



# Strengthening Community and Organization Responses:

# Serving Immigrant Victims of Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking

### Portland, Oregon - October 4, 2023

#### **FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES**

Jane Anderson Esq., Senior Attorney Advisor, brings her expertise in prosecuting domestic violence, stalking, sexual violence, and human trafficking to her role as an Attorney Advisor with AEquitas. Prior to joining AEquitas, Jane served as a prosecutor in Miami, Florida where she tried many of the state's first human trafficking cases. In her role as a founding member of the Human Trafficking Unit, Jane developed policies to better identify and provide necessary services to trafficking victims, while ensuring offender accountability using digital evidence and creative charging decisions. Jane also served as a supervisor in the Domestic Violence Unit, where she trained new attorneys and oversaw the prosecution of domestic violence, stalking, and violations of protection orders. In that role, she also reviewed and signed U Visa certifications. Throughout her career, Jane prosecuted felony-level crimes of all types, including homicide, kidnapping, and sexual assault.

Jane graduated cum laude from American University, Washington College of Law and is based in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Norma Mendoza is the Multicultural Program Director of Cherokee Family Violence Center (CFVC). She is partially accredited representative by the Office of Legal Access Programs of the DOJ and she is a consultant of the National Immigrant Woman's Advocacy Project. Ms. Mendoza creates and implements supportive services for immigrant victims and oversees the Georgia Statewide Spanish Domestic Violence Hotline. She facilitates the Spanish support group, and provides direct advocacy, housing, legal and immigration services. Ms. Mendoza has provided local, national and international presentations about Intimate Partner Violence, promoting awareness and victim's rights, language access to Limited English Proficient victims, culturally and linguistically responsive services, immigrant victims' rights and other topics. Ms. Mendoza has over 15 years working with victims of crime. Norma Mendoza graduated from Law School in Mexico and has a Master's Degree in European Studies from the Autonomous University of Barcelona. Ms. Mendoza studied International Public and Private Law at UN in Geneva, the Organization of American States in Brazil, and the International Law Academy of the International Court of Justice in Netherlands.

In 2022 she received the recognition of "Outstanding advocate of Georgia's Prevention Initiative", provided by Georgia Center for Child Advocacy, Gwinnett County Family Violence Task Force Member of the Year, and Certificate of Gratitude for her commitment with the Buford Highway Community. In 2021, she received the Award of the 50 Most Influential Latinos in Georgia provided by the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; the 2021 Award Heroes in the Community category of "Empowering Women" by Telemundo Atlanta, and the Deborah Coker

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McDorman Memorial Award, provided by DeKalb Domestic Violence Task Force. She is Board Member of the Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence, of Cherokee FOCUS and Vice President of Gwinnett Family Violence Task Force.

Leslye E. Orloff Esq.-Director of the National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP) and Adjunct Professor at American University Washington College of Law

Ms. 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 cofounder and co-chair of the National Network to End Violence Against immigrant Women (1992-2011).

**Detective Shelli Sonnenberg** graduated cum laude from the University of Idaho in 1998, with a degree in Crime and Justice Studies and began her law enforcement career with the Boise Police Department in 1999, at which time she voted President of her Idaho POST Academy. She spent the first 4 years of her career working in patrol, 9 years in the Community Policing Unit as a Neighborhood Contact Officer and then the Refugee Liaison. The last 11 years she has worked on the Criminal Investigation Division, as a Detective. She is also a Crisis Negotiator and a member of the Honor Guard. In 2006, Detective Sonnenberg won BPD Officer of the Year, something she considers a highlight in her career.

Some of her most rewarding work came from her time as the Refugee Liaison. Shelli worked closely with the refugee resettlement agencies and community outreach groups in the Boise area, providing educational and safety information to the New Americans when they arrive in the U.S. She created a Refugee Awareness curriculum to assist her fellow officers in the field and then created the Boise PD Interpreter/Translator Program, which continues to help officers and LEP persons communicate in a more efficient manner, though out the Valley.

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