2025 Arkansas APCO NENA Conference Schedule

Updated a few seconds ago

Please note: This subject is scheduled to change. All changes will be updated on this schedule immediately, so please check back frequently.

Show All (50) \bullet Sort by Start Date \bullet $\downarrow_{z}^{A} \bullet$

Search Q

Saturday, November 1, 2025

Arkansas APCO/ NENA Conference Committee Meeting
Nov 1, 2025, 1:00 PM - 9:00 PM
RESERVED FOR CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

♀ Oaklawn Event Center. Hot Springs, AR.



Sunday, November 2, 2025



Registration/Information Desk Open (https://arapco.org)
Nov 2, 2025, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

The registration table is located directly in front of the event center on the left side. Please stop by to check in, grab your Conference t-shirt, goodie bag, and to meet a few people!

♥ Oaklawn Event Center Pre-Function Area ☑ (https://oaklawn.com/group-events/meetings/)

Monday, November 3, 2025



Breakfast (On your own)

 \Diamond

Nov 3, 2025, 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

Most Popular: Big Al's Diner and Deli at the Hotels Food Court Open 3am-

11am

Near By Options: Sonic, Arby's, McDonald's, Waffle House

♀ Oaklawn

MEAL TIME



(https://arapco.org)

Registration/Information Desk (https://arapco.org)
Nov 3, 2025, 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Q Oaklawn Event Center **☑** (https://oaklawn.com/groupevents/meetings/)



2025 Arkansas APCO/ NENA Conference Opening Session

V

Nov 3, 2025, 8:00 AM - 8:30 AM

- Presentation of Colors: Arkansas State Police Honor Guard
- National Anthem: Fountain Lake Charter High School, Hot Springs
 - Anabelle Kramarenko
 - Claire Roden
- Pledge of Allegiance: Scott Ballard
- Prayer/ Words of Encouragement: Tina Frost, Chaplin NLRPD
- Welcome/ Opening Remarks: Arkansas APCO President Scott Ballard & Bud Gray, Arkansas APCO 1st Vice & AR NENA Board Member
- Overview of AR APCO and AR NENA Executive Board Nominations:
 - AR-APCO 2nd Vice President Desiree' Beaver
 - AR-NENA Representative
- Introduction of Speakers:
 - Bud Gray, 1st Vice President
- Industry Sponsors Introduction:
 - Shannon McCuin, AR-APCO Treasurer
- Platinum Sponsor Address (5 min)
 - Voice Products Inc.

♦ Telecommunicator/General Session



Increasing Performance, Resilience and Wellness in 911 Dispatchers- Moving Beyond Surviving to Thriving



№ Keynote Speaker: Dr. Chris Clem , Director, Arkansas State Police

⑤ See Bio
∧

Nov 3, 2025, 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Behind every emergency response is a voice that steadies the chaos. This keynote dives deep into the emotional, physical and psychological toll of dispatch work and offers a path forward-one built on wellness, resilience, and purpose. Dr. Chris Clem, a law enforcement veteran and leadership strategist, shares evidence-based insights and practical tools to help dispatchers move beyond burnout and reclaim their strength and reinforce their calling. It's time to move from surviving to thriving in the mission.

Oaklawn Event Center - Ballroom B

► Telecommunicator/General Session



Exhibit Hall Opening for Industry Vendors
Nov 3, 2025, 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM



Our Industry Partners are excited to show you the latest and greatest!

Oaklawn Event Center Ballroom C

Removing Negativity Lifting Yourself Above the Average



- Louis "Louie" Cimino , Firefighter Battalion Chief & Motivational Leader
- **⑤** See Bio
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Nov 3, 2025, 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

Oaklawn Event Center Ballroom B

► Telecommunicator/General Session





Lunch on your own

Nov 3, 2025, 11:50 AM - 1:00 PM

Most Popular: Big Al's Diner and Deli at the Hotels Food Court Starts at

11am for Lunch

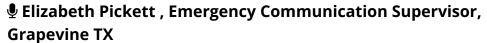
Near By Options: Sonic, Arby's, McDonald's, Taco Express, CiCis Pizza,

Tropical Smoothie

♀ Oaklawn Event Center



Basic Fire Knowledge 101



⑤ See Bio
∧

Nov 3, 2025, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

If you're anything like I was at the start of my dispatching career, fire dispatching felt like a foreign language. I dreaded being assigned to the fire channel. My early training consisted mostly of learning how to tone out the fire department—and then hoping for the best when it came to response.

I didn't know which apparatus needed to respond, why calls were upgraded, what a proper size-up sounded like, or how terrain and weather impacted the situation.

This session is designed to break down the basics of fire dispatching. We'll cover:

- 1) The critical role you play as a fire dispatcher
- 2) What key information to gather and communicate
- 3) What to listen for on the radio
- 4) Understanding fire terminology

Whether you're new to fire dispatching or looking to strengthen your foundation, this session will help you gain confidence and clarity behind the mic.

Q Oaklawn Event Center - Hamilton Room





Human Behind the Headset



Madeline Mendez Christner, Communications Supervisor. Garden City Police Department, KS

⑤ See Bio
∧

Nov 3, 2025, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

I will go over the 4 different aspects of Emotional Intelligence: Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social-Awareness, and Relationship-Management. I will explain how each one can affect day-to-day life as well as how they can affect different aspects of a dispatcher's job. For example, recognizing heightened levels of stress and anxiety is a skill of Self-Awareness and being able to stay calm in times of stress is a skill of Self-Management. I will also give attendees exercises they can do to improve upon each aspect of EQ. At the end of the class we will do a group exercises of identifying different body language gestures and what they mean.

Q Oaklawn Event Center - Catherine Room





Effective Strategies for Dealing with Workplace Conflict by Jason Long

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- **Jason Long**, CEO/ Instructor, LevelUp 911 Training
- **⑤** See Bio
 ∧

Nov 3, 2025, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

This class will explore techniques for managing conflicts that may arise among co-workers and other personnel within the radio room. We will discuss the different types of conflicts that may occur, as well as the various types of employees involved. Additionally, we will provide strategies for effectively handling and managing conflicts within the agency, ensuring that a harmonious and productive work environment is maintained for all.

Oaklawn Event Center - DeGray Room



Break

Nov 3, 2025, 1:50 PM - 2:00 PM

♀ Oaklawn Event Center





First to Know, First to Respond, Arkansas Online 911 Training Launch



Nov 3, 2025, 2:00 PM - 2:50 PM

Shannon McCuin, NW- ALETA, AR DPS

ALETA Online Training for Telecommunicators

♀ Oaklawn Event Center Ballroom B

♦ Telecommunicator/General Session



Exhibit Hall Opening for Industry Vendors
Nov 3, 2025, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM



Our Industry Partners are excited to show you the latest and greatest!

♀ Oaklawn Event Center Ballroom C



Emergency Services sUAS Integration (Drone Technology)



Chief Blake Webb , Chief of Police. City of Highfill Police Department, AR

⑤ See Bio
∧

Nov 3, 2025, 4:00 PM - 4:50 PM

Multimedia presentation- with possible Demo of capabilities / hands on. This Presentation will cover how sUAS (Drones) are utilized to enhance public safety across multiple disciplines.

The presentation will also include basic drone Regulations and Laws, and common call types associated with public use of Drones.

This will include some case studies and an overview of Drone technology.

♀ Oaklawn Event Center -Hamilton Room

♦ Telecommunicator/General Session



EMD When, How and Why



᠑ Desiree' Beaver , Telecommunicator III CTO/EMD Q

6 See Bio

▲

Nov 3, 2025, 4:00 PM - 4:50 PM

This class will be a crash course for what is EMD, when you use it, why it is used, and how it can be used. I will focus on the understanding why it is a good tool to have. We will talk about some of the most used protocols. As well as why it is beneficial to agencies and dispatchers to utilize an EMD protocol. I will also talk about wording and usage of protocols and what some dispatchers dislike about it.

Q Oaklawn Event Center - Catherine Room

► Telecommunicator/General Session



The Mentor-Trainer



Deranecque Sims, ENP, CPE, Director, Crittenden County Emergency Communications

③ See Bio **∧**Nov 3, 2025, 4:00 PM - 4:50 PM

Course Intro: As a Communications Training Officer, your job is to make sure new 911 dispatchers have the knowledge and skills to be successful in their new career. You play a key role in setting the tone and standard for their success. As a trainer you will be called upon to not only teach and coach but at times mentor and guide your new co-worker.

Objectives:

- 1. We will define the role of the CTO
- 2. We will discuss the importance of integrity\, consistency\, and fairness
- 3. We will discuss the importance of both providing and receiving effective feedback
- **♀** Oaklawn Event Center DeGray Room





sports-bar/)

Special Event with Industry Vendors - Mainline Sports Bar and Grill (https://oaklawn.com/dining/mainline-(https://oaklawn.com/dining/mainlinesports-bar/)

Nov 3, 2025, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Come join us for a night of fun and games at the Mainline Sports Bar and Grill!

PLEASE WEAR YOUR CONFERENCE SHIRT FOR A GROUP PHOTO!!!

The Arkansas APCO/ NENA Conference will host this special event! This event will give our industry partners a chance to network with other members, build working relationships, and provide opportunities to invite others to see new products/ offerings.

Oaklawn - Mainline Sports Bar and Grill 🗗 (https://oaklawn.com/dining/mainline-sports-bar/)

Tuesday, November 4, 2025



Breakfast (On your own) (https://oaklawn.com/dining/)



(https://oaklawn.com/dining/)Nov 4, 2025, 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

Most Popular: Big Al's Diner and Deli at the Hotels Food

Court Open 3am-11am

Near By Options: Sonic, Arby's, McDonald's, Waffle House

♀ Oaklawn **☑** (https://oaklawn.com/dining/)

MEAL TIME



Registration/Information Desk

Nov 4, 2025, 7:30 AM - 12:00 PM

♀ Oaklawn Event Center **☑** (https://oaklawn.com/group-events/meetings/)





AWIN Interoperability



᠑ J.M. Rowe , Chair of the Arkansas Communications Unit Working Group

⚠ See Bio

▲

Nov 4, 2025, 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM

This presentation will educate the AWIN User about the availability and the intended usage of the Interoperability Talk-groups. It's not just the MAC Zone!

Q Oaklawn Event Center - Ballroom B

► Telecommunicator/General Session

Break

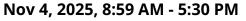
Nov 4, 2025, 8:50 AM - 9:00 AM

♀ Oaklawn Event Center





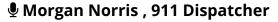
Market Vendors Exhibit Hall open



Q Oaklawn Event Center Prefunction Area



911 Autism



⑤ See Bio
∧

Nov 4, 2025, 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Every minute truly matters when an emergency comes in involving someone on the spectrum. 911 telecommunicators are the first line of defense for ensuring swift and safe calls. With better understanding of what the autism spectrum is, how to approach those calls, better thinking and quick response, a 911 telecommunicators can provide first responder with critical information that can save lives.

♀ Oaklawn Event Center - Hamilton Room





Working Together: The Multi-Generational 9-1-1 Center



Deranecque Sims , Director, Crittenden County Emergency Communications

1 See Bio **↑** Nov **4**, **2025**, **9:00** AM - **9:50** AM

Working Together | The Multi-Generational 9-1-1 Center

The workplace generational divide doesn't have to separate us; it can bring us together. In this session we will discuss the different generations in the workplace and the evolving landscape of 9-1-1. We will cover practical strategies to improve communication and understanding between leaders and co-workers. We will brainstorm what the future looks like and discuss steps we can take today to prepare for it.

Objectives

PAST: Attendees will discuss the strengths and traits of the various generations in the workplace: Baby Boomers, Generation X, Millennials, Generation Z

PRESENT: Attendees will explore case studies of challenges and successes of multi-generation work relationship.

