

2026 Annual Training Conference & Vendor EXPO



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GOD ENRICHES

MARICOPA
HARRAHS AK CHIN

JANUARY 26-29, 2026



Executive Director, Roxie Heussner
Gilbert Police Department
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Gilbert, AZ 85296
480-635-7757
Website: www.azchiefsofpolice.org

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Department



Welcome to the Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police (AACOP) Annual Conference and Vendor Show.

On behalf of the AACOP Executive Board, we extend our sincere appreciation to every member who has supported the Association throughout the past year. The strength of AACOP lies in the collaboration of law enforcement leaders across Arizona, working together to serve and protect the citizens of this great state. Whether through legislative advocacy, professional training, or addressing emerging and complex challenges, Arizona law enforcement continues to demonstrate a strong culture of collaboration and shared commitment to excellence in public service.

The AACOP Training Committee has worked diligently to ensure that this year's conference offers timely, relevant, and meaningful training that reflects the realities facing our profession today. We value your input and encourage you to share ideas and insights that can help shape future training opportunities.

We also encourage you to take full advantage of the networking opportunities provided throughout the conference. These connections strengthen our professional relationships and remind us that, as leaders, we are not alone in addressing the difficult and evolving issues facing law enforcement.

Please be sure to visit our website at www.azchiefsofpolice.org, and never hesitate to reach out to a member of the AACOP Executive Board if we can be of assistance.

A heartfelt thank you goes to our Executive Director, Roxie Heussner, for her outstanding work in organizing this conference and managing the Association throughout the year. We also extend our sincere gratitude to our 2026 supporting business members and sponsors, whose continued support is vital to the success of AACOP.

We look forward to engaging with each of you and wish you a productive and successful conference.

Warm regards,

Kara Riley, President
Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police

Welcome

ARIZONA CHIEFS



WELCOME

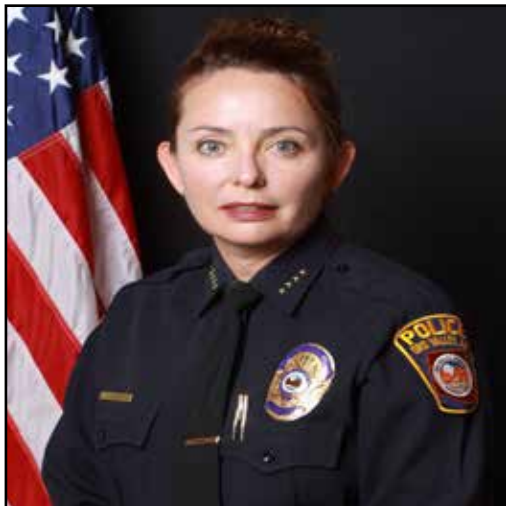
Welcome to the 2026 Annual Training Conference & Vendor Expo at Harrah's Ak Chin Casino in Maricopa, AZ. We have a sold out vendor show with over 110 vendors in attendance. You will receive a form at registration that you can take to each of the vendors to obtain a signature/stamp in order to be eligible for the raffle prize drawing. We have two guns, lots of gift cards, AirPods Pro and much more being raffled off throughout the week!

Attendees will have many exciting trainings to choose from again this year! Don't miss the Wednesday evening social hour and banquet! The banquet food is sure to be unforgettable. When you are not in training or visiting the expo, the onsite entertainment center has many fun activities including movies, bowling, laser tag, an arcade and of course the gorgeous pool.

REGISTRATION

All attendees and vendors need to check-in at registration at their designated tables before entering the vendor area. Vendors and pre-registered attendees will need to pick-up their name badge and conference materials. If you have not pre-registered, you will need to check in at the registration table to obtain a name badge. A full conference attendee will pay \$200 either via cash, check or credit card at the registration table if not pre-registered online. Spouses may attend the trainings and activities for the same fee of \$200 or they may attend just the themed dinner for \$50. If you wish to visit the vendor show only on Wednesday, there is no fee to register. Please note that expo-only attendees will not be able to enter the training sessions or participate in meals.

AACOP EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP



CHIEF KARA RILEY
PRESIDENT



CHIEF MICHAEL SOELBERG
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



CHIEF CHAD KASMAR
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT



CHIEF MICHAEL POOLEY
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT



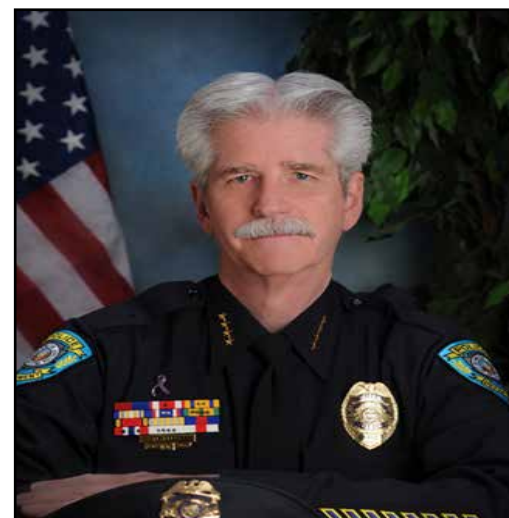
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THIRD VICE PRESIDENT



