



BEHIND THE BADGE FOUNDATION
2019 LEFN CONFERENCE
"FINDING COURAGE IN UNLIKELY PLACES"

OCTOBER 4-6, 2019 | CLEAR WATER CASINO RESORT - SUQUAMISH, WA

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Vicky Stormo

Executive Director, Behind the Badge Foundation

Vicky Stormo has been the Executive Director for Behind the Badge Foundation since 2017. Prior to that, she served on the Behind the Badge Foundation Board of Directors since 2006.

Vicky M. Stormo has been with a consulting firm, Margolis Healy, since 2008 and is a Senior Associate. Vicky has more than 35 years of law enforcement experience.

Vicky served as a deputy chief of police and consultant for Oregon Health & Science University in Portland, Oregon. She was hired to help the public safety department transition into a police department from 2010 to 2014. From 1999 to 2008, Vicky served as the Chief of Police at the University of Washington (UW) in Seattle.

Before joining the University of Washington, Vicky was a lieutenant with the Albuquerque Police Department, retiring in 1999. While in Albuquerque, she worked in many facets of the department, including patrol, detectives, civil litigation, operations review, watch commander, communications center commander, and recruiting and selection.

Vicky has received several honors throughout her law enforcement career. She was the Officer of the Month in her rookie year and was featured on Paul Harvey for solving a series of armed robberies utilizing computers when computer technology was new to law enforcement. She received the New Mexico Commission on the Status of Women Trailblazer award and the YWCA Woman on the Move award. She also received the Breaking the Glass Ceiling award from the National Center for Women and Policing.

Vicky holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in Criminology from the University of Albuquerque and a Master's in Public Administration from the University of New Mexico. She is a past President of the National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executives, serving two terms.



Brian Johnston

President, Behind the Badge Foundation

Brian Johnston is the President of the Behind the Badge Foundation (BtBF) and a Sergeant with the city of Monroe. He is the team leader for BtBF's Line of Duty Death Response Team, coordinating experienced, trained team members as they respond to the unique needs of a law enforcement agency upon the death of one of their own. Brian is a member of his departments honor guard and previously a member of the Greater Seattle Police Pipe Band. He works hard and plays harder, throwing much of his energy to cycling and running. In the times when quiet is the order of the day, fishing goes a long way to soothe the soul.



Gayle Frink-Schulz

Programs/Services Director, Behind the Badge Foundation

Gayle Frink-Schulz became a police widow in 1993 when her husband, Trooper Steven Frink was killed in the line of duty. Steve was a motor officer with the Washington State Patrol. At the time of his death, their daughter Kari was 14 years old and their son, Christian, was 3.

Gayle worked through her grief by supporting families suffering the loss of their loved one to a law enforcement line of duty death and supporting the police agencies affected by the loss of one of their own. She served for two years as a board member at the national level of Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.), training nationally as a lead-presenter on "The Traumas of Law Enforcement". She began the Washington State Chapter of C.O.P.S. with three other police widows in 1994, serving as its president for six years. She was a board member of the Washington State Law Enforcement Memorial (WSLEM) and was the Executive Director of the Washington State Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation (WSLEMF). She oversaw the completion of construction of the Washington State Law Enforcement Memorial, which is on the Capitol campus in Olympia. Gayle then served as executive director of the 10-99 Foundation, before the WSLEM and 10-99 Foundations combined under one organization – the Behind the Badge Foundation.



Cindi Sinnema

Programs Specialist, Behind the Badge Foundation

Cindi Sinnema has worked in the field of traumatic response and community support for over 30 years. She attended the University of Washington and worked with Separation and Loss Services at Virginia Mason and then as a chaplain. She has assisted individuals, families and communities who have been impacted by disasters, both natural and man-made. She has worked with first responders all over the country to provide support and follow up services to those impacted by the unexpected and trained community volunteers to provide assistance in the aftermath of trauma and loss. Cindi works with Behind the Badge Foundation as a Programs Specialist.



Meg DiBucci

Everett Police Department

Det. Meg DiBucci is a police officer with Everett Police Department, where she has faithfully served for 24 years. She currently works as a background detective. Meg also serves on the Honor Guard for Everett Police Department since 2003; currently as Commander.

Meg is the surviving fiancée of Officer Brian DiBucci, Everett Police Department, EOW 07/15/99. As a survivor and a police officer, she has been insight relating to grief, trauma, and support to both family members and fellow law enforcement officers. Meg has been a key volunteer for Behind the Badge Foundation since 2011. She serves as a member of the Line of Duty Death Response Team (LODDRT). Her main role on the Team is Family Support, but she is able to fill in other tasks under the Incident Command System as well.