FUTURE: Attendees will explore ways to recruit and retain Generation Z and Generation Alpha

Q Oaklawn Event Center - Catherine Room





AIMM for Great Leadership: The Anti-Toxic Leader



Matthew Johnson , Speaker, Foundations Public Safety Training Nov 4, 2025, 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

This course distinguishes true leadership from simply being a manager. This course will teach you how to effectively care for your team, explore the 7 deadly sins of leadership, and provide a deep dive into the toxic behaviors often seen in leaders. You will gain an unfiltered look at toxic leadership within public safety agencies and learn how to be a servant leader. We will cover the actions and traits of anti-toxic leaders, how to show up as an impactful force for your team, and how to implement AIMM (Assess, Identify, Mitigate, and Move) to enhance your leadership skills. You will also discover how to retain top talent and cultivate a positive, thriving work culture.

Learning Objectives:

The student will be able to define leadership and its core principles.

The student will be able to identify and discuss the 7 Deadly Sins of Leadership.

The student will gain a comprehensive understanding of toxic behaviors and traits in leaders.

The student will be able to describe the concept of servant leadership and define the behaviors of an Anti-Toxic Leader.

The student will be equipped to apply the AIMM framework (Assess, Identify, Mitigate, and Move) to create impactful leadership strategies.

Oaklawn Event Center - DeGray Room



Break

Nov 4, 2025, 9:50 AM - 10:00 AM

♀ Oaklawn Event Center





Exhibit Hall Open for Industry Vendors



Nov 4, 2025, 9:50 AM - 10:50 AM

Come check out the latest and greatest from our Industry Vendors while enjoying a hosted snack bar! This is a perfect opportunity to have a sweet snack while learning about the new technology that could benefit your center!

Q Oaklawn Event Center



Burnout Identification and Reduction for First Responders



● Dr. Chris Clem , Director, Arkansas State Police Nov 4, 2025, 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

The topic of burnout and wellness among first responders remains prevalent in the media, in local civic leadership and governmental agencies around the world.

The role of a first responder consistently ranks among the most stressful occupations worldwide, and the lasting impact of the COVID19 crisis and continued social and civil unrest continue to cause significant stress to responders mental, emotional, and physical health, negatively impacting their job performance. While significant attention has been placed on creating more resilient individuals trained and conditioned to endure the challenges of their profession the focus on the organizational cultures and environments in which these individuals' function has not been adequately explored. This chapter explores the drivers of first responder burnout, potential solutions and the critical role that leadership plays in creating cultures of wellness within their departments.

• Oaklawn Event Center - Ballroom B

► Telecommunicator/General Session





Lunch on your own

Nov 4, 2025, 11:50 AM - 1:00 PM

Most Popular: Big Al's Diner and Deli at the Hotels Food Court Starts at

11am for Lunch

Near By Options: Sonic, Arby's, McDonald's, Taco Express, CiCis Pizza,

Tropical Smoothie

Q Oaklawn Event Center



Tornado Destruction: A Telecommunicator Case Study

№ Matthew Johnson , Speaker, Foundations Public Safety Training

⑤ See Bio
∧

Nov 4, 2025, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Tornadoes are unpredictable and can strike at any time. This course provides essential tornado awareness, shares insights from a rare and significant tornado event, and offers recommendations for improving future disaster responses. Participants will benefit from perspectives from the course instructor who responded to the disaster.

This course will discuss:

Tornado Facts and Data

Where, when, and how tornados happen

The Enhanced Fujita Scale

Watches, warnings, and tornado emergencies

Information about the Western Kentucky Tornado

Facts of the disaster

The scale of the emergency

Photos to Show the Depth of The Destruction

Law Enforcement Response to The Disaster

Response dangers to tornadic events

Deployment to the area of operations

Challenges and Difficulties to Law Enforcement Response

This course requires video projection and audio equipment.

Q Oaklawn Event Center - Hamilton Room



The Psychology of Domestic Violence and the Role of the Telecommunicator by Jason Long



Jason Long, CEO/Instructor, LevelUp 911 Training

⑤ See Bio
∧

Nov 4, 2025, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

In this course, we will delve into the hazards that come with responding to and handling domestic-related incidents. We will explore the reasons why victims may choose to remain in such situations, as well as other relevant domestic-related statistics. Additionally, we will evaluate methods through which Telecommunicators can contribute to preventing responder injuries and fatalities during these routine calls for service.