CHIEF MEMO ESPINOZA
FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT



CHIEF BRIAN AVILA
FIFTH VICE PRESIDENT



TOM KELLY
AD HOC RETIRED MEMBER



ROXIE HEUSSNER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



MONDAY JAN 26

- 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Bag Stuffing/Conference Set-Up
Prefunction Area
- 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Attendee Early Registration - Ballroom
- 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Bowling Tournament - In the Arena
Sponsored by **AirWave Communications**

TUESDAY JAN 27

- 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM Conference Set-Up /Bag Stuffing in the Ballroom
- 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Attendee Registration in the Ballroom Foyer
- 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Vendor Set-Up in the Ballroom
- 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Learn the SLII Model - M1 & M2
Tim Brookshire
- 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Autism Awareness, Communication and Accommodation
Chris Timmins & Amber Timmins
Preston's Pursuit for Acceptance
Ballroom Stage
- 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Lunch Break in the Ballroom Stage Area
Sponsored by **OnStar**
- 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Losing Officer Facio - Ballroom Stage
Chief Mike Pooley, AJPD
- 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Police and Fire Collaboration: How Can Cats and Dogs Live Peacefully? - Ballroom Stage
Chief Amy Bonney and Chief Holger Durre
- 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Drone Discussion - M1& M2
Ryan Enos
- 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Beer Garden Social - Prefunction Area or Patio
Sponsored by **Motorola Solutions, Inc**
- 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Hospitality Suite - Patio with Live Band
Sponsored by **Law Enforcement Specialists**

2026 Annual Conference and Vendor Expo

WEDNESDAY JAN 28

- 
- 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM Vendor Set-Up in the Ballroom
- 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Breakfast Buffet in the Ballroom Stage Area
Sponsored by **Nova Principles**
- 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM ★ **VISIT THE VENDORS FIND THE GOLDEN TICKET**
- 8:00 AM - 5:00PM Vendor Show Open in the Main Ballroom
- 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM Opening Keynote Speaker - Ballroom Stage
Jim Dugan
- ★ AACOP Officer of the Year - Ballroom Stage
- 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Honoring the Badge - Ballroom Stage
Jim Dugan
- 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM ALEAP Commission Meeting and
Accreditation Hearings - M1 & M2
- 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM Lunch Break in the Ballroom Stage Area
- 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM AACOP General Membership Meeting and
Board Installation - Ballroom
- 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM AACOP Executive Board Meeting - M3
- 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM ★ VISIT THE VENDORS
- 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM Assessor Training - M1 & M2
- 3:30 PM - 5:00PM A Strategic Approach to Building Your Police
Workforce - Ballroom Stage
Professor Jeremy Wilson
- 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Happy Hour Social - Ballroom Foyer
Sponsored by **Scottsdale Gun Club**
- 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Dinner - Ballroom
Sponsored by **RollKall**
- 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM Hospitality Suite with Magician
Oak and Fork Restaurant (on-site at hotel)
Sponsored by **TGR Technologies**

2026 Annual Conference and Vendor Expo



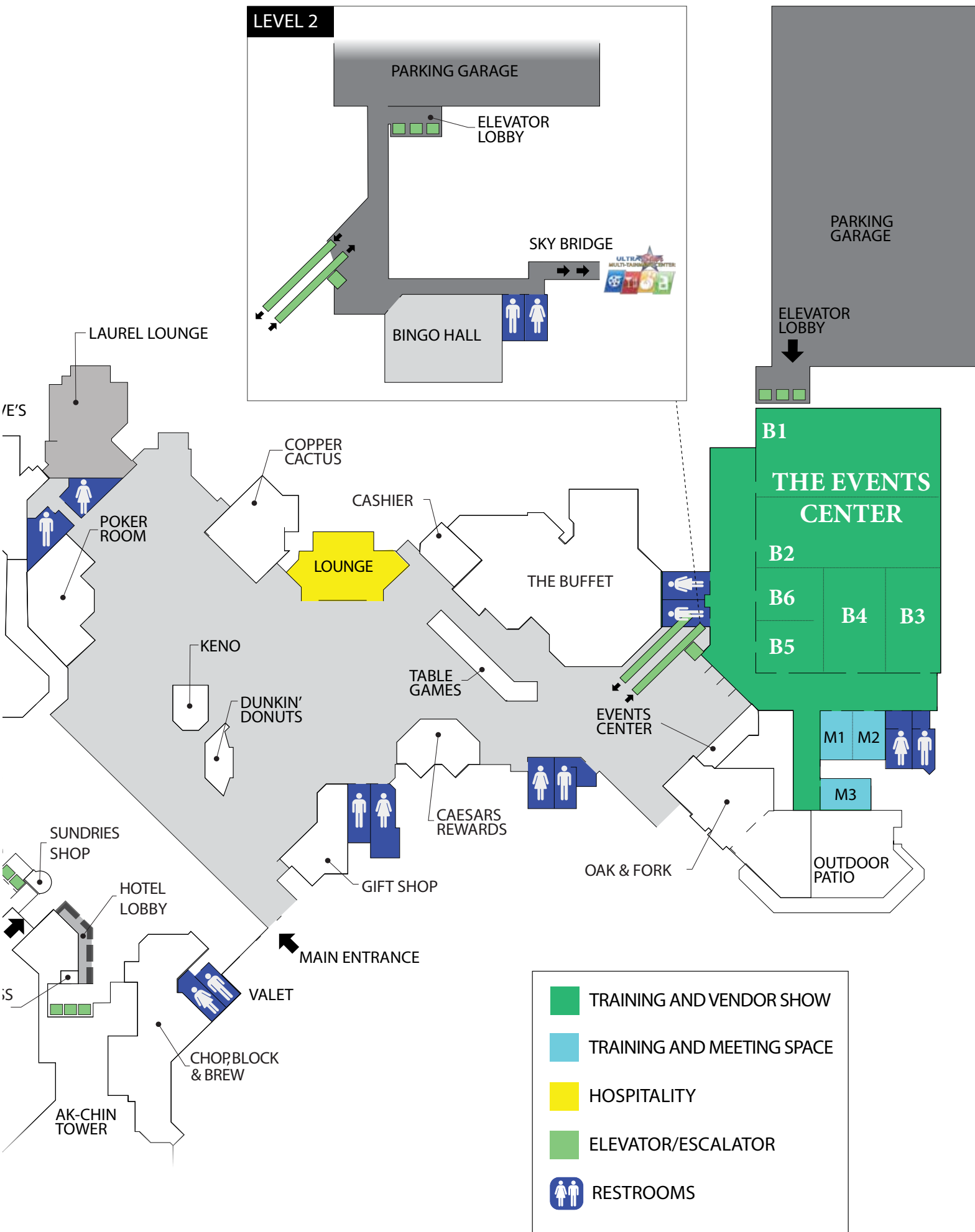
Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police 2026 Training

