

2023 KANSAS SENTENCING COMMISSION WORKSHOP
PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Judge Karen Arnold-Burger

Judge Karen Arnold-Burger is a graduate of the University of Kansas School of Law. She was appointed to the Kansas Court of Appeals in 2011 by Gov. Mark Parkinson. She was appointed Chief Judge in 2017. Prior to that she served as Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Kansas and Presiding Municipal Judge for the City of Overland Park, Kansas. She has presented programs throughout her career to judges, lawyers and community groups around the state and the country on a wide range of topics. For the last 23 years, she has been speaking and writing on issues related to bias, disproportionate minority confinement, racial profiling, and bail reform.

Cheryl M. Wah

Intelligence Group Supervisor (GS) Cheryl Wah currently serves as the Intelligence Group Supervisor for the DEA Kansas City District Office in Overland Park, Kansas. In her current position, which she has served since 2020, GS Wah leads the intelligence group responsible for providing analytical support to the five DEA offices located in the state of Kansas and Western District of Missouri. In addition to providing investigative support to those offices, the intelligence group under GS Wah's leadership identifies and tracks global and national drug trafficking trends, with particular emphasis on those trends impacting the Kansas City area of responsibility.

GS Wah began her career with DEA in 2005 as part of the Presidential Management Fellowship (PMF) program. She was initially assigned to DEA Headquarters in Arlington, VA, where she worked in interagency information sharing policy and liaison, before transferring to Kansas City in 2008.

Upon her reassignment to Kansas City, GS Wah worked as an intelligence analyst at the Midwest High Intensity Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Investigative Support Center (ISC), providing analytical support to investigations involving federal drug conspiracies and writing strategic intelligence products related to current drug trends in the Midwest.

GS Wah was promoted in 2013, where she served as Director of the Midwest HIDTA ISC – the first intelligence professions to serve in that role – until her reassignment to her current position. The Midwest HIDTA ISC is a multi-agency intelligence group that provides analytical support and deconfliction services to drug task forces and law enforcement located in a seven state region.

Prior to DEA, GS Wah graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor's degree from Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY. She also earned Masters and Juris Doctorate degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She is a native of the Buffalo, NY, region.

Timothy M. Hutchinson

Timothy M. Hutchinson was appointed to the position of Field Intelligence Manager (FIM) of the St. Louis Division in March 2018. He currently directs the DEA's intelligence operations throughout Missouri, Kansas, and Southern Illinois.

FIM Hutchinson joined the DEA in August 1998 and was assigned to the San Diego Division's satellite office in Imperial, California. FIM Hutchinson was responsible for the intelligence collection and exploitation used to target major drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) operating across the border between southeastern California, and Baja California and Sonora, Mexico.

In 2002, FIM Hutchinson was reassigned to the DEA's Santa Cruz, Bolivia Resident Office. Working in concert with his Bolivian National Police counterparts, FIM Hutchinson facilitated directed a variety of intelligence activities and operations targeting Bolivian and other international DTOs trafficking drugs to and laundering money through the United States, Europe, Africa, and the Middle East.

Shortly after his return from South America in 2006, FIM Hutchinson was promoted to the Unit Chief of the Internet Investigations Support Unit at the DEA's Special Operations Division. Beginning in 2012, FIM Hutchinson served in multiple leadership capacities within the DEA's Office of Special Intelligence.

From 2014 – 2016 FIM Hutchinson served as an Inspector with the DEA's Inspections Division. FIM Hutchinson was principally responsible for assessing the integrity and operations of the DEA's Intelligence enterprise throughout the DEA's domestic and foreign regional offices.

Later in 2016, FIM Hutchinson was promoted to a Section Chief, where he was assigned to the executive staff of the DEA's Chief of Intelligence and concentrated on policy, planning, and partner engagement. FIM Hutchinson was subsequently assigned to the DEA's Office of National Security, where he managed U.S. Intelligence Community (IC) joint duty assignments and had oversight for IC operational deconfliction and national security issues.

FIM Hutchinson is a native of Seattle, Washington. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Seattle University.

Tony Mattivi

KBI Director Tony Mattivi served as a federal prosecutor for over 20 years, prosecuting drug trafficking, violent crime, racketeering, organized crime, gangs, money laundering and terrorism cases.

