



Speaker Bios

NIBRS 2021...How to Get Ready

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Natalie Acevedo

Manager, Incident Based Reporting Bureau

TX Department of Public Safety

As the Manager of the Incident Based Reporting Bureau at the Texas Department of Public Safety, Natalie Acevedo helps to facilitate the consolidation of the Texas Data Exchange and the Uniform Crime Reporting into the Incident Based Reporting Bureau. Ms. Acevedo has a long history of working with the Texas Department of Public Safety. Past positions have included Customer Service Representative, Executive Assistant, and Project Manager.

Ms. Acevedo received her bachelor's degree in nonprofit management from Bellevue University.

Steve Ambrosini

Project Director

IJIS Institute

Steve Ambrosini is a Program Director with the IJIS Institute. He currently serves as the Technology Architect for the Silicon Valley Regional Data Trust (SVRDT) initiative where he oversees design and engineering of the SVRDT Secure Data Environment. He has had a 40-year career in the field of IT consulting, system integration and operations management, holding positions in both the public and private sectors. Mr. Ambrosini has been with the IJIS Institute for 12 years, during which time he has held the positions of: Director of Development, Director of Operations, and Executive Director.

During his time at the IJIS Institute, Mr. Ambrosini has served on a variety of national information sharing programs sponsored by grant funding from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ); U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS); Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI); and, the Program Manager for the Information Sharing Environment (PM-ISE). Most recently, he served on the Standards Coordinating Council which included an assembly of international open standards organizations (SDO's); IT engineering organizations; policy and practice experts from federal, state, local and territorial governments, and other Non-Government Organizations (NGO's); as well as professional representatives from the technology industry.

Chris Asplen

Executive Director

National Criminal Justice Association

Chris Asplen began serving as the Executive Director of the National Criminal Justice Association in January 2016. A former prosecutor, Mr. Asplen is a national and international expert on the use of DNA technologies. Previously, he served as Director of the DNA Legal Assistance Unit for the American Prosecutor's Research Institute and the National District Attorney's Association, as an Assistant United States Attorney and as the Executive Director of the National Commission on the Future of DNA Evidence for the U.S. Department of Justice.



In private practice, Mr. Asplen has advocated for policy and legislative initiatives integrating DNA technology, including post-conviction DNA, into criminal justice systems around the world. He has worked with governments and law enforcement agencies in 35 countries to implement DNA technology to maximize its ability to identify and convict the guilty while protecting the innocent.

A noted national and international speaker, Mr. Asplen has testified before the U.S. Congress, the South African and Philippine Parliaments and has appeared on, and written for, numerous news outlets. He also serves as a consultant to the U.S. Department of State and the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism on the prosecution of nuclear terrorism crimes.

Mr. Asplen received his B.S. degree from West Chester University of Pennsylvania and his J.D. from Pennsylvania State University.

Maria Cardiellos

Director of Operations

IJIS Institute

Maria Cardiellos has more than 30 years of experience in public safety and justice program development, implementation, and evaluation, both nationally and internationally. She currently supports the IJIS Institute as its director of operations. In this capacity, she oversees the overall operations of the institute that includes numerous national initiatives for the Institute. Prior to this role, she served as senior program manager for IJIS, supporting several key initiatives including the National Crime Statistics Exchange (NCS-X), an initiative designed to generate nationally-representative incident-based data on crimes reported to U.S. law enforcement agencies; the Collaboration Reform Initiative (CRI), a DOJ COPS initiative seeking to improve trust between police agencies and the communities they serve by providing a means to organizational transformation; the Newark NJ Police Department (NPD) Consent Decree (CD) providing technical assistance in the assessment, audit and compliance of NPD progress toward CD requirements; and, the New Jersey – Information Sharing Environment (NJ ISE) that seeks to move beyond the status quo of public safety operations to a more efficient, cost-effective, and timely data sharing model.

Prior to this position, Ms. Cardiellos served as the chief of staff and executive advisor of the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative (NSI) Program Management Office (PMO) where she provided guidance on all programmatic and operational aspects of the initiative as well as was responsible for all the administrative functions of the program. She previously served as Deputy Executive Director of the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) Program for the joint Department of Justice/Department of Homeland Security (DHS) initiative. She was previously chief information officer for the NJ Department of Law and Public Safety within the Office of the Attorney General. Her office supported the IT needs of more than a dozen divisions/in-but-not-off offices, ranging in scope from the Division of State Police to the Division of Consumer Affairs. In addition to supporting these efforts, she was responsible for coordinating and/or supporting information technology related aspects of the State's homeland defense solution Emergency Preparedness Information Network for the Attorney General, LPS Administrator, Colonel of State Police, and Director of Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness. She started her career with the Newark, NJ Police Department as staff assistant to the Police Director of the State's largest sworn force. She continued her work with public safety and justice for the Police Foundation in Washington D.C. where she developed its Training and TA Division serving as its Deputy Director.

Ms. Cardiellos holds an undergraduate and graduate-level degree from Rutgers University.



Drema Fouch

NIBRS Coordinator

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Drema Fouch is the coordinator of the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), where she is responsible for certification, developing a strategic plan for NIBRS growth, identifying and assessing resources that are available to support NIBRS, and developing a strategy that maximizes the use of those resources.

Ashwini Jarral

Executive Director

IJIS Institute

Ashwini Jarral is a nationally-recognized, performance-driven, and entrepreneurial executive with more than 16 years of experience of wide-ranging achievements across nonprofit, government, telecommunications, and public sharing disciplines. He has a proven capability of leading diverse teams of industry and government executives in support of national and international strategies to develop comprehensive solutions for telecommunications, law enforcement, public safety, and homeland security. He is experienced in directing business operations and nationally recognized for implementing innovative management techniques that result in streamlined business practices and increased productivity.

Mr. Jarral serves as the executive director of the IJIS Institute. In this position, he oversees the operations of the nonprofit organization and is responsible for financial management of the Institute's programs. His responsibilities also include business development, resource management, strategic planning, account management, national standards development, and technology management. He works to promote the IJIS Institute on a national level to increase the visibility to the relevant stakeholder and customer organizations and develop a broad membership base to provide well-rounded perspectives for the Institute. Prior to the IJIS Institute, Mr. Jarral served as a senior manager for Convergys, working closely with C-level executives to negotiate service level agreements, maintaining ongoing client relationships, and generating additional revenue by creating opportunities. He managed a staff of more than 150 across three different continents generating revenue of \$17 million annually in professional services revenue.

Mr. Jarral received his bachelor's degree in decision science and management information systems from George Mason University. He received his master's degree in information systems from Strayer University. He is a Project Management Institute-certified Project Management Professional and has a Six Sigma Green Belt Certification from the American Society for Quality.

Colleen Weltz

NIBRS/UCR Program Manager

ND Bureau of Criminal Investigation

Colleen Weltz is the NIBRS/UCR Program Manager and SAC director under the state agency of North Dakota Attorney General's Office. She has over 23 years of service in state government, of which 16 years have been served as the NIBRS Program Manager. She is an active member of ASUCRP, where she recently held the Treasurer position for the Association for 9 years. She maintains the mapping of ND state statutes to NIBRS as it relates to the law enforcement and criminal justice



communities. She has extensive knowledge regarding the rules and regulation of the NIBRS. Ms. Weltz graduated from the University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics.