

2026 GATLINBURG LAW ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE



The Premier Training Event for U.S. Law Enforcement Professionals in the southeast region

Agenda May 4-7, 2026

“Enhancing Public Safety through Law Enforcement Excellence”



Monday May 4, 2026

Alabama Executive Credit classes are indicated by **ALEC** in the class location.

2:00pm – 5:30pm
5:00pm – 7:00pm

Conference Registration Check-In– **Embassy Suites Hotel**
Welcome Reception - **Embassy Suites**

Tuesday May 5, 2026

Georgia Executive Credit classes are indicated by **GEAC** in the class location

7:30am – 8:30am
8:30am – 5:00pm

Registration – **Gatlinburg Convention Center**
Program – **Mills Auditorium & Mills Room 2**

Victim Services Track sessions indicated by a light purple background will deliver targeted training and resources for professionals engaged in direct support of crime victims. These sessions emphasize best practices, effective victim support strategies, and emerging trends in victim advocacy, enabling participants to strengthen their expertise and capabilities within this essential sector. All sessions are open to all registered attendees.

Time	Conference Opening			Location	
8:30 AM 9:00 AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tribute to Fallen Officers – Mrs. Beverly Razor, Louisville, KY Invocation: Officer Brian Huff, Chaplain, Gatlinburg Police Department Presentation of Colors, Gatlinburg Police Department Honor Guard National Anthem: Naomi O’Shea, Dispatcher, Sevierville Police Department Welcoming Remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ronnie Barrett, Chief of Police, Gatlinburg Police Department Nicole McNamee-Wicks, FaceTec, Platinum Sponsor, Introduction to UR Codes. Jeremy Thompson, Vice President, KACP and Chief of Police, Elizabethtown, KY 			Mills Auditorium	
9:00 AM 9:20 AM	Honorable Russell Coleman			Mills Auditorium	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attorney General, Commonwealth of Kentucky 				
9:20 AM 10:00 AM	Keynote – Honorable Todd Blanche			Mills Auditorium	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acting Attorney General, United States Department of Justice 				
10:00 AM 10:30 AM	Break				
	Class and Instructor		Time	Class and Instructor	Location
10:30 AM	Beyond the Badge: Code 3 Financial Health and Wellness Strategies– The KFS Team, Kelly Financial Services, LLC				
10:35 AM 12:05 PM	Responding and Investigating Hoax Bomb Threats and Swatting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brian LaBlanc, Supervisory Special Agent, FBI, Boston Field Office 	Mills Auditorium GAEC ALEC	10:30AM 12:00 PM	Professional Ethics in Victim Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alejandro Palacios, Victim Advocacy Training Manager, National organization for Victim Advocacy (NOVA) 	Mills Room 2
12:00 PM 1:30 PM	Lunch on your own				
1:30 PM 3:30 PM	Drug-Related Death Investigations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lt. Josh Shaffer, Knoxville Police Department 	Mills Auditorium	1:30 PM- 3:30 PM	Technology Safety for Victims of Crime <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alejandro Palacios, Victim Advocacy Training Manager, NOVA 	Mills Room 2
3:30 PM 4:00 PM	Break				
4:00 PM 5:00 PM	Emerging Threats in Terrorism: Nihilistic Violent Extremism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max Wooten, FBI Task Force Officer and Expert Investigator, Winston Salem North Carolina 	Mills Auditorium GAEC ALEC	4:00pm- 5:00pm	Emerging Topics in Victim Services Roundtable Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alejandro Palacios, NOVA Jenny Parker, Victim Witness Coordinator, USAO-EDKY TBA 	Mills Room 2

Reception begins at 5:00 pm and the Networking Cookout at 6:30 pm at the Embassy Suites

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Wednesday, May 6, 2026

Georgia Executive Credit classes are indicated by GEAC in the class location.
Alabama Executive Credit classes are indicated by ALEC in the class location.

7:30am – 8:30am Late Registration Check- In – **Gatlinburg Convention Center**
8:30am – 5:00pm Program – **Mills Auditorium & Mills Room 2**

Featuring Scott Payne, Author of Code Name: Pale Horse, How I went undercover to expose America’s Nazis

New York Times bestseller • Code Name: Pale Horse recounts FBI agent Scott Payne’s undercover missions against The Base neo-Nazi group, Outlaw Motorcycle Club, and Ku Klux Klan, while addressing the opioid crisis. Balancing family and faith, Payne’s story provides a clear perspective on threats in America and one agent’s pursuit of justice.