Conference and Vendor Expo

THURSDAY JAN 29

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|--|
| 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM | ● | Breakfast Buffet in the Ballroom Stage Area
Sponsored by Lexipol |
| 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM | ● | New Chiefs/Board Breakfast - M3
Sponsored by Edwards & Amato |
| 8:00 AM - 9:30 PM | ★ | VISIT THE VENDORS |
| 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM | ● | Vendor Show Open in the Main Ballroom |
| 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM | ★ | Platinum Vendor Showcase - Ballroom Stage
✦ Flock Safety |
| 10:00 AM - 10:15 AM | ● | Sponsor and Corporate Recognition - Ballroom Stage |
| 10:15 AM - 12:15 PM | ● | Legal Update - <i>Edwards and Amato</i>
M1 & M2 |
| 10:15 AM - 12:15 PM | ● | Preventing Tragedy: Understanding Targeted Violence
<i>Jessie Semmann, Ph.D.</i> - Ballroom Stage |
| 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM | ● | Vendor Show Closed and Conference Breakdown |
| 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM | ● | Lunch and Raffle - Ballroom Stage Area |
| 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM | ● | University/College Police Chiefs Meeting - M3 |

LEVEL 2



- TRAINING AND VENDOR SHOW
- TRAINING AND MEETING SPACE
- HOSPITALITY
- ELEVATOR/ESCALATOR
- RESTROOMS

Speaker Bios

2026 AACOP ANNUAL
TRAINING CONFERENCE



TIM BROOKSHIRE

Tim Brookshire is a highly skilled instructor with over 25 years of combined law enforcement and security experience. He has traveled to countries such as Bulgaria, Brazil, and Afghanistan, teaching Situational Leadership II, Executive Coaching, and advanced police combative techniques to police officers and military personnel.

In 1992, Tim Brookshire began his career in law enforcement, progressing through various roles including advanced officer training, SWAT, and criminal investigations before ultimately becoming Chief of Police at the Clifton Police Department in Arizona. He has also shared his expertise internationally by working with Afghan law enforcement officials as a professional mentor and coach.

Tim has worked for the:

- U.S. Department of Defense, where he assisted in the development of the civilian policing model for the United States Marine Corps.
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Transportation Security Administration, specifically for the SPOT Program or Screening Passengers through Observation Techniques, where he managed a department with over 65 Behavior Detection Officers (BDOs).
- At the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, he served as a Law Enforcement/Security Training Specialist, where his primary responsibility was to develop training curricula in various areas of specialty for over seventy law enforcement agencies.
- He served at the Clifton, Arizona Police Department as the Chief Law Enforcement Executive.

Tim has completed Certification/Licensing Programs with:

- Dr. Ken Blanchard's Situational Leadership II
- Dr. Ken Blanchard's Situational Team Leadership
- Dr. John C. Maxwell Certified Leadership Team
- Dr. Elliot Rosenbaum, American School of Professional Coaches
- Former FBI Special Agent Joe Navarro in Nonverbal Communication
- United States Department of Homeland Security; Behavior Detection and Analysis by the and is considered a subject matter expert.

Tim began his academic career with Maricopa Community College District as an Adjunct Professor in 1999, teaching at the Law Enforcement Training Academy. He has taught several courses in criminal justice, business management, and leadership for students seeking bachelor's and master's degrees. Currently, he is a certified Associate Professor and teaches at Valencia College's Criminal Justice and Domestic Security programs in Orlando, FL. Tim holds a bachelor's degree from Arizona State University and a master's degree from Northern Arizona University, both in Justice Studies and Public Administration—Public Management and Leadership.

As organizations move at a rapid pace, there's increasing pressure on leaders to effectively manage successful teams. However, they often lack the skills to be the agile, adaptive leaders they need to be, and struggle to forge meaningful connections with their teams and deliver results.

