

**SPONSORS**



# IJOA & IDOA

## 2024

ANNUAL STATE  
CONFERENCE CONTINUED  
PROFESSIONAL TRAINING



**12-14  
JUNE 2024**



**EMBASSY SUITES  
100 CONFERENCE CENTER DRIVE  
EAST PEORIA, IL 61611  
309-694-0200**

## TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2024

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM: EARLY REGISTRATION

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12TH 2024

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM: REGISTRATION  
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM: WELCOME  
9:00 AM - 11:30 AM: TAKING CARE OF OUR OWN  
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM: AWARDS  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM: LUNCH  
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM: JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION  
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM: LEGAL UPDATE  
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM: DARE UPDATE  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM: SOCIAL NETWORK EVENT

## THURSDAY, JUNE 13TH 2024

9:00 AM -12:00 PM: MANAGING THE INVESTIGATION  
TEAM AND CHILD DEATH  
12:00 PM -1:00 PM: LUNCH  
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM: CHILD DEATH INVESTIGATION  
\* BREAKOUT OPTION \*  
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM: COMMUNITY COHESION: WHEN NON-  
PROFIT AGENCIES AND FIRST  
RESPONDERS COLLABORATE  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM: SOCIAL NETWORKING EVENT

## FRIDAY, JUNE 14TH 2024

8:30 AM -9:00 AM: ANNUAL MEETING AND  
ELECTION OF OFFICERS  
9:00 AM -12:00 PM: PROTHO CASE REVIEW  
12:00 PM: CLOSING REMARKS



**THE IJOA ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD  
JUNE 12-14, 2024, AT EMBASSY  
SUITES 100 CONFERENCE  
CENTER DRIVE, EAST PEORIA, IL  
61611.**

## **CONFERENCE FEES:**

**UP TO MAY 1, 2024**

**\$225 PER OFFICER**

**\$200 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL OFFICER FROM THE  
SAME DEPARTMENT**

**AFTER MAY 1, 2024**

**\$250 PER OFFICER**

**(CONFERENCE FEES INCLUDE CONFERENCE  
MATERIALS AND LUNCH ON WEDNESDAY AND  
THURSDAY)**

## **ROOM RATES:**

**\$134/NIGHT, WHICH INCLUDES BREAKFAST. THE  
DEADLINE TO RESERVE A ROOM AT THIS SPECIAL  
RATE IS 5 PM ON MAY 23, 2024.**

**REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT CAN BE MADE AT THE**

**[ILJOA.COM](http://ILJOA.COM) WEBSITE**

**OR**

**CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**

**ILLINOIS JUVENILE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION**

**MAIL TO: 1 S. VIRGINIA STREET**

**CRYSTAL LAKE, IL 60014**



**QUESTIONS?**

**CONTACT IJOA AT  
[ILLINOISJOA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ILLINOISJOA@GMAIL.COM)**



## **Chris Prochut -Taking Care of Our Own**

**Chris Prochut (pro-hut) is a mental health advocate and law enforcement suicide prevention trainer. Over the past ten years, Chris has had the honor to present to over 12,000 law enforcement officers across the United States and parts of Canada on the topics of suicide and depression warning signs, medication myths, department policy revision, and told of his personal experience with the stigma of mental health issues. Chris has presented at many NAMI-organized Crisis Intervention Team Trainings (CIT) where he addresses the subject of "Taking care of our own" and has been featured at various specialized law enforcement conferences advising departments on program development to assist officers at risk for suicide. Chris is a member of the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Death Response (LEDR) Team, a former trainer in the QPR (Question, Persuade, and Refer) suicide prevention program, an FBI National Academy (FBINA) Enrichment Speaker, an FBI National Academy Associates (FBINAA) Officer Safety and Wellness Committee Member, and an active volunteer with BringChange2Mind.**

## **KEYNOTES**

## **DR. MICHAEL MURPHY- MANAGING THE INVESTIGATION TEAM AND CHILD DEATH INVESTIGATION**



**P. Michael Murphy is employed as a program manager for The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. He retired as the Coroner for the Clark County Office of the Coroner/ Medical Examiner after 13 years; in addition, while being a Coroner, he was the Interim Director of Juvenile Justice Services for Clark County and County Lobbyist for the 76th and 77th Legislative Sessions of the Nevada Legislature. Dr. Murphy brings forty-plus years of law enforcement and public service experience, from working as an entry-level police officer in Kansas City, Kansas, to serving as Chief of Police in Mesquite, Nevada. He has worked for several municipalities, including Boulder City, Mesquite, the City of Las Vegas, and Clark County. Michael has served as President of the International Association of Coroner & Medical Examiners (IAC&ME), the Nevada Chapter of the FBI National Academy (FBINA), Nevada Sheriff's and Chief's Association, Chairman of the State of Nevada Peace Officer's Standards and Training Commission (POST) as well as Advisory Board member of the Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP). He continues to serve on numerous committees at the federal, state, and local levels. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and has a doctoral degree in Business Administration from California Pacific University. He is also a Fellow of the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators.**

