

## IAPSC 2026 – All Speaker Biographies

**Alan Zajic** is a Nevada licensed, independent security consultant, Board Certified in Security and Surveillance, specializing in hospitality, gaming, nightclubs and retail security environments. He has over 40 years of practical hands on experience in security and surveillance operations to include Security Director for the Sahara Tahoe and High Sierra resorts in Lake Tahoe as well as corporate security for Del E. Web, Corp. in Nevada. [See full bio here.](#)

**Billy K. Johnson** is a Principal Security Consultant and Law Enforcement Executive with over 38 years' experience with the U.S. Border Patrol, U.S. Marshals Service, and security management consulting. A past member of the full-time cadre at the DHS Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. Contract training as lead facilitator to foreign nationals under the U.S. Department of State Antiterrorism Assistance Program and adjunct instructor for Texas A&M Extension Service-LAW Division as a member of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium. ASIS Board Certified Physical Security Professional. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Instructor/Practitioner. Board member of the International Association of Professional Security Consultants. [See full bio here.](#)

**Charlie Howell** is a technology professional who has over 35 years of experience in the security and technology industry. Charlie has a unique skillset of designing technology that is driven by how the client will be operating and using the space being designed and built for them. His experience with projects from the early conceptual conversations to post occupy operational reviews brings this unique perspective to each project. Charlie's experience includes professional sports stadiums and arenas, convention centers, police departments, fire departments, schools, water and wastewater projects, commercial and private clients. His ability to apply the concepts of security into these different types of organizational structures highlights how he puts 35 years of experience into each project.

**Chris Pérez** has lived a life of service. He began his career with the Chandler Police Department in 1997 after serving in the United States Navy as a Hospital Corpsman.

Driven by his passion for servant leadership and helping crime victims, Assistant Chief Pérez has consistently mentored and coached younger police officers committed to excelling and growing within the department.

After serving in numerous patrol positions throughout the department, Assistant Chief Pérez became an investigator with the Neighborhood Response Team in 2000. In 2004, he served as a School Resource Officer in the Chandler Unified School District, where he created the Chandler Police Department's Wilderness Experience program. This outdoor, experiential, and educational youth program for middle school students remains popular with students throughout Chandler today. [See his full bio here.](#)

**Eric L. Piza, Ph.D.** is the Lipman Family Professor of Criminology & Criminal Justice, Director of Crime Analysis Initiatives, and Co-Director of the Crime Prevention Lab at Northeastern University. His research agenda focuses on the spatial analysis of crime patterns, evidence-based policing, crime control technology, and the integration of academic research and police practice. Dr. Piza has published over 70 peer-reviewed journal articles and 3 books. In support of his research, Dr. Piza has secured over \$6.7 M in competitive grants. Before entering academia, Dr. Piza served as the GIS Specialist of the Newark, New Jersey Police Department, responsible for the day-to-day crime analysis and program evaluation activities of the agency. He received his Ph.D. from Rutgers University.

**Jay Meil** is vice president of Innovation and Asymmetric Technology and the Chief Data Scientist at SAIC, where he leads AI and asymmetric technical strategy and oversees solutions that enable rapid decision-making at scale in support of multiple intelligence disciplines and command, control, communications, computers, cyber, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (C5ISR). He also chairs SAIC's AI Council. Outside of SAIC, Meil is on the Security Industry Association (SIA) AI Advisory Board, has been invited to be a member of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) U.S. Artificial Intelligence Safety Institute Consortium, and advises Congressional committees on topics related to AI. [See full bio here.](#)

**Lynda L. Buel** is a nationally recognized independent security consultant with more than 40 years of experience in law enforcement and security management, including over 25 years advising organizations across education, healthcare, corporate, government, and other critical sectors. She is an expert in threat and vulnerability assessments, security master planning, CPTED, emergency and workplace violence preparedness, and the evaluation of security operations. [See full bio here.](#)

**Mark Schreiber** is the President and Principal Consultant at Safeguards Consulting, a security design and consulting firm in Greenville, South Carolina. Mr. Schreiber's security career has spanned almost 30 years in design and consulting roles within the engineering and construction industry. For the majority of this time, he has been directly responsible for the complete design of large enterprise physical security systems from conception to design completion and oversight. [See full bio here.](#)

**Michèle Stuart** is an owner, investigator, and instructor at JAG Investigations, Inc., with over three decades of investigative and counterintelligence experience with a proven record of providing specialized training for law enforcement, homeland security, and military intelligence communities. Expertise in Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT), social media exploitation, counterintelligence operations, and threat assessment methodologies. [See full bio here.](#)

**Michelle L. Chace** is a physical security subject matter expert and forensic expert witness with more than 20 years of professional experience in physical security, threat/vulnerability/risk assessment, premises liability, and negligent security analysis. Her expertise includes the evaluation of alleged security failures and the application of generally accepted security principles, methodologies, and industry standards. [See full bio here.](#)

**Michael A. Haggard** is a compassionate, empathetic and a fervent advocate for victims of crime, Michael Haggard has dedicated his career to the pursuit of justice on behalf of his clients inside and outside of the courtroom. Haggard has secured unprecedented awards for his clients, and as an activist, he continuously lobbies for permanent solutions and change through local, statewide and federal legislation. Specializing in pool drowning, negligent security, wrongful death, unsafe premises and products liability, Haggard has established himself as a powerful force locally and nationally in the Legal Community as the Managing Partner of The Haggard Law Firm. After spending time as a Public Defender and working with a small personal injury firm, he joined The Haggard Law Firm and was named a partner in 2001. [See full bio here.](#)

**Michael A. Silva** is an independent security consultant that has been practicing since 1985. During the more than 35 years he has been a consultant, Michael has served a wide variety of clients in industries including healthcare, research and development, biotechnology, manufacturing, insurance and financial services, warehousing and distribution, and multifamily housing.

Michael is board-certified as a Certified Protection Professional (CPP) by ASIS International, and is a member of the International Association of Professional Security Consultants (IAPSC) and holds the Certified Security Consultant (CSC) certification issued by that organization. Michael is currently serving as IAPSC President. [See full bio here.](#)

**Sean A. Ahrens** is a nationally recognized security consultant and the leader of the Security Consulting Practice at Affiliated Engineers, Inc.. With more than two decades of experience, he specializes in uncovering and mitigating Vulnerability across complex environments, connecting them to Threats, Risk, and tailored control strategies. Drawing on extensive field assessments, Sean provides practical, real-world insights into how overlooked vulnerabilities can escalate into security incidents and how layered, defense in depth controls can prevent them before they occur.

**Shannon M. Kos, Esq.** is a Principal of McCoy Leavitt Laskey and is the managing partner of the Ann Arbor, MI office. She has tried cases in Michigan and throughout the United States. Shannon is a certified Fire and Explosion Investigator and voting member of the ASTM E58 Committee on Forensic Engineering. Shannon also provides personal representation and defense to expert witnesses throughout the country in challenges to expert fees, scope of work and retainer agreement disputes, discovery issues, and Daubert and Frye attacks. Shannon has achieved the highest Martindale Hubbell rating (AV)(5.0 out of 5.0) and has been recognized for her expertise in Product Liability litigation including being awarded Lawyer of the Year, Product Liability Litigation - Defendant (2021) by Best Lawyers of America, DBusiness Top Lawyer – Product Liability, and Women in the Law Award, Michigan Lawyers Weekly (2015). Shannon received a B.A. in Economics from Colorado College, where she played Division I soccer and was inducted with her teammates into the Colorado College Athletics Hall

of Fame. She received her J.D. from William Mitchell College of Law, graduating with magna cum laude honors.