Q Oaklawn Event Center - Catherine Room

▶ Telecommunicator/General Session



Change by Design: Habitual Evolution



• Madeline Mendez Christner, Communications Supervisor. Garden City Police Department, KS

⑤ See Bio
∧

Nov 4, 2025, 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM

Attendees will learn why change is so difficult and how they can implement changes that not only last, but are less painful for everyone involved. I will explain the science of habits and habit creation and how they can use this information to make change less of a negative experience in their centers. I will have attendees participate in a few exercises that demonstrate why change is so difficult to help them further their understanding. Attendees will leave with a handout that will help them plan for change in the future.

♀ Oaklawn Event Center - DeGray Room

Supervisor



Nov 4, 2025, 1:50 PM - 2:00 PM

♀ Oaklawn Event Center





Industry Vendor Hall

Nov 4, 2025, 1:50 PM - 3:00 PM

Vendor time. Last chance to visit!

♀ Oaklawn Event Center Ballroom C



ARKANSAS APCO & NENA BUSINESS MEETING/ DOOR PRIZE GIVEAWAY

Nov 4, 2025, 3:00 PM - 3:50 PM

Q Oaklawn Event Center - Ballroom B



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Courtroom Confidence for the Telecommunicator



Matthew Johnson , Speaker, Foundations Public Safety Training

⑤ See Bio
∧

Nov 4, 2025, 4:00 PM - 4:50 PM

Alright, Telecommunicator, you have just received your order to appear in court—what happens next? What can you expect when you step onto the witness stand? This course is designed to guide telecommunicators through the court process, from understanding how the system works to navigating each stage of the trial. We will cover the courtroom layout, the roles of everyone present, and step-by-step details on what to expect when you appear in court. Most importantly, we will focus on how to succeed with your testimony. At the end of the course, you will have the chance to participate in mock trials with the instructor, ensuring you are fully prepared for your eventual day in court.

This course does require video and audio equipment.

Oaklawn Event Center - Hamilton Room

♦ Telecommunicator/General Session



The Hidden Cost of Heroism: PTSD and Suicide Prevention for Responders



- Jason Long , CEO/ Instructor, LevelUp 911 Training
- **⑤** See Bio
 ∧

Nov 4, 2025, 4:00 PM - 4:50 PM

In this class, we will focus on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and the significance of good mental health among Telecommunicators and responders. Our objective is to examine strategies for managing PTSD throughout your career, as well as identifying signs of possible suicide within your network of responders and co-workers. It's essential to prioritize selfcare to ensure we're capable of helping others effectively.

Oaklawn Event Center - Catherine Room

Wellness

Medical Dispatch Protocol Standard



Stacey Himes , QI and Training Coordinator, LifeNet EMS

⑤ See Bio
∧

Nov 4, 2025, 4:00 PM - 4:50 PM

Protocol Organization – Chief Complaints and Corresponding Numbers
This session will test and reinforce participants' knowledge of how the EMD
protocol system is structured. Using Blooket as an interactive tool, we'll quiz
participants on:

Chief complaint categories

Their corresponding protocol numbers (e.g., Breathing Problems = Protocol 6)

When and how to select the correct protocol

How the organization of the protocols helps guide effective questioning and response

After the quiz, we'll review the answers together, clarify any confusion, and go over scenarios to apply the knowledge in a practical way.

♀ Oaklawn Event Center - DeGray Room

► Telecommunicator/General Session



Market Vendors Exhibit Hall open



Nov 4, 2025, 4:50 PM - 6:00 PM



Don't forget—the Vendor Hall is open until 6:00 PM! That gives you plenty of time to scoop up some sweet swag before tonight's **Connect & Celebrate Dinner** and our **Sugar Rush After Party**.

Our Market Vendors have a candy jar full of goodies—everything from gifts and souvenirs to 911 apparel and unique treasures. Be sure to swing by, say hello, and treat yourself. They can't wait to meet you!

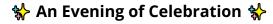
♀ Oaklawn Event Center Prefunction Area





Connect & Celebrate Dinner

Nov 4, 2025, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM



You are cordially invited to join us for a memorable evening of recognition and celebration. Enjoy an elegant dinner, specially catered by the **Oaklawn Resort & Spa**. Throughout the evening, guests will also have the opportunity to win several exciting prizes. This will truly be a night to remember!

