

May 21-23, 2025



MSANI CAN-AM CONFERENCE





2025 MSANI CAN-AM CONFERENCE

May 21-23, 2025 | Nisswa, Minnesota

*Thanks to everyone for attending and making this year's
CAN-AM Conference a successful training opportunity!
For more information on MSANI or to contact a MSANI board member,
please visit our website: www.msani.org*

After the conference you will receive an email containing links to any materials available from the conference and a conference evaluation, in addition to information on downloading your certificate. Please consider completing the evaluation, as it assists in shaping and improving future MSANI conferences.

REMINDER

Wear your name badge

Name badges are required
for conference attendance;
badges will be scanned
during breakout sessions.

CLE Event Code: 527394

MSANI would like to thank the following sponsors for their help with the conference:



CONFERENCE AGENDA

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

- 10:00 am-12:30 pm | Check-In / Registration..... *Gull Lake Center*
- 11:00 am-12:30 pm | Lunch (provided) *Norway Center*
- 12:30 pm | MSANI Business Meeting (all MSANI members encouraged to attend)..... *Gull Lake Center*
- 1:00-1:30 pm | **Conference Opening** *Gull Lake Center*
PRESENTATION OF COLORS—MINNESOTA NATIONAL GUARD COLOR GUARD
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
NATIONAL ANTHEM—BRainerd HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR
MOMENT OF SILENCE
OPENING REMARKS—MSANI PRESIDENT ANDY JOHNSON
- 1:30-1:45 pm | **USAO Updates** *Gull Lake Center*
ALLEN SLAUGHTER, ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY, U.S. ATTORNEY’S OFFICE
- 2:00-6:00 pm | **Shots Fired: Officer Involved Shootings and Mental Health** *Gull Lake Center*
MICHAEL MARTINEZ, SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT
In this powerful and deeply personal session, San Diego Police Officer Michael Martinez shares his firsthand involvement with multiple officer-involved shootings and off-duty critical incidents, resulting in cumulative trauma that profoundly impacted his life, marriage and career. Martinez candidly discusses his battle with PTSD and the negative coping mechanisms he relied on, including substance abuse, until the San Diego Police Department’s Wellness Unit intervened—and ultimately saved his life. Martinez now travels around the country as a speaker to share his story and provide resources and insight for sworn officers and civilians, in hopes of saving lives, marriages, careers and faith. The goal is clear: Break the stigma, promote resilience and provide hope to those who may be struggling in silence.
- 6:00 pm | **Introduction of vendors/nominations for Board positions** *Gull Lake Center*
- 6:30 pm | Intelligence Exchange and Dinner *Norway Center*

Notes:

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Thursday, May 22, 2025

Breakfast provided in the Heritage Center prior to the start of sessions.

Name badges will be scanned on entry of all breakout sessions.

8:00-9:45 am | **Breakout Session 1** (see below for options)..... *Gull Lake Center*

10:00-11:45 am | **Breakout Session 2** (see below for options)..... *Gull Lake Center*

Noon-1:00 pm | Lunch (provided)..... *Norway Center*

1:00-2:45 pm | **Breakout Session 3** (see below for options)..... *Gull Lake Center*

3:00-4:45 pm | **Breakout Session 4** (see below for options)..... *Gull Lake Center*

5:00-6:30 pm | Intelligence Exchange..... *Norway Center*

6:30 pm | Banquet, Board Nominations, Raffle, and Awards Ceremony..... *Gull Lake Center*

	Itasca	Margaret	Ballroom A	Ballroom B
Session 1 8:00-9:45 am	Force Investigations Unit – MN BCA	Unraveling the Digital Currency Maze Crypto Currency (Part 1)	U.S. v. Eric Turner Case Study	626 Court Orders: Problems, Solutions and Case Law Review
Session 2 10:00-11:45 am	Forensic Processing of Controlled Substances and Firearms	Unraveling the Digital Currency Maze Crypto Currency (Part 2)	Killer High – Fentanyl Investigations	CJNG Cartel: Infiltrate and Dismantle ODETF Operation Finding Nemo Case Study
Session 3 1:00-2:45 pm	Force Investigations Unit – MN BCA	Development, Management and Control of Drug CI's	U.S. v. Eric Turner Case Study	626 Court Orders: Problems, Solutions and Case Law Review
Session 4 3:00-4:45 pm	Forensic Processing of Controlled Substances and Firearms	Development, Management and Control of Drug CI's	Killer High – Fentanyl Investigations	CJNG Cartel: Infiltrate and Dismantle ODETF Operation Finding Nemo Case Study

Breakout session descriptions can be found on the following page.

BREAKOUT SESSION INFORMATION

626 Court Orders: Problems, Solutions and Case Law Review

SPECIAL AGENT GRAHAM HOLTBERG, ASSISTANT SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE CORY STREETER, ASSISTANT MN ATTORNEY GENERAL DANIEL VLIENER

This presentation analyzes the issues related to the 626 electronic surveillance court orders, including identifying factors that contribute to judicial rejections. It will explore common reasons for these rejections and propose potential solutions to address recurring challenges. In addition, the presentation will provide updates on relevant case law pertaining to these issues.

CJNG Cartel: Infiltrate and Dismantle OCDEF Operation Finding Nemo Case Study

OFFICER ALEX LUCK, DETECTIVE JON GRIMES, SPECIAL AGENT JOE JARVIS

Finding Nemo, a case jointly investigated with HSI, began in 2022 and is an investigation into Jalisco New Generation Cartel. "Nemo," a distributor in Mexico, coordinates small cell distribution for Minnesota and other identified states to purchase fentanyl, meth and M30 pills from Nemo's local distributors. Agents have identified two to six distributors working for the cartel; multiple search warrants will be executed at the same time to arrest all identified suspects and seize all drugs. It typically takes Nemo and the cartel three to four weeks to reestablish new distributors and logistics. This case is still active and ongoing.

Development, Management and Control of Drug Cls

KEN SASS AND SPECIAL AGENT ANDY JOHNSON

This session provides a comprehensive overview of the role and effective management of confidential informants. Explore the purpose of informants, various types and strategies for cultivation and motivation. Learn best practices for developing informants, proper documentation and record-keeping, and techniques for coaching and managing informants while highlighting potential pitfalls, legal considerations and liability risks. We'll examine common mistakes and actionable steps that can be taken to enhance informant handling and operational effectiveness.

Force Investigations Unit—MN BCA

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE MICHELLE FRASONE

This session will examine U/C Considerations trends, and highlight language updates to the statute. Additionally, we will review the expectations of the Force Investigations Unit.

Forensic Processing of Controlled Substances and Firearms

MELISSA LOREN AND MCKENZIE ANDERSON

This session will teach you about potential forensic evidence that may be recovered from items commonly seized during controlled-substance investigations. We'll discuss proper evidence handling and collection to ensure the best possible outcome in the laboratory and for court testimony, and we'll discuss commonly observed problems with evidence

submissions so that your future submissions can be more efficiently tested in the lab. Demonstrations will include how to swab evidence (e.g., drug packaging, firearms) and how to superglue process evidence to preserve fingerprints.

Killer High—Fentanyl Investigations

DETECTIVE DEAN CARDINALE

This session explores the growing prevalence of fentanyl/ counterfeit fentanyl in the U.S. Through real-world case studies, discuss how to safely investigate fentanyl overdose scenes and utilizing social media platforms to identify and apprehend suspected fentanyl distributors. We'll finish the session with discussing the federal charges related to drug overdoses.

U.S. v. ERIC TURNER CASE STUDY

DETECTIVE JEREMIAH JESSEN, DETECTIVE TONY PATSY, ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY GARRET FIELDS

This case study examines the controlled buys, physical and electronic surveillance, analyst research into a fake identity and searches and seizures of the case. We will discuss the prosecution including the federal indictment, extensive motions practice and trial.

Unraveling the Digital Currency Maze Crypto Currency (Parts 1 & 2)

DETECTIVE SCOTT SIMONS

This session offers a focused overview of how cryptocurrency is used in drug-related crimes and the investigative techniques used to trace and seize digital assets. Explore wallet types, blockchain fundamentals and tools for tracking crypto transactions. The presentation will cover suspect identification, evidence handling and best practices for seizing crypto—even when funds are held out of state or overseas. Real-world case studies will highlight practical applications and lessons learned.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Friday, May 23, 2025

Breakfast provided in the Heritage Center prior to the start of sessions.

8:00 am | Board Elections *Gull Lake Center*

8:10 am | MOCIC Updates *Gull Lake Center*
KELLAN HEMMESCH, MOCIC FIELD REPRESENTATIVE

8:20 am		Surviving the Job and the American Mafia: Identifying and Mitigating Stress and Trauma	<i>Gull Lake Center</i>
		GIOVANNI ROCCO	

Giovanni Rocco spent over 20 years as a member of an elite FBI National Covert Operations Unit, penetrating extreme groups like drug cartels and national and international terrorist groups. But perhaps most significant, he was the FBI undercover at the epicenter of Operation Charlie Horse, which ultimately brought down several high-ranking members and associates of the infamous New Jersey DeCavalcante Mafia family, aka “The Real Sopranos.”

Now an author and a speaker, Rocco travels nationally to speak on the psychological and physiological stressors tied to law enforcement and similar fields; he delivers a comprehensive understanding of and strategies for mental and behavioral health management with the goal of achieving overall well-being and success in both your professional and personal life.

