

# 2025 Elder Abuse Summit Speaker Biographies

## **Christian Behr**

Christian Behr retired in 2020 from the Augusta Police Department after 25 years of service. He worked his way up the ranks from patrol officer to patrol supervisor to Bureau Chief of Information Services (Staff Sergeant). Christian currently is employed full time with the Kennebec & Somerset District Attorney's Office as an Investigator focusing on domestic violence, sex crimes, elder abuse, and child abuse. He also has commissions from the Kennebec County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy Sheriff and the Maine Attorney General's Office as a Detective for work with Domestic Violence cases statewide.

Christian is an experienced investigator and instructor with a demonstrated history of working in public safety and the military. He is skilled in leadership, police officers, patrol, public safety, and investigations, and has served as an Honor Guard Leader, Media Relations Manager, Social Media Manager, and Police Training Officer Supervisor. He has strong military and protective services professional experience with an associate degree focused on Justice Studies from the University of Maine at Augusta. He is a graduate of the FBI New England Command College and the FBI LEEDA trilogy award winner.

Christian is retired from the Maine Army National Guard as a 1SG (E-8) and is the former NCOIC of the Maine State Select Honor Guard, Bureau Chief of the Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Course, 240th RTI, and 286th CSSB Headquarters First Sergeant. Christian served in Iraq in 2005 with the 42nd Infantry Division (MECH) as a Regimental Safety Investigator with the 278th Regimental Combat Team (RCT).

Christian is a member of several area Task Forces including the Kennebec & Somerset DV Task Force, the Elder Abuse Task Force, and the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Task Force. Christian also leads the Kennebec Multi-Disciplinary Team for Crimes Against the Person.

His part-time positions are working for Dirigo Safety, LLC as Social Media Manager and Adjunct Instructor and the Maine Sheriff's Association as a Compliance Agent. His volunteer service includes the Advisory Boards of the Maine SAFE board and Sexual Assault kit tracking subcommittee, Augusta Teen Center, and the Capitol Clubhouse in Augusta.

## **Chief Andrew Booth**

Chief Andrew Booth has been with the Bath Police Department for 22 years, having served in both patrol and criminal investigations, promoted through the ranks until being named Chief in 2021. He has served as the department's crash reconstructionist, evidence and property manager, training officer, public information officer, and accreditation manager. He currently has administrative and management roles and responsibilities typically associated with a Chief of Police, including serving on a variety of City and community groups and committees, many of these focused on issues affecting older Mainers (Bath Brunswick Resource Coalition and Merrymeeting Bay Area TRIAD organization). He is a member of the Maine Chiefs of Police Association (MCOPA) and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). He received his law enforcement executive certification from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in 2022 and completed the FBI-LEEDA trilogy course in 2023. He currently serves as co-chair on the Maine Council for Elder Abuse Prevention (MCEAP) and sits on MCEAP's Education and Awareness sub-committee.

Chief Booth is a graduate of St. Michael's College in Vermont, where he received a bachelor's degree in history and a minor in business administration. In addition to his civilian career, he served 24 years in the

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VT Army National Guard, retiring in 2022 as a Lieutenant Colonel, Infantry, with an additional specialty in Information Operations. He is a veteran of two combat deployments to Afghanistan, a graduate of the Army's Command and General Staff College and has held multiple command and staff positions throughout his Army career.

#### **David Caron**

David Caron has worked in law enforcement for 30+ years. He retired from the Waterville Police Department having spent 17 years there as a detective. After retiring from Waterville PD, he was hired by the Maine Office of the Attorney General as the Elder Financial Investigator for the office. As the Elder Financial Investigator for the OAG, he is responsible for investigating cases involving friends, loved ones, and people working in finance who financially take advantage of the elderly, and he assists law enforcement throughout the state who investigate similar cases.

## **Randi Clatchey**

Randi Clatchey graduated from Lawrence High School in Fairfield, Maine. She enlisted in the United States Air Force after graduation and served honorably for 13 years. She earned an associate's degree in paralegal studies from Central Carolina Technical College in Sumter, South Carolina. She received her BA degree in criminology and master's degree in criminal justice from Saint Leo University.

Randi was a paralegal in the private sector in Sumter, South Carolina for six years. In 2002, she returned to Maine and worked as a paralegal in private practice until 2004 when she accepted a job as the victim advocate for Northern Kennebec County.

From 2008 until her retirement from federal service, Randi was a veterans' service representative for the Department of Veterans Affairs at Togus.

Since October 2022, Randi has been the Maine Domestic Abuse Homicide Panel Review Coordinator at the Office of the Attorney General.

### **Parker Ferland**

Parker Ferland is the Director of Investigations and Enforcement for the Maine Office of Securities. In this role, Parker oversees and directs the work of four investigators responsible for conducting investigations into possible violations of Maine's securities laws. The Office also serves as a point of contact for all reports pursuant to the Act to Protect Vulnerable Adults and for inquiries made by banks and credit unions pursuant to the Senior \$afe Training Program. Prior to joining the Office of Securities, Parker was employed with DHHS for nine years in numerous capacities.