It's not for lack of effort or interest. Research has shown that most leaders are limited to a single leadership style, which prevents them from understanding how to unleash the potential of their people as their needs shift.

In this constantly evolving landscape, leaders must learn to adapt their leadership style. Blanchard's SLII® enables leaders to become flexible—an essential skill in today's unpredictable environment. Backed by 40 years of research and a proven results record, The SLII for Executives™ teaches leaders to tailor their approach to the situation by offering their team the appropriate guidance and support. SLII helps leaders build stronger relationships with their teams, making each day more inspiring, motivating, and meaningful.



JESSIE SEMMANN, PHD

As the director of Threat Assessment and Management, Dr. Jessie Semmann oversees the TAMT program including chairing weekly TAMT meetings, collaborating with campus partners, and providing education and awareness training about violence prevention. She actively partners with all TAMT representatives including Dean of Students, CAPS, Human Resources, UAPD, and faculty representation. Jessie obtained her PhD in Clinical Psychology with a formal emphasis in Forensic Psychology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Throughout graduate school, she completed clinical training in forensic mental health services and in a state prison conducting various risk assessments and psychological evaluations. Her dissertation examined targeted violence in K-12 schools.

She completed her predoctoral internship at the Phoenix VA Healthcare System where she later worked as an inpatient psychologist and served as a member of the facility's Disruptive Behavior Committee, a multidisciplinary threat assessment team. Following her time with the VA, she worked for a police and public safety psychology agency conducting pre-employment screenings and fitness for duty evaluations. She is a member of the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals (ATAP) and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).



2026 Conference Speakers

MICHAEL POOLEY

Chief Michael Pooley joined the Apache Junction Police Department in January of 2022 when he was selected to be Chief of Police.

He oversees 125 employees in a city with a population of approximately 40,000 full-time residents and an additional 40,000 winter visitors.

Chief Pooley is a proven law enforcement leader and executive with over 22 years of experience that has served in a variety of leadership capacities.

Prior to joining the Apache Junction Police Department he worked for the Tempe Police Department (AZ) for almost 21 years, where he served at all ranks from patrol officer to Assistant Chief of Police. During his time at Tempe Police, he gained valuable experience from working in several operational and administrative assignments from patrol officer, S.W.A.T. operator, narcotics detective, patrol sergeant, negotiator supervisor, and media relations sergeant, Lieutenant, Commander, and Assistant Chief.

Chief Pooley earned a Bachelors in Justice Studies from Arizona State University and a Master of Education from Northern Arizona University. He is a graduate of the Northwestern University School of Police Command and Senior Management Institute of Policing (SMIP). He is fluent in both Spanish and English.

Chief Pooley has a great history of dedicating his police service to working with the community and other partners to keep neighborhoods safe and involved in preventing crime. He understands the importance of building positive relationships and helping bridge gaps where needed to leave a lasting impression.

He has a passion for the law enforcement profession, and is committed to developing himself every day to establish trust, and to be the best possible leader for his organization and community. Institute of Policing (SMIP).

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AMY BONNEY

Police Chief Amy Bonney began her career with the Prescott Police Department in 1998. She served as a patrol officer and has held many positions while rising through the ranks until her promotion to Deputy Chief in 2016 and Police Chief in 2021. During her career, Police Chief Bonney was awarded the Medal of Valor, Sworn Officer of the Year, Supervisor of the Year, and multiple other departmental and community awards.

Police Chief Bonney is proud to be involved and active in the Prescott and law enforcement communities; currently serving as the Immediate Past President of the Arizona Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates, a member of the Board of Directors for the Kiwanis Club of Prescott, and a member of the Board of Directors for the Arizona Peace Officers Memorial committee, among others.

Police Chief Bonney holds a Bachelor's of Science degree from Northern Arizona University, a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Phoenix, and graduated with the 257th session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.



HOLGER DURRE

Chief Holger Durre came to Prescott from Colorado where he began his public safety career in emergency medical services and soon transitioned to the fire service. He brings over two decades of experience in a variety of roles encompassing emergency medical services, fire suppression, community risk reduction, administration, and labor relations. In addition, he has an extensive background in strategic planning and continuous improvement. His passion is to ensure that

the services the fire department provides are relevant and contemporary to meet the needs of the community. He holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration and is a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer program. Chief Durre prides himself on being accessible to both members of the department as well as the community and can be seen at many community events and gatherings.



BILL AMATO

Bill Amato is a partner in the firm of Edwards and Amato P.C., a professional legal corporation assisting law enforcement agencies with the unique and complex challenges facing law enforcement. The firm provides full scope representation for over 20 law enforcement agencies within Arizona including extensive training programs for all levels within the agency. Bill and his partner, Eric Edwards, provide legal advice, legal updates, policies, training, consultation and litigation support for their law enforcement clients.

Bill's background began as a line level prosecutor at the Maricopa County Attorney's Office. Bill spent 16 years at MCAO working in various bureaus prosecuting cases, then promoting through the ranks to end his time there as Special Assistant to the County Attorney. Bill left MCAO in 2007 to join the Tempe Police Department as their Police Legal Advisor. For 13 years, Bill provided legal services and training for not only Tempe PD, but also other law enforcement agencies and legal advisors around the country.

