



FBINAA Chapter Chat

Chapter Chat is a monthly communication bringing you all updates submitted by members and chapters!

Please submit each month what's happening among your fellow Chapter and Session mates such as Chapter News, Retrainers, Promotions, Retirements, Awards, and Passings.

September 2024

By Our FBINAA Members

California Chapter News

Promotions



Congratulations go out to Assistant Commissioner of Field Operations (a 3 star position) **Ezery Beauchamp, NA Session 277**, who you may remember being featured in our January 2024 newsletter. Now we are featuring him again for being promoted to Deputy Commissioner (a 4 star position). Ezery is now second in command of the California Highway Patrol (CHP). Congratulations Deputy Commissioner Beauchamp, we wish you continued success in your new position.

Retirements



George Mueller, NA Session 246

Congratulations go out to Deputy Commissioner **George Mueller, NA Session 246**, of the Enforcement Branch, California Department of Insurance, who retired on May 31st after 40 years in Law Enforcement. Mueller had a long and distinguished law enforcement career, starting with the City of Alhambra, then working as the Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Investigation at the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office (which is the largest prosecutorial agency in the nation), finally taking a position with the California Department of Insurance in 2015. Dep. Commissioner Mueller graduated from the FBINA in 2011 and went on to lecture on numerous topics at California State University, Los Angeles, the United States Dept. of State, the office of the Attorney General in Thailand, the first international summit on human trafficking, the FBI National Conference and Public Safety, Canada. He currently serves on multiple Boards. We wish him all the very best in retirement and thank him for his service.



Dan Purcell receiving the Doug Muldoon Award

Chief Dan Purcell, NA Session 254, of the Seminole County Sheriff's Office received the Doug Muldoon Award which recognizes a member whose efforts increase the Florida FBINAA and FBINAA membership, contribution to building Florida FBINAA fellowship, contribution to the Florida FBINAA training initiatives, overall contribution to the FBINAA and the Florida FBINAA.





Florida FBINAA Conference in Miami Beach

The Florida Conference held in Miami Beach, Florida was a huge success. There were educational sessions and opportunities for both networking and fellowship.

Georgia Chapter News

Retirements



Antony "Tony" Lucas, NA Session 166, retired May 31st, 2024, as the City Manager and Public Safety Director after 40 years of service with the City of Conyers, Georgia. Tony celebrated his daughter Kim's graduation from NA Session 288 in December 2023.

Louisiana Chapter News



Networking Event with Session 292

Members from the Louisiana Chapter Board and Third Vice President Larry Dyess met with the upcoming Session 292 student for networking and Q&A. Good luck to this next session!

Ohio Chapter News

Over 25 members of the Ohio Chapter attended this year's National Annual Training Conference in Kansas City and took part in many excellent training opportunities including the chapter's own retired Chief Thomas Wells, who presented on how his agency navigated it's first line of duty death. This program was selected out of over 160 submissions. Members also took a tour of the Halladay Bourbon Distillery, attended KC Royals games and enjoyed the FBI night including MLB Hall of Famer George Brett.

Promotions



Mike Werner, NA Session 263

Lt. **Mike Werner, NA Session 263**, of the Eastlake Police Dept. was promoted to Chief of Police. Mike is a 26-year member of the department and will also be the incoming chapter Vice-President this fall. We wish Mike all the best in the new position.

Passings



Richard "Rick" Balog, NA Session 243



Robert E. Taylor, NA Session 136

Two chapter members passed away this past month. Lieutenant **Richard "Rick" Balog, NA Session 243**, passed on August 19th, 2024. He served with the Boardman Police Department for 34 years as a member of an inner agency Task Force, the police bike patrol, and he was one of two of the departments Voice Stress Analysis officers.

Also, Chief **Robert E. Taylor, NA Session 136**, passed on June 14th, 2024 after a

brief illness. Bob served the community in several law enforcement roles. He was with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, then became the Chief of Police for Genoa Township, and upon retiring from Genoa PD, he returned to the FCSO as a Chief Deputy for a number of years.