**AGENT BARKER AND LANDAU, FEDERAL PROSECUTORS  
CHRIS PARENTE AND KELLY GUZMAN,  
EBONY FERGUSON (YWCA ADVOCATE), AMANI  
CASE REVIEW: BRYAN PROTHO KIDNAPPING**



**KEYNOTES**

On the afternoon of Dec. 20, 2017, BRYAN PROTHO grabbed a child as she walked on a sidewalk in the south suburb. Protho forcibly dragged the victim into a sport-utility vehicle and drove away. He then parked the vehicle in a nearby alley, assaulted the child, and threatened to kill her. The victim was able to get out of the car and flag down a passing vehicle, and law enforcement was contacted.

A jury convicted Protho, 42, of East Chicago, Ind., on one count of kidnapping. During a two-week trial in federal court in Chicago, the victim testified about her ordeal and identified Protho as her abductor. U.S. District Judge Andrea R. Wood sentenced Protho to 38 years in prison, to be followed by 15 years of court-supervised release. The Calumet City Police Department led the investigation, with assistance from the Chicago FBI Field Office and the Lansing Police Department. The sentence was announced by John R. Lausch, Jr., United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; Christopher Fletcher, Chief of the Calumet City Police Department; Emmerson Buie, Jr., Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago Field Office of the FBI; and Richard Slough, Interim Chief of the Lansing Police Department.

“As this innocent child skipped home from school with dreams of the upcoming Christmas break in her head, Protho attacked and forever changed the life of this bright child,” Assistant U.S. Attorneys Christopher V. Parente and Kelly Guzman argued in the government’s sentencing memorandum. “He is the worst kind of predator – a child predator.”

**PATRICIA BINFA - LEGAL UPDATE**



Ms. Binfa graduated from the University of Illinois (BA) and received her law degree from John Marshall Law School in Chicago. She has worked in the field of higher education administration for over 20 years. As such, she has advocated for advancing education for law enforcement and first responders.

She has held the position of Assistant Dean of Education at Westwood College. During her tenure, she developed curriculum for the School of Justice and was chairperson of a national committee to advance higher education and law enforcement. She supervised a professional faculty of fifty-plus college professors. She developed an advisory board of community and academic professionals to enhance graduates' employment.

She is a tenured professor in the Department of Health and Public Services at Joliet Community College. Ms. Binfa teaches law enforcement education and paralegal studies. She developed the paralegal curriculum for Joliet Junior College. She served as the faculty advisor for the law enforcement student association, sponsoring events such as St. Baldricks and the Law Enforcement Olympics. She currently serves as the department representative on the college curriculum committee, which reviews new programs, program revisions, program deletions, and changes to graduation requirements.

# KEYNOTES

## **CHRISTINE NEILSEN, DARBI CARBONE, AND COURTNEY BEHRENS: OPTIONS AND ADVOCACY - IEP**

**Christine, Darbi, and Courtney will provide an engaging presentation on their experience working in non-profits and collaborating with local first responders. They will discuss the historical context of their partnerships and community needs and focus on the intentional growth in supporting first responders. Christine will provide sensory-specific training and tangible tools to utilize with various citizens first responders may encounter. Darbi will provide first-hand knowledge about supporting clients in a heightened or crisis state. Additionally, Darbi discusses from an educational perspective the importance of first responders within school systems and communities being part of the team while supporting a student who benefits from accommodations.**



**Christine Neilsen is a Certified Child Life Specialist with sixteen years of experience working with kids and families in the hospital. She spent two years improving the surgery process for patients with autism. She is the Lead Family Educator for the Autism Resource Center at Options and Advocacy. She received her undergraduate degree in Child Life from Edgewood College and pursued a master's in Human Development and Family Studies, looking at caregiver chronic sorrow and family adaptation. Christine and her family have lived in McHenry County for the last nine years.**



**Darbi Carbone is in her 6th year at Options & Advocacy. She started in the AutismResource Center as the Parent Mentor. She is now the Lead Educational Advocate for the Autism Resource Center. Darbi is a long-time member of COPAA, the Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates. She is currently completing her Special Education Advocate Training (SEAT) certification. Her experience includes advocating for students, including her two sons with autism, for more than 13 years. She enjoys working collaboratively with school district staff and families through educational advocacy to create a supportive educational plan for student success.**



**Courtney Behrens has been a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with Options and Advocacy for McHenry County since 2019. She is currently the clinical director for the Neuro Inclusive Counseling Clinic; previously, she was part of the Autism Resource Center. Courtney obtained her MSW from Aurora University in 2016. She then engaged in crisis and clinical therapy in Cook County. Courtney brings with her a multifaceted experience from macro-level development, such as grant writing and program development, to individual therapy. Her professional work has been largely associated with vulnerable populations, youth, domestic violence victims, and individuals with disabilities. Courtney has also done extensive training and work around gender identity, healthy development, and the LGBTQ+ population.**