In Bill's role as a legal advisor, he revised policies and practices within the Professional Standards Bureau to ensure best practices and legal compliance, both for state statutes (POBR) and federal requirements. Bill worked with the internal affairs unit to provide guidance and training (accepting complaints, investigating complaints, officer rights, and legal requirements of IAs), and reviews all high-profile investigations. Bill also helped implement new and innovative cognitive interviewing techniques provided by the High Value Detainee Interrogation Group.

Bill has also consulted and trained pursuant to Consent Decree and Court Ordered Training and continues to provide training to other agencies nationally. Bill is the Immediate Past Chairperson of the International Association of Chiefs of Police Legal Officers Section. Additionally, Bill is an Arizona POST subject matter expert and trainer on Law and Legal as well as Defensive Tactics (first non-sworn member of this SME group).

Since joining the firm, Bill has continued his involvement with the IACP. He created the Annual Mid-Year Training Conference for the Legal Officer's Section. He continues to present nationally on a variety of law enforcement topics and provide consultation on use of force incidents, policy implementation, implicit bias and force review. Bill also provides training to other police legal advisors in Arizona and around the country.



EDWARDS & AMATO, P.C.
SERVING ARIZONA LAW ENFORCEMENT



ERIC EDWARDS

Eric Edwards started his police career in 1985 as a Maryvale precinct patrol officer. While at Maryvale, Eric was a Field Training Officer and assigned to a special enforcement squad known as the Walking Beat. This squad was responsible for proactive on-view enforcement, serving search warrants, gang and drug enforcement and worked both in uniform and plain clothes. Eric then transferred to Detective assignments as a South Zone Night Detective and as a Repeat Offender Program (R.O.P.) Detective.

Eric worked for the Phoenix Police Department while attending law school and graduated in 1995. After his graduation, Eric was assigned as a Legal Advisor for Phoenix Police Department. Eric promoted to Sergeant and Lieutenant while assigned as a Legal Advisor and retired in May of 2011 as a Police Lieutenant and Senior Legal Counsel.

While assigned as a Legal Advisor, Eric also served as the lobbyist for the Phoenix Police Department and the Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police in Arizona, as well as working on legislation at the federal level. Eric also oversaw legal training at the largest police academy in the state, the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy (formerly and currently the Phoenix Regional Academy), served on the City of Phoenix Claims Committee which oversaw litigation against the police department, and served as the Executive Director of the Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police (AACOP).

Eric is an experienced law enforcement instructor (Phoenix PD, AACOP, ALEA, AZPOST, IACP and many individual police agencies). Eric is a past President of the Arizona Law Enforcement Legal Advisor Association, a graduate of the U.S. Dept. of Justice National Law Institute and a past officer of the Legal Officers Section of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Eric has experience as an expert witness on use of force and taser issues.

Eric is the founding partner for the law firm Edwards & Amato, P.C., serving more than 20 law enforcement agencies, the Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Arizona Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. During his legal career, Eric has co-authored amicus briefs for the U.S. Supreme Court, been published in the IACP Police Chief magazine, and trained new legal advisors around the country. He holds a B.S. and a Juris Doctor, both from Arizona State University, and is licensed to practice law in the State of Arizona, the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court. Eric may be reached at ericbedwards@gmail.com or 602.321.3249.



EDWARDS & AMATO, P.C.
SERVING ARIZONA LAW ENFORCEMENT

2026 Conference Speakers

JIM DUGAN

Jim has a professional career path that is both accomplished and diverse.

During his 13-year law enforcement career, Jim worked primarily in the areas of narcotic enforcement and police training. He achieved the rank of Captain of Detectives at the age of 32 when he was promoted to Director of a New Jersey State Certified Police Training Academy. He earned many awards and accommodations in his law enforcement career and was a speaker at several state-wide law enforcement conferences throughout the northeast.

Jim brought his talents to the private sector in 1997 and quickly established himself as a leader in the corporate world. As a Senior Executive, specializing in sales leadership and mergers and acquisitions, Jim business successes spanned several industries to include publishing, student travel, extraordinary events, and consumer products.

Today, Jim serves as Director of the Josephson Exemplary Policing Initiative at Drake University. In this role, he works alongside a national team of experts to help law enforcement agencies elevate their standards through ethical leadership, character-based training, and a commitment to organizational excellence.

He holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Pfeiffer University and a master's degree in education from Seton Hall University. Married to his wife Beth for 36 years, Jim is the proud father of three children: Joey (Pastor), Jayson (Business Owner), and Alexa (Special Agent, USAF). In his free time, he enjoys biking, golfing, fishing, spending time with his grandsons and contributing to his church's men's ministry.



DR. JEREMY M WILSON

Dr. Jeremy M. Wilson is a Professor of the School of Criminal Justice and Founding Director of the Police Staffing Observatory at Michigan State University. As a scholar, educator, advisor, and consultant, Dr. Wilson has collaborated with police agencies, multinational corporations, communities, task forces, professional associations, governments, and other public and private entities on many complex public safety problems.



He has led over \$15M of sponsored projects and he has written over 180 publications on staffing and personnel planning, organizational consolidation, resource allocation, performance assessment and ROI, community policing, violence prevention, data and measurement, empirical modeling and evaluation. He is currently leading multiple national platforms of police staffing research for the US Department of Justice.