Oregon Chapter News



Oregon Chapter "Pig Out"



We hosted our annual "Pig Out", a Hawaiian theme summer social at Memorial Park in Wilsonville, Oregon. We had 65 members (Active & Retired), spouses, and Law Enforcement Officers who will be attending the National Academy in the next few sessions! Lake Oswego Captain **Clayton Simon, NA Session 279**, won our annual Glock raffle!

We are happy to announce that Capt. Brian Struckmeier, Tualatin PD, and Capt. T.J. Eriksen, Port of Portland, will be representing Oregon for NA Session 292! We wish them the best of luck!

Promotions



Bradley Sitton, NA Session 277

Please join the Oregon Chapter and congratulating **Bradley Sitton, NA Session 277**, as he was promoted to Commander with the Tigard Police Department on August 11th, 2024. Commander Sitton is a US Army veteran who served as a reserve officer for three years before joining the Tigard Police Department full time in 2006. He has been a Field Training Officer (FTO), Firearm Instructor and Traffic Safety Unit officer before promoting to Sergeant in 2011 and Lieutenant in 2014.

Tennessee Chapter News



Monday Night Reception - Whiskey Bent Saloon



Tuesday Night Pub Crawl - Stage



Monday Night Reception - Redneck Rivera

The TN/KY FBINAA Annual Conference concluded on August 29th and had over 150 National Academy graduates in attendance. The support of the 50+ business partners who exhibited and contributed to our evening events made it one of our most successful events. We appreciate the attendance of President Craig Peterson and Director Jeff McCormick, who updated members on National Academy programs.

Evening events this year included: Receptions with food/drink on Monday and Wednesday with a five venue Pub Crawl on Tuesday. 22 hours of POST approved training was provided as well as a buffet breakfast and lunch each day for attendees and guests.

Registration for next year's conference is open and can be found on the TN Chapter website, www.tnfbinaa.org. The event will remain in Nashville, TN where attendees

can not only enjoy great training, but also the hospitality of the Lower Broadway's entertainment.

Promotions



Vikki Shabazz, NA Session 286

Vikki Shabazz, NA Session 286, was elected to the office of 2nd Vice President of the TN Chapter at their regular business meeting during the TN/KY NAA Annual Conference. She will assume the YLP Coordinator position in 2025, and succeed to the office of President in 2027.

Major Shabazz began her journey with the Memphis Police Department on July 28th, 2003. Throughout her career, she has held a variety of roles, including patrol officer, investigator in the Economic Crimes Bureau and Special Victims Unit, detective in the Organized Crime/Narcotics Unit, and positions within the Homicide Bureau. She advanced to serve as Lieutenant in the Homicide Bureau, Major/Commander of the Charlie Shift in the Downtown Precinct, and now serves as Chief of Staff for Chief Cerelyn "CJ" Davis.

Vikki has acquired extensive training and certifications in areas such as Financial Crimes, Homicide and Violent Crimes Investigations, Reid's Interrogation, Firearms Training for Women, and Leadership for Women in Law Enforcement. She was recognized as the 2021 Investigator Supervisor of the Year. A graduate of the FBI National Academy Class of 286 in 2023, she also served as a counselor for the 25th session of the Youth Leadership Program (YLP) in 2024.

Before joining law enforcement, Vikki earned a BBA in Accounting from Campbell University in North Carolina in 1996 and an MBA in Accounting in 2012, and she worked for several years as an Accountant and Senior Financial Analyst in Raleigh/Durham, North Carolina. Outside of work, she enjoys spending quality time with her husband, children, and family, and is an avid sports fan.

Passings



Barry Harrison, NA Session 104

Barry Harrison, NA Session 104, was a TN Highway Patrolman, stationed in Nashville, Chattanooga, and then Dayton . He was honored to be chosen to attend the FBI National Academy in 1976. In 1977, Barry took a position with the District Attorney's office as an investigator, proudly working under J. William Pope. He left the D.A.'s office in 1988 and became the Clerk & Master in the Chancery Court. He retired in 2010. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.



Mark Gwyn, Former TBI Director

Former Tennessee Bureau of Investigation Director Mark Gwyn has died at the age of 61 at his Nashville-area home, from what appears to be natural causes. Director Gwyn, a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, began his career in law enforcement as a police officer in his hometown of McMinnville in 1985. Three years later, he joined the TBI as a special agent in its Criminal Investigation Division. Eight years later, he was promoted to the role of executive officer and later served as assistant director of the Forensic Services Division.

Virginia Chapter News

Promotions



Stuart Bowen, NA Session 253

Chief **Stuart Bowen, NA Session 253**, of the South Hill Police Department will be stepping into his new role as the Chief of Law Enforcement Services for the Virginia Department of Corrections. Chief Bowen, a former President of the Virginia Chapter and a graduate of the National Academy, has served as the Chief of Police for the South Hill Police Department since 2016. We extend our best wishes to Chief Bowen as he embarks on this new chapter in his career.

Wisconsin Chapter News



Livio Beccaccio Award Recipient, Ryan Shogren

First Vice-President of the Wisconsin Chapter **Ryan Shogren, NA Session 272**, received the prestigious Livio Beccaccio Award at the 2024 National Conference in Kansas City. The Livio Beccaccio Award honors individuals who have gone above and beyond in giving back to their country, their profession, and to humanity. Ryan has served in law enforcement throughout his career, working in high priority situations and positions for 30 years (i.e., municipal, county, State, and federal positions). In 2004 he was seriously wounded in a mortar attack while serving our country as a U.S. Marine in Iraq. In 2023 he selflessly donated a kidney to his good friend and fellow police officer to save his life. Ryan is humble, a resolute family man, devoted to God, country, family, and the law enforcement profession. He is highly respected everywhere.

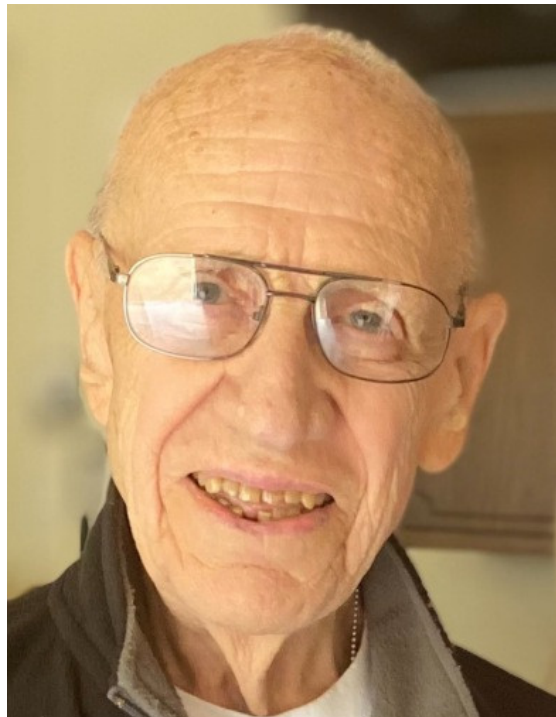
Ryan was completely unaware that he was receiving the award while a group of family, friends, and associates from across the U.S. secretly traveled to the conference in Kansas City to surprise him. And surprise him they did!

Congratulations Ryan on being selected as the 2024 Livio Beccaccio Award recipient, a well-deserved honor.



Livio Beccaccio Award

Passings



Kenneth Heitz, NA Session 131

Kenneth Heitz, NA Session 131, began his career in law enforcement in 1960 as a deputy with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department and later continued his career as an officer for the City of Jefferson Police Department. Ken was a proud graduate of the FBI National Academy 131st Session. He retired as a Detective from the City of Jefferson Police Department in 1987. Ken's life's passion was to serve and protect and he lived his calling daily. His family and friends alike admired his character and willingness to always put others before himself.

Want to share updates from your Chapter?
Submit chapter news on the [Chapter Chat Submission Form](#) by the 25th of every month to be in the next edition.

Please attach to the email high-resolution digital .png, .jpg or .tif photos to:
ChapterChat@fbinaa.org.

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