Parker is a graduate of Husson University, where he received bachelor's degrees in psychology and criminal justice.

#### Francine Garland Stark

Francine Garland Stark has been a leader in the movement to end domestic violence for four decades. She was the Administrative Coordinator and later Community Response and Training Coordinator for the Spruce Run Association - now Partners for Peace - from 1986 to 2009 and Executive Director of Hope and Justice Project in Aroostook County from 2009 to 2015. As Executive Director of the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence, since 2015, she has led Maine's statewide efforts to foster justice and social change to end domestic abuse and violence. She has developed and provided education and training programs to increase recognition and response to domestic abuse in a wide variety of contexts. She has provided expertise and leadership extensively in the development of public policy and community initiatives to both prevent and mitigate the impact of abuse and violence. She serves on the Commission on Domestic and

Sexual Abuse, the Domestic Abuse Homicide Review Panel, the Justice Assistance Council, the Elder Justice Coordinating Partnership, and the Maine Criminal Justice Academy Board of Trustees. She was the founding co-chair of Maine's Deadly Force Review Panel from 2019 to 2023.

Originally from Chapman and now Surry, Maine, she is a graduate of Bates College and served in the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic. Francine's work is inspired and informed by her grandmothers' and sisters' experiences of domestic abuse and violence as well as her own history of sexual violence.

## **Gina Googins**

Gina Googins, LSW, MSW has worked as a Social Worker for the past 31 years. Gina started her career as a Child Protective Caseworker and was promoted into several Child Welfare positions including Manager for OCFS Title IV-E Program, District Office Manager, Program Manager for the Training and Policy Program and in 2015 became the Regional Associate Director, overseeing several child welfare district offices and programs. In 2024, Gina became the Associate Director for Adult Protective Services and Public Guardianship within the Office of Aging and Disabilities.

Gina obtained her Master of Social Work Degree from the University of Maine and is a Licensed Social Worker. She is a constant learner and teacher, especially when it comes to working with people to find solutions to complex issues. Gina's work ethic and personal values continuously motivate her to enhance and improve not only herself, but also those people and programs that she collaborates with.

Gina lives in the Mid-Coast area with her partner Peter and their dog. Gina enjoys spending time playing mini golf with her grandson, relaxing at the beach, checking out the trolls at the botanical gardens and slow walks through Boothbay Harbor.

## **Quinn Gormley**

Quinn Elleen Gormley is the Special Projects Coordinator with the Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault. She brings more than a decade of experience in the anti-violence movement advocating for survivors from underserved populations in legal, political, and healthcare settings. She lives in Auburn.

## Patricia Kimball, MS, MS

Patricia Kimball is the Executive Director of the Elder Abuse Institute of Maine (EAIME) and has been involved since its founding in 2003, first as a board member and later as its first Executive Director. She coled the development and implementation of Martha's Cottage, Maine's first transitional housing for older victims of abuse, and the RISE Model, an intervention supporting individuals involved with Adult Protective Services.

As the founding Director of the Restorative Justice Institute of Maine, Patty advanced restorative approaches to addressing harm and strengthening communities. She has also contributed to policy and research, including a Robert Wood Johnson research fellowship on mandatory reporting of elder abuse.

In 2023, she received the Maine Council on Aging Trailblazer Award, and in 2024, she was honored with the Georgia Anetzberger Award at the Judith D. Tamkin Symposium on Elder Abuse for her leadership in elder justice.

She holds an undergraduate degree in English and graduate degrees in Human Services Administration and Community Economic Development. Committed to person-led and restorative approaches, Patty continues to advocate for policies that increase protective factors and reduce risks for older individuals.

## Julie LeBlanc

Julie is a Maine State credentialed Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) for pediatric, adolescent, and adult populations. She is also an IAFN (International Association of Forensic Nurses) certified SANE-A (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner-Adult/Adolescent). She has worked with thousands of older adults in a variety of healthcare settings in her 27 year nursing career and has spent the past 20 years working at Pen Bay Hospital in Rockport, primarily in the Emergency Department. Julie began her forensic nursing career in 2016 and became credentialed in pediatrics in 2019. She received Advanced Training on Non-Fatal Strangulation from the Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention in 2021. In her current role, Julie educates healthcare workers about sexual assault, intimate partner violence, strangulation, child abuse and neglect, and abuse and neglect of older adults.

Julie was awarded The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses in 2018, and she earned an Award of Recognition by her peers for excellence in the field of Forensic Nursing in Maine in 2020. Most recently, she was chosen to be the Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MECASA) 2025 SAFE of the year. Julie is a member of the Maine SAFE Advisory Board and is a co-facilitator at the Knox, Waldo, Lincoln, and Sagadahoc Counties CCR/SART (Coordinated Community Response/Sexual Assault Response Teams) Meetings.