12:30 pm | Closing remarks and raffle..... *Gull Lake Center*

Notes:

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Michael Martinez

Within the first seven years that Michael Martinez worked with the San Diego Police Department, he was involved in multiple officer-involved shootings and off-duty critical incidents. By 2019, he took advantage of a career and life-changing opportunity the San Diego Police Department's Wellness Unit offered him: He entered a first-responder-only treatment center, where he was diagnosed with PTSD. By accepting the help, he was able to save his life, marriage, career and spirituality.

Martinez now shares his story of struggle and resilience with fellow law enforcement officers. He is currently assigned to the San Diego Police Department Wellness Unit and truly believes his assignment is his calling to help others who are struggling in silence. Officer Martinez's goal is to break the stigma of seeking and accepting help within the first responder profession.

Giovanni Rocco

Rocco is a third-generation law enforcement officer, international keynote speaker, author and mental wellness educator with 30 years of service across local, state and federal agencies. As the FBI undercover and intel officer behind several high-profile operations, he has conducted investigations and infiltrated some of the world's most violent organized criminal organizations, including outlaw biker gangs, drug cartels, human trafficking networks, and Asian, Eurasian, Italian and South American crime syndicates, as well as domestic and international terror groups.

Rocco has spent over a decade training military personnel and first responders on behavioral and mental health. He delivers powerful insights on leadership, crisis management and wellness in high-pressure environments, with presentations designed to help individuals identify, understand and mitigate the stress and trauma experienced in the performance of their duties.

BREAKOUT SPEAKERS

McKenzie Anderson

CRIME SCENE TEAM LEAD, MN BCA

Anderson began her career with the BCA in 2009, working in the DNA, FIRST and Crime Scene Team sections of the Forensic Laboratory. Her current roles include FIRST Coordinator, Crime Scene Team Lead and Rapid DNA Coordinator. Her DNA experience also covers cold cases and Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy.

Dean Cardinale

DETECTIVE, FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cardinale has worked for the Fresno Police Department for 27 years. For the past seven years he has worked as a Task Force Officer for the Fresno DEA, and recently has created the Fentanyl Overdose Resolution Team (FORT), consisting of Special Agents and TFOs from DEA and Homeland Security Investigations. The FORT has investigated over 200 fentanyl cases in Fresno County, and completed more than 70 cases for federal prosecution. Cardinale and the FORT were featured in the Emmy-nominated ABC documentary "Killer High: The Silent Crisis."

Michelle Frascone

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, MN BCA

Frascone began her career with the BCA in 2016 and is currently the Special Agent in Charge of the BCA's Force Investigations Unit. She has over 18 years of law enforcement experience in patrol, general investigations, use of deadly force investigations, crime scenes, missing persons, abductions and homicide cases.

Garrett Fields

ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY, U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Fields is a member of the U.S. Attorney's Office's Narcotics and Indian Country section; he prosecutes, among other things, large-scale drug trafficking operations and violent, gang-related offenses.

Jon Grimes

DETECTIVE, HENNEPIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Grimes began his career with the Dakota County Sheriff's Office, where he most notably worked with the Dakota County Drug Task Force, aiding in a drug trafficking case with the Sinaloa Drug Cartel, which seized \$500 thousand U.S. currency and 150 pounds of methamphetamine. Grimes is now in the Major Crimes Division with Hennepin County, currently assigned to the Violent Offender Task Force.

Graham Holtberg

SPECIAL AGENT, MN BCA

Holtberg began his career in law enforcement in 2002 as a patrol, K9 handler and SWAT operator before joining the BCA in 2015, where he has worked in partnership with local drug task forces in several mid- to upper-level drug trafficking organizations in both state and federal courts. Holtberg currently works out of the Willmar BCA field office in the Special Investigations Unit.

Joe Jarvis

HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS

Jarvis began his career as a Border Patrol Agent in Texas in 2016, where he worked to dismantle human and drug smuggling networks through interdiction, collecting human intelligence and prosecuting human smugglers. Jarvis joined HSI in January of 2020 and is currently assigned to National Security investigations in St. Paul.

Jeremiah Jessen

DETECTIVE, HENNEPIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jessen began his law enforcement career in the military in 1994. Post-military he worked as a police officer in different Minnesota cities before being promoted to detective in 2017.

BREAKOUT SPEAKERS

Andy Johnson

SPECIAL AGENT, MN BCA

Johnson has nearly 25 years of law enforcement experience and is currently assigned to the Special Investigations Unit, Narcotics Division out of the BCA Mankato Field Office, and is a DEA TFO assigned to the HIDTA Major Crimes Unit out of Minneapolis. Johnson is the current president of the Minnesota State Association of Narcotics Investigators (MSANI) and the Midwest Regional Director for the National Narcotics Officers' Associations' Coalition (NNOAC).