Mattivi was the lead prosecutor for the capital case against the al Qaeda operative who masterminded the bombing of the USS Cole, in 2000. He also worked for the U.S. Department of Justice's (USDOJ) Regime Crimes Liaison Office in Iraq, advising the Iraqi High Tribunal as they tried members of Saddam Hussein's regime for committing war crimes.

Director Mattivi led a team of prosecutors who convicted three Kansas militia members for plotting to slaughter Somali Muslim immigrants living and worshipping at an apartment building and mosque in Garden City. He also prosecuted Terry Lee Loewen, a former U.S. Marine who attempted to detonate high explosives at the Wichita airport on behalf of al Qaeda, and John T. Booker, who conspired to detonate a truck bomb at Fort Riley in support of ISIS. Over the years, he also worked for the Kansas Attorney General's Office, the Shawnee County District Attorney's Office, and as legal counsel for Medcor, an international healthcare company.

Mattivi is a graduate of Metropolitan State College of Denver, and Washburn University School of Law. He was the Antiterrorism and National Security Coordinator for the District of Kansas, and recently served as president of the Federal Bar Association chapter of Kansas and Western Missouri.

Attorney General Kris Kobach nominated Mattivi to be the 13th Director of the KBI, and he was confirmed by the Kansas Senate on February 9, 2023.

Dr. Megan Davidson

Dr. Megan Davidson is the program director of the Stepping Up initiative, the national effort to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in the justice system. Megan has over ten years of experience leading complex stakeholder engagement, research and evaluation, and technical assistance projects at the intersection of behavioral health and criminal justice. She has supported many jurisdictions with the implementation and evaluation of systemic efforts intended to improve outcomes for individuals touched by the behavioral health and criminal justice systems. Megan earned her PhD in public affairs with a concentration in criminal justice from the University of Central Florida.

Audra Goldsmith

Audra Goldsmith provides county-based technical assistance for the Kansas Stepping Up Technical Assistance Center, collaboratively supporting and assisting systems improvement projects. Previously, she served as the jail behavioral health supervisor for Horizons Mental Health Center and the Reno County Correctional Facility, providing direct client care and advocacy to people experiencing mental illness and co-occurring use disorders and assisting in reentry services. Prior to that, Audra worked in the Horizons Same Day Access department serving people experiencing acute mental health crises as well as providing same-day-access services. She graduated from Wichita State University with a BA in psychology and Emporia State University with an MS in clinical psychology

Carolyn Coyne

Carolyn Coyne is the Justice Involved Services Coordinator for the Behavioral Health Services Commission at the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services. She has more than 35 years of experience in behavioral health, social services, and corrections.

Carolyn began her career in Chicago working in psychiatric rehabilitation. After moving to the Kansas City area, she continued her work in behavioral health and branch into other areas of social services. She has experience in case management, crisis response, and program management. Carolyn worked for the Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex and was a member of the Executive Management team. In that capacity she oversaw an array of programs and departments. She is a member of the Justice Involved Youth and Adults (JIYA) Subcommittee, the Service Members, Veterans, and Families (SMVF) subcommittee, the Justice Involved Coalition, and the Intersection Coalition. Carolyn holds a master's degree in counseling from DePaul University in Chicago

Laura Brake

Laura Brake is the Director of Crisis Services for the Behavioral Health Services Commission at the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services. She has over 30 years of experience in the fields of mental health and intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Prior to her current position, Laura served as a crisis intervention team (CIT) co-responder in Topeka, KS, working with Topeka Police Department and Shawnee County Sheriff's Office. Laura has experience in risk management, case management and teaching, as she is also an adjunct professor at Washburn University.

Laura serves as the liaison for the Governor's Behavioral Health Services Planning Council, Service Members, Veterans, Family (SMVF) sub-committee and is a board member of Kansas Crisis Intervention Team Association (KCITA).

Laura holds a master's degree from Washburn University in Health Care Education as well as a bachelor's in psychology and criminal justice from New Mexico State University.

Laura was born and raised in Dallas, TX and then moved to Las Cruces, NM, Los Angeles, CA, Austin, TX and has grown her roots in Topeka, KS. In her spare time, Laura is an avid yogi who believes that strength, flexibility, and balance are developed on the mat, and are equally important off the mat.

McKenna Payne

McKenna Payne is a Program Manager from Domo on the Enterprise Apps team.