For his contributions to police research and practice, he was named a Distinguished Scholar by the American Society of Criminology Division on Policing, and the Police Section of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences honored him with the O.W. Wilson Award. For more information, see <https://jeremywilson.org/>.

CHRISTOPHER “CHRIS” TIMMINS

Chris Timmins is the Co-Founder and Vice President of Preston’s Pursuit for Acceptance (PPA). Chris retired in May of 2025 after twenty-five years in law enforcement in the Phoenix Metropolitan area, spanning over three agencies. His last position in Law Enforcement was the position of Employee Services Lieutenant, which manages the Hiring/Recruiting and Peer Support/Officer Wellness Units for his agency.

Chris has held positions in Detention/Corrections, Crime Scene Investigation Unit, Patrol Division, Field Training Unit, DUI Traffic Enforcement Unit, Robbery/Homicide Unit, Intelligence Unit, Narcotics Unit, Criminal Apprehension Team, and management in addition to his current role/position. Chris has been a defensive tactics instructor, use of force instructor, and electronic control device instructor (S.M.E.) for almost two decades. Chris has specialized training in impaired driving detection and apprehension, and many other modalities within law enforcement.

Chris is a transformational leader, innovative thinker, and tactically minded with a focus on professional policing practices, especially focusing on positive interactions with those within the disability community. Chris has been influential in creating a cultural shift at his current agency in autism awareness and acceptance. Chris is a husband and father, and his family has influenced his views on policing through having meaningful, positive interactions with the community while still protecting and serving with high morals, ethics, and professionalism, and again especially for those individuals with a disability.

During Chris’ career, he saw a societal and cultural shift in expectations for policing in America and firsthand saw the lack of training provided to first responders for autism awareness. This void has prompted him and Autumn to make a change in the way first responders are equipped to protect and serve their communities. Through education, collaboration, and exercises, first responders can make a positive difference in the effectiveness of service brought to those individuals on the spectrum, as well as all of society.



Chris has been married to his wife, Autumn, for twenty-three years, and together they have two amazing children. Their oldest son was diagnosed at an early age with autism. This has driven both Chris and Autumn to make a difference, and through PPA, they intend to make a change.

Chris holds a Bachelor of Science in Education from Northern Arizona University and a Master’s in Public Administration in Disaster and Emergency Management from Park University.



Preston's Pursuit®
FOR ACCEPTANCE

2026 Conference Speakers

AUTUMN TIMMINS

Autumn Timmins is the Founder and President of Preston's Pursuit for Acceptance (PPA), a non-profit geared towards providing first responders with tools for effective interactions with persons on the spectrum. Autumn is driven, empathetic, and bold, providing her with the patience and strength to advocate for those often less capable of self-advocation. Autumn has navigated the education system hurdles of being a parent of a child on the spectrum and Individualized Education Plans (IEP) through advocacy, diligent attention to detail, and resiliency for the last sixteen years and counting.

Additionally, Autumn has worked with many providers, including those through Arizona's Division of Developmental Disabilities and medical providers, to get her son the services he needs for his continued growth and potential. Autumn believes advocacy and accountability are paramount to growth and reaching for the stars for those on the spectrum. Her advocacy and passion extend to all individuals within the disability community through her volunteer work with organizations such as the Special Olympics and Arizona Autism.

Autumn has professional experience as a marketing representative for a title company in the valley, where the client base was in the North Scottsdale area. Autumn previously served as a lead in-flight instructor for a national airline, focusing on hospitality and safety procedures. Autumn also managed many restaurants and businesses prior to her becoming a mother of a child on the spectrum and dedicating her life to his success and growth.

Autumn has a Bachelor of Science degree from Northern Arizona University, with an emphasis in business administration/hotel & restaurant management. She loves to live life to the fullest, rarely backs down from a challenge, and would love to live near the ocean. Autumn has been married for twenty-three years, with two boys, two rescue dogs, and one desert tortoise.



Preston's Pursuit[®]
FOR ACCEPTANCE



GOODYEAR POLICE DEPARTMENT

OFFICER DAKOTA BERRY



2025 OFFICER OF THE YEAR

In the early morning hours of Sunday, May 25, 2025, at approximately 4:23 a.m., Goodyear Police Officer Dakota Berry was returning to the city after completing a suspect booking at the Intake, Transfer and Release Facility (ITR). As he drove westbound on Interstate 10 near 91st Avenue, he encountered a catastrophic multi-vehicle collision—one vehicle fully engulfed in flames.

Trapped inside the burning car was a lone female driver, frantically sounding the horn in a desperate plea for help. Without regard for his own safety, Officer Berry acted decisively and heroically. He broke the driver's side window, reached into the inferno, and pulled the woman-whose hair was on fire—from the engulfed vehicle.

Realizing the flames on the woman's body were still active, Officer Berry immediately used his bare hands to extinguish the fire, knowingly putting himself at extreme risk. In doing so, he sustained significant burn injuries. After suppressing the flames on the victim, he located and used a fire extinguisher to eliminate the remaining fire on her person.

Thanks to his courageous actions, the victim—later identified as the daughter of a Goodyear firefighter—was transported in critical condition to a burn center, where she survived and continues to recover. Officer Berry was also treated at a local burn center and made a full recovery from his injuries.