Melissa Loren

CRIME SCENE TECHNICAL LEAD, MN BCA

Loren began her career with the BCA in 2009. She has worked in the mitochondrial DNA, nuclear DNA, Crime Scene and Trace Evidence sections of the BCA Forensic Laboratory. In addition to Technical Lead, Loren is also a Coordinator of the FIRST program.

Alex Luck

OFFICER, ROSEMOUNT POLICE DEPARTMENT

Luck has been with Rosemount Police Department since 2013. In addition, he was assigned to the Dakota County Drug Task Force in 2021 and is also a TFO with Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), assigned to Border Enforcement Security Team (BEST).

Tony Patsy

DETECTIVE, HENNEPIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Patsy's law enforcement career has spanned nearly 20 years. He is currently assigned to the West Metro Drug Task Force, where he is primarily conducts long-term investigations targeting gangs, guns and narcotics. Patsy was recently also made a Task Force Officer with the FBI assigned to the Twin Cities Transnational Organized Crime (TOC) Task Force.

Ken Sass

STATEWIDE GANG AND DRUG COORDINATOR

Sass worked for the with St. Paul Police Department for over 30 years in narcotics as an officer, sergeant, DEA TFO and Unit commander. In his current role, he provides oversight and guidance to the 21 state-funded Task Forces.

Scott Simons

DETECTIVE, GREENFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Simons has served with the Greenfield Police Department (Milwaukee County) for 23 years and is a member of the Midwest Cryptocurrency Task Force. With over 20 years investigating transnational drug trafficking and money laundering—10 of which were as a DEA Task Force Agent—he has led domestic and international cyber investigations resulting in over \$20 million in illicit asset seizures, including millions in cryptocurrency.

Cory Streeter

ASSISTANT SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, MN BCA

Streeter has worked in the Technical Services Unit (TSU) as a Special Agent out of the St. Paul BCA Headquarters since 2018. As part of TSU, Streeter utilizes active electronic surveillance and reactive historical analysis (among other technologies) to assist the BCA and partner agencies with investigations. He has assisted eCharging with content for the electronic tracking warrant. Prior to the BCA, Streeter worked in Wisconsin for the Eau Claire Police Department from 2012 to 2018.

Dan Vlieger

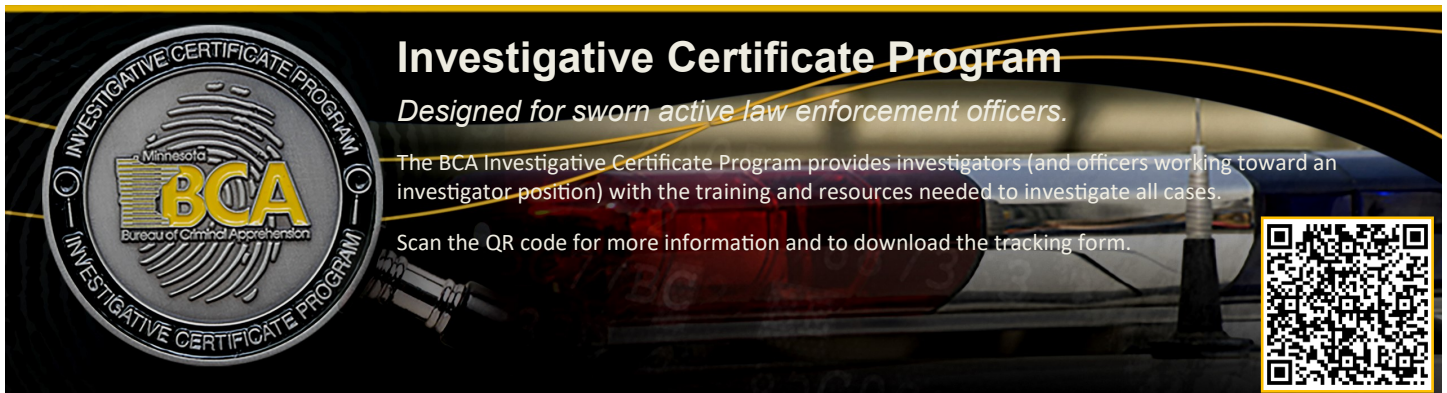
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, MN ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Vlieger currently works in the Criminal Trial division of the MN Attorney General's Office, which assists statewide county attorney offices in the prosecution of complex cases. The majority of Vlieger's cases consist of homicides in Greater Minnesota.

Save the date!

**2026 MSANI CAN-AM
CONFERENCE**

May 20-22, 2026



Investigative Certificate Program
Designed for sworn active law enforcement officers.

The BCA Investigative Certificate Program provides investigators (and officers working toward an investigator position) with the training and resources needed to investigate all cases.

Scan the QR code for more information and to download the tracking form.