## Lisa Marchese

Lisa Marchese is a Deputy Attorney General, Chief of the Criminal Division in the Office of the Attorney General. Lisa received her BA degree in Political Science from the University of Maine at Orono and her Law Degree from UNH Law, formerly Franklin Pierce Law Center in Concord, New Hampshire. Lisa has been with the Criminal Division of the Attorney General's office since 1986, where she has prosecuted over 100 homicide cases. In 2014, she became the first woman Chief of the Criminal Division. Lisa has chaired the Domestic Abuse Homicide Review panel since 2001.

#### Nicole Marchesi

Nicole Marchesi currently serves as the Public Policy Advocate for the Maine Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. Prior to the Public Policy Advocate position, Nicole served as the Project Manager, Volunteer Program Manager and Regional Ombudsman for the Maine Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. Additionally, Nicole served as the co-chair for both the Augusta Elder Abuse Task Force and Tri-County Elder Abuse Task Force. Currently, Nicole serves as the secretary of the Maine Council for Elder Abuse Prevention. Nicole obtained her bachelor's degree in social work from the University of Southern Maine and further education in grant writing from USM's School of Professional Development Program.

## **Edward Myslik**

Ed has over 35 years' experience in the consumer credit industry with a specialization in mortgage lending and mortgage servicing. Over the past two years, one of Ed's primary areas of focus has been the investigation of cases involving elderly consumers who have been the victims of scams involving crypto currency, including crimes that have been facilitated through Bitcoin ATM machines. Ed has been an examiner with the Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection since 2011.

## Izzy Ostrowski

Izzy Ostrowski (she/her) currently serves as the Director of Network for Older Adults (NOA) and Community Engagement at EqualityMaine and has been with EqualityMaine since 2023. Izzy's background and previous experiences include advocacy, community organizing, theater, and direct care work. She holds a B.A. in Sociology & Human Rights from the University of Connecticut as well as an M.A. in Human Rights from the University of Sussex in Brighton, UK. Izzy is passionate about the interconnectedness of community care, harm reduction, storytelling, and spending time with her cat, Josie.

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#### Ellen M. Parent

Ellen Parent is the Director of Compliance at the Maine Credit Union League. Ellen has been with the League for over six years and provides compliance and fraud insights to credit unions across the state. She holds a bachelor's degree from Saint Michael's College, a Juris Doctor from the University of Maine School of Law, and a Certificate in Financial Services Compliance from Boston University's School of Law. In addition, she has earned the Credit Union Compliance Expert and Bank Secrecy Act Compliance Specialist certifications from America's Credit Unions. A resident of Augusta, Maine, in her spare time, Ellen coaches high school speech and debate at Falmouth High School.

### **Suzanne Russell**

Suzanne Russell is an Assistant Attorney General responsible for the prosecution of financial exploitation, physical abuse, and neglect crimes involving older Maine victims. She has practiced law since 1989 and has been a prosecutor for over 26 years. She has experience in prosecuting domestic violence crimes, homicides, and financial crimes. She is the Attorney General Representative for the Maine Elder Justice Coordinating Partnership and a SAFE Advisory Board member.

## **Candice Simeoni**

Officer Candice Simeoni started her law enforcement career in 2004. She graduated from the 9th Law Enforcement Training Program at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy (MCJA) in 2005 and obtained her Bachelor's Degrees in Business Administration and Organizational Leadership Studies. Officer Simeoni has completed and leads national training in the field of Elder Exploitation/Fraud/Abuse, Domestic Violence and Victim Assistance. She is the President and founder of the York County Elder Abuse Task Force which was established in 2005 and is known as a trailblazer in elder justice case work. Officer Simeoni is the lead instructor at the MCJA on Elder Justice. She has been recognized nationally for her work, sits on numerous boards, and is known for many successes generated from her police work and her leadership with the York County Elder Abuse Task Force. Officer Simeoni contributes nationally on challenging elder abuse topics and has testified before the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging. Officer Simeoni has a passion for protecting our vulnerable population.

## **Hillary Waterman**

Hillary Waterman studied families and households for two decades as a cultural anthropologist before joining New Hope Midcoast as Community Educator three years ago. In this role, she works to foster frank and open dialogue with professional and community partners about domestic abuse and the challenges faced by victims and survivors. She has done advocacy work with numerous older adults who are victims and survivors of domestic abuse, something of an "invisible" statistic. Representing New Hope, Hillary works with Waldo TRIAD, helping that organization address the intersection of elder abuse and domestic abuse. She has run support groups for survivors of economic and financial abuse (the majority of whom were older women) and delivers customized presentations and professional trainings to community organizations on a regular basis. She participates in diverse kinds of forums to raise awareness about the high rates of domestic abuse in our local communities and help people understand where abuse comes from in our culture, who is vulnerable, and once and for all, why many people who experience abuse, especially later in life, can't "just leave."