Time	Class Title and Instructor	Location			
8:30 AM 10:00 AM	Undercover Stressors, 1% Motorcycle Clubs, and mental health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scott D. Payne, FBI - Retired (JTTF/Gangs/CEI, Undercover Coordinator, Principal Tactical/Active Shooter/ Defensive Tactics Instructor), ALERRT Adjunct Instructor and Former Deputy, Greenville County Sheriff’s Office (South Carolina) 	Mills Auditorium			
10:00 AM 10:30 AM	Break				
10:30 AM 10:35 AM	Beyond the Badge: Code 3 Financial Health and Wellness Strategies – The KFS Team – Kelly Financial Services, LLC				
10:35 AM 12:05 PM	Undercover Stressors, 1% Motorcycle Clubs, and mental health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scott D. Payne, Retired (JTTF/Gangs/CEI, Undercover Coordinator, Principal Tactical/Active Shooter/ Defensive Tactics Instructor), ALERRT Adjunct Instructor and Former Deputy, Greenville County Sheriff’s Office (South Carolina) 	Mills Auditorium			
12:05 PM 1:30 PM	Lunch on your own				
Time	Class and Instructor	Location	Time	Class and Instructor	Location
1:30 PM 3:30 PM	Safety Through Mental Health and Resilience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ret. Capt. Brandon Post, Provo, Utah PD, VALOR Program 	Mills Auditorium <u>ALEC</u>	1:30 PM 3:30 PM	Department of Homeland Security Resources, Programs & Partnerships for Victims <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarissa Whaley, Victim-Witness Program Manager, USAO-SC Robin G. Chapman, DSW, LCSW, National Victim Assistance Program Manager, HSI Eia Richardson, Victim Assistance Specialist, HSI 	Mills Room 2 <u>GAEC</u>
3:30 PM 4:00 PM	Break				
4:00 PM 5:00 PM	Cracking Cold Cases: How AI is Transforming Investigations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jim Penrose, CEO, Tranquility AI 	Mills Auditorium <u>GAEC</u>	4:00 PM 5:00 PM	The VINELink.com Experience: Delivering Resources to All Victims! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brad Jeffries & Joyce Karrfalt, Equifax Workforce Solutions 	Mills Room 2

Reception begins at 5:00 pm and concludes at 7:00 pm at the Embassy Suites



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Thursday, May 7, 2026

Georgia Executive Credit classes are indicated by GAEC in the class location.
Alabama Executive Credit classes are indicated by ALEC in the class location.

7:30am – 8:30am Late Registration Check- In – **Gatlinburg Convention Center**
8:30am – 5:00pm Program – **Mills Auditorium & Mills Room 2**

Time	Class Title and Instructor	Location	Time	Class & Instructor	Location
8:30 AM 9:30 AM	Tren de Aragua (TDA): A Brief History, Tactics, Techniques, Procedures, and Recent Activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael Walters, Special Agent, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation 	Mills Auditorium	8:30 AM – 9:30 AM	Helping the Helpers: Fostering resilience and reducing trauma in victim service professionals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Angela Moreland, Ph.D., Associate Director, National Mass Violence Center (NMVC) 	Mills Room 2
9:30 AM 10:45 AM	Leveling up your leadership, 1 Degree; by LIVING your legacy, not leaving one. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Cowan, Executive Director of the Excellence in Policing and Public Safety Program at the University of South Carolina’s Rice School of Law and Director of Professional Development, Jim Hudson Automotive Group. Former Chief of Police in Cayce, SC 	Mills Auditorium <u>GAEC</u> <u>ALEC</u>	9:30 AM – 10:45 AM	Trauma-Informed Victim Services & Interviewing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Angela Moreland, Ph.D., Associate Director, NMVC Cassidee Carlson, C3 Strategies, LLC 	Mills Room 2
10:45 AM 11:00 AM	Break				
11:00 AM	Beyond the Badge: Code 3 Financial Health and Wellness Strategies – The KFS Team, Kelly Financial Services, LLC				
11:05 AM 12:05 PM	From Chaos to Control: Critical Incidents and Officer involved Shootings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> L.S. Miller Law L. Scott Miller Aaron Ann Cole 	Mills Auditorium <u>GAEC</u> <u>ALEC</u>	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Victim Service Responses in Mass Violence Incidents National Mass Violence Center <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Angela Moreland-Johnson, Ph.D., NMVC Cassidee Carlson C3 Strategies LLC Clarissa Whaley, Victim-Witness Program Manager, USAO-SC 	Mills Room 2
12:05 PM 1:15 PM	Lunch on your own				
1:15 PM 2:30 PM	Integrated Response: A Case Study of the Laguna Woods Mass Shooting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scott Dierdoff, Orange County Fire Authority (SLATT Program) 			<u>GAEC</u> <u>ALEC</u>	Mills Auditorium
2:30 PM 2:45 PM	Break				
2:45 PM 3:45 PM	The Impact of Transnational Organized Crime on National Cargo Theft Trends <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steve Hall, Supervisory Special Agent, National Insurance Crime Bureau 				Mills Auditorium
3:45 PM 4:45 PM	Inside the Digital Hunt for Darknet Child Sex Offenders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ryan Heethuis, Investigative Analyst, United States Secret Service 				Mills Auditorium
4:45 PM 5:00 PM	Conference Closing				
					Mills Auditorium

The agenda for this event is finalized; however, session times, classes, and presenters remain subject to revision. All presentations and speakers are currently confirmed. We extend our gratitude to all presenters for their dedication to upholding the distinguished standards of this training event. The Gatlinburg Law Enforcement Conference is sponsored, organized, and funded by the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police.