Program Highlights

Presentation of Colors: JROTC

Welcome & Opening Remarks

• Arkansas APCO President, Bud Gray

Acknowledgements

- APCO International Immediate Past President, Steve Martini
- Nick LaMontia, Southeastern Director for NENA
- Arkansas APCO Board
- Arkansas NENA Board
- Arkansas APCO/NENA Conference Committee
- Platinum Sponsors (5-minute address)

Dinner Buffet

Keynote Address

• Steve Martini, APCO International Immediate Past President

Special Guest Speaker

• Nick LaMontia, Southeastern Director for NENA

Awards Presentation

- AR APCO/NENA Telecommunicator of the Year
- AR APCO/NENA Director/Manager of the Year
- AR APCO/NENA Supervisor of the Year

- AR APCO/NENA CTO of the Year
- AR APCO/NENA 9-1-1 Team of the Year
- Special Recognition
- **♦** The Oaklawn Event Center Ballroom A 🗗 (https://oaklawn.com/groupevents/meetings/)
 - ► Telecommunicator/General Session



Sugar Rush After Party!

Nov 4, 2025, 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM



The Distinguished Achievers Dinner may end with dessert... but the real sugar rush starts after!

Get ready for a night full of sweet fun with:

- A Candy-Themed Costume Contest Dress up as your favorite sweet treat and strut your stuff on the dance floor!
- **Karaoke** Show off those vocal chops (extra points if you sing something sugar-themed, J/K ■).
- A live **DJ Dance Party** Because nothing burns off sugar like dancing all night!

Our sponsors will crown the *sweetest* costume with awesome prizes, so bring your creativity and your best moves.

Come ready to sing, dance, laugh, and celebrate—you're guaranteed to leave on a sugar high! \bigcirc \mathcal{P}

♀ Oaklawn Event Center Ballroom A (Banquet Area) ✓ (https://oaklawn.com/)



Wednesday, November 5 2025



Breakfast (On your own) (https://oaklawn.com/dining/) (https://oaklawn.com/dining/)Nov 5, 2025, 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM

Most Popular: Big Al's Diner and Deli at the Hotels Food

Court Open 3am-11am

Near By Options: Sonic, Arby's, McDonald's, Waffle House

♀ Oaklawn **☑** (https://oaklawn.com/dining/)



Market Vendors Exhibit Hall open

Nov 5, 2025, 7:59 AM - 11:00 AM

Q Oaklawn Event Center Prefunction Area





You are not just a dispatcher, You are a Lifeline!

● Tina Front , Chaplain, North Little Rock Police Department

⑤ See Bio
∧

Nov 5, 2025, 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM

This class will explain how important you are to your department as a dispatcher. Dispatchers save lives every day. You are the backbone of public safety. You lead people through life's most difficult moments!! And you are the calm voice in the dark.

♀ Ballroom B

► Telecommunicator/General Session

Break

Nov 5, 2025, 8:50 AM - 9:00 AM

♀ Oaklawn Event Center

Break



Becoming MORE & SOAR Building your Bigger Brighter Better Version of you!

- Louis "Louie" Cimino, Firefighter Battalion Chief & Motivational Leader
- **6** See Bio

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Nov 5, 2025, 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM

Oaklawn Event Center - Ballroom B

▶ Telecommunicator/General Session

Break (Check out of hotel rooms)

Nov 5, 2025, 9:50 AM - 10:30 AM

♀ Oaklawn Event Center



Closing Session

Nov 5, 2025, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

The Arkansas APCO/ NENA Conference Committee Closing Session:

- Acknowledgments
 - Speakers
 - Sponsors
 - Conference Committee
- 2025 Arkansas APCO/ NENA Conference
- Conference Tear Down Volunteers
- Closing Remarks
- Conference Committee Meeting
- **♀** Oaklawn Event Center Ballroom B 🗗 (https://oaklawn.com/groupevents/meetings/)

► Telecommunicator/General Session