Officer Berry's actions that morning were nothing short of extraordinary. His quick thinking, fearless intervention, and unwavering dedication to duty unquestionably saved the woman's life. His selfless courage, even in the face of immediate and life-threatening danger, reflects the highest ideals of policing and public service.

The incident was captured in graphic detail by Officer Berry's body-worn camera, drawing national attention and praise. Goodyear Police Chief Brian Issitt publicly commended Officer Berry, stating:

"This heroic and selfless act exemplifies the bravery and commitment of our officers to serve and protect, often at great personal risk. His quick thinking and fearless actions undoubtedly saved a life that morning. We are immensely proud of our officer's courage. This incident is a powerful reminder of the strength of our public safety family and the extraordinary sacrifices made in service to others."

Officer Dakota Berry's heroism exemplifies the core principles of courage, integrity, and service. It is with the utmost respect and deep admiration that I submit this nomination for the Arizona Department of Public Safety Medal of Valor in recognition of his exceptional service in the line of duty.



**OFFICER BERRY
ACTED DECISIVELY
AND HEROICALLY.**



END OF WATCH

FEBRUARY 2025 - DECEMBER 2025

ARIZONA CHIEFS
HONORING THE FALLEN

OFFICER GABRIEL FACIO
APACHE JUNCTION POLICE DEPARTMENT
END OF WATCH 06.08.2025



*ARIZONA MOURNS THE PASSING
OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS
IN THE UNITED STATES WHO HAVE
FALLEN IN SERVICE TO THEIR
COMMUNITIES.*

EyeDetect+ The World's First Automated Polygraph

EyeDetect+ meets the AZ POST definition of a Polygraph

Training can be completed in one day.

With EyeDetect Law Enforcement Agencies not only find the truth about an applicant's background, but they save time, lower costs and improve overall quality to safeguard the agency's reputation.



Features and Benefits of EyeDetect+

Highly Accurate

Scientifically validated at 89-91%, depending on the type of test administered.

Impartial

Unlike human beings who can vary, test administration and data analysis are computerized.

Less Intrusive

Unlike a polygraph, this measures blood pressure without an arm cuff.

Fast Results

Tests take 20 to 45 minutes and results given in less than 5. Reports include a credibility score and details showing examinee responses to questions.