Hayley Stauch

Dahl-McVicker Funeral Home

Hayley Stauch is going on her ninth year in the funeral industry as a funeral director and embalmer. Hayley graduated from Timberline High School in Lacey, Washington. She later went to Lower Columbia College for two years before finishing her Funeral Service Education degree at Mt Hood Community College in 2016. The families that she has served know her as "Hayley with the hair". Hayley partakes in the 'Every 15 Minute Program'* with the Cowlitz County Sheriff Department and enjoys educating the community about the funeral industry. Hayley is also a Deputy Coroner for Cowlitz County. Outside of work she enjoys hunting, staying active in the West Cast Bloodhound Rescue, and most importantly, spending time with her family. Hayley and her husband Jacob are newlyweds. Hayley's Italian roots run deep, baking, cooking and good conversation is dear to her heart. "Funeral Directing isn't an occupation, it's a way of life." (*The 'Every 15 Minutes

Program' offers real-life experience without the real-life risks. This emotionally charged program, entitled Every 15 Minutes, is an event designed to dramatically instill teenagers with the potentially dangerous consequences of drinking alcohol and texting while driving. This powerful program will challenge students to think about drinking, texting while driving, personal safety, and the responsibility of making mature decisions when lives are involved.)



Olivia Mead

Yoga for First Responders®

Olivia is a life-long yoga practitioner and has been teaching yoga since 2003 having studied with many master teachers around the country as well as in Rishikesh, India. Her education for teaching segments of the population that are at-risk for Post-Traumatic Stress and Vicarious Traumatization began by becoming certified in Trauma-Sensitive Yoga under Yoga Warriors International. She started working with veterans who struggle with Post Traumatic Stress and active military specifically before bringing this work to first responders.

While living in Los Angeles, Olivia adapted her offering of yoga to veterans to fit the first responder population by working directly with the Los Angeles Fire Department and department psychologist, Dr. Robert Scott. From there she taught weekly yoga classes at the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) Training Center, as well as presenting training on yoga and the neurological system for LAFD's Peer Support Team, and special workshops for high-ranking command staff of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). She continues to work with LAPD's Behavioral Sciences Services by partnering for special training events including The Smart Detective for International Association of Chiefs of Police.

This method Olivia developed of offering yoga to first responders soon became a field-tested protocol specifically for processing stress, building resilience, and enhancing job performance in a method which was job-specific and culturally informed. Olivia was requested to train others to bring the resiliency-building tools of yoga to the first responder demographic nationwide. The development of this teacher training program ("Train the Trainer") was the birth of YogaShield® Yoga for First Responders® (YFFR) as an official 501c3 not-for-profit organization. Today, Olivia and the YFFR team offers Train the Trainers, In-Service Trainings and Protocol Demos, department programs, training academy curriculum, and conference presentations around the country. Notable agencies who have hosted YFFR Train the Trainers and/or adopted the YFFR Protocol include, Chicago Police Department, Denver Public Safety, Kansas City Police Department, Indianapolis Fire Department, Detroit Police Department, Tempe Police Department, Wichita Police Department, Seattle Fire Department and Des Moines Police Department among several others.

Yoga for First Responders® online courses are currently available on Virtual Academy, PoliceOne Academy, FireRescue1 Academy, and EMS1 Academy.



Nate Jester

Ace of Illusions

Nate Jester is an award-winning Seattle based Magician specializing in MAGIC, MIND READING and COMEDY. His impeccable talent has established him as one of the nation's leading magical entertainers. He entertains crowds of all sizes and has performed his astounding illusions in China, Ukraine, Hungary, Las Vegas, and throughout the United States. You may have seen him on America's Got Talent, Bravo, and Oprah's The Life You Want Tour.



Jeremy Wade

Seattle Police Department

Jeremy Wade has worked for the Seattle Police Department for 10 years, and currently serves as a full-time Peer Support Team Coordinator. In addition to leading the Peer Support Team, he developed the first SPD Resilience Program that is now being continued annually. In 2018 he instructed that Resilience training for every sworn officer, at every rank. He is also a certified instructor with the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation. Because of the demand for resilience, wellness, and peer support team training he started a business, Fearless Resilience LLC. He has been married for 15 years, and has 4 children.



Sheriff Gary Simpson

Kitsap County Sheriff's Office

Gary Simpson was hired as a Deputy Sheriff in 1984. He has worked as a Patrol Deputy, Marine Unit member and a K9 Deputy. He was promoted to the Rank of Corporal in '93, Sergeant in '96, and appointed to Chief Civil Deputy in '98 by retired Sheriff Pat Jones. Sheriff Boyer assigned him to the Patrol Division February 2003.....elected as Sheriff effective January 2015, re-elected in 2018.

Professional appointments include:

- Insurance Fraud Advisory Board - Insurance Commissioner appointment
- Auto Theft Prevention Authority - Governor appointment

He is a graduate of the 108th Session of the National Sheriff's Institute and the 206th Session of the FBI National Academy. He is a recipient of the KCSO Medal of Valor. His interests include reading, motorcycles and community volunteer opportunities with WA State Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run.



Chief Mike Lasnier

Suquamish Police Department

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