonnenberg was awarded the first ever Refugee Champion Award by the Idaho Office for Refugees for her continued support of the refugee communities in Idaho.

Police Commander Giovanni Veliz was born in Ecuador and grew up in New York City. He has been with the Minneapolis Police Department since 1992 and as an officer has worked in the 3rd Precinct, 4th Precinct, Drug Enforcement Agency Task Officer, Organized Crime Unit and the SAFE Unit. In 1998, Commander Veliz was promoted to the rank of Sergeant where he worked in the SAFE Unit, 5th Precinct Community Response Team, Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Police, Mediation Compliance, 5th Precinct patrol supervisor and 5th Precinct Investigations. After being promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in 2011, Commander Veliz served at the 3rd Precinct as a patrol Lieutenant, Property Crimes Unit and Juvenile Outreach and Diversion Unit. He also held the role of Executive Director for the Police Activities League and most recently served in the MPD's new U-Visa Program.

Commander Veliz is an alumni of the Northwestern Police Staff and Command School, alumni at the Senior Executive in State and Local Government at the Harvard Kennedy School and attended an executive program at Stanford Business School of Social Innovation. In addition, he is a 2016 Bush Fellowship recipient, he earned a Bachelor Science degree from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, a Master of Arts in Police Leadership from Saint Thomas University and is a PhD candidate at Hamline University.