Quick Training

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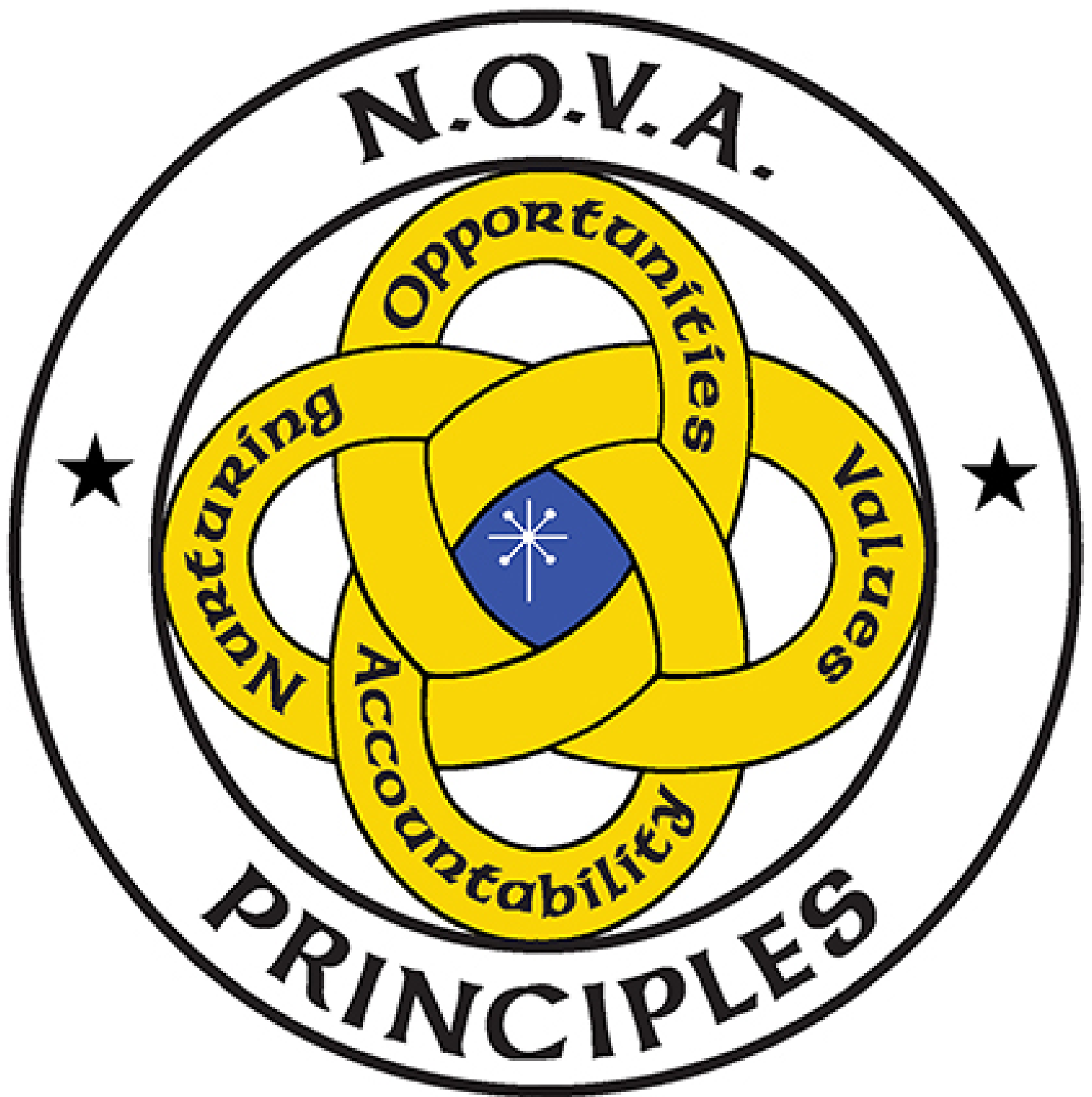
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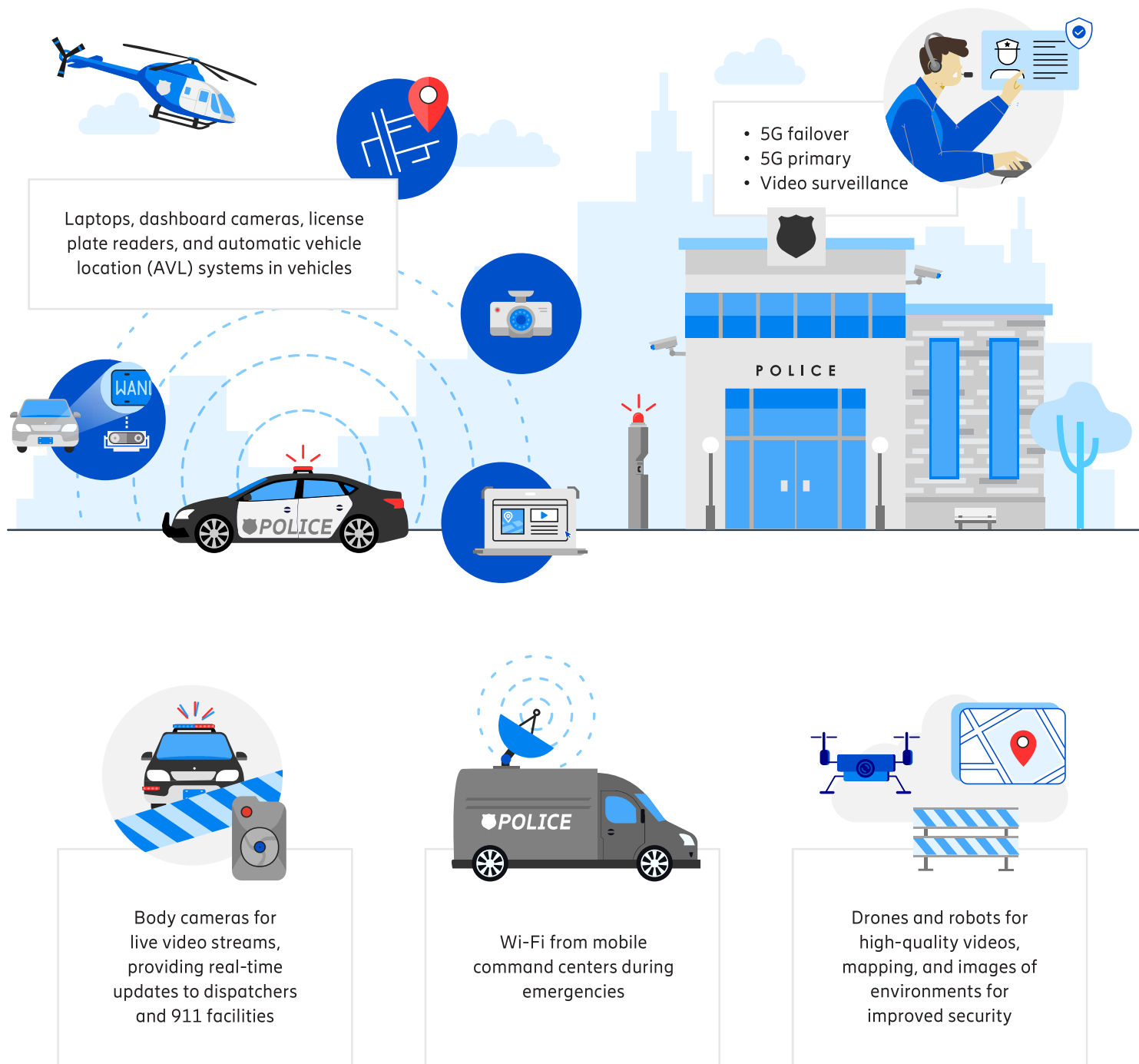


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We have already begun organizing and planning for our 2026 Training and Vendor Expo. Please submit any comments about our 2026 show to Roxie Heussner at roxann.heussner@azchiefsofpolice.org. If you have any suggestions in reference to training or a speaker that you would like to hear from, please submit the information to Roxie. We make every effort for each of you to get the most out of our conference and ensure that you have nothing less than a great experience. We look forward to hearing your suggestions so that we can better your experience in future shows. Please check out our website at www.azchiefsofpolice.org for updates. Vendors, remember to register early to ensure your booth space! We look forward to working with you in this upcoming year as we all plan for the 2027 Conference.