

# RTI INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON COMMUNITY SAFETY AND POLICING RESEARCH

Location: RTI Headquarters  
3040 E. Cornwallis Road  
Research Triangle Park, NC  
Holden Building  
William M. Moore Jr. Collaboration Center

Date: Wednesday, April 17, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. ET

## Day One Agenda

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Coffee and Virtual Reality Demonstration

10:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions

10:30 a.m.– 12:00 p.m.

Best Practices in Health and Wellness for the Public Safety Workforce

This panel will describe evidence-based strategies for promoting safety and mental and physical health among public safety professionals. Implications for workforce recruitment and retention will also be discussed.

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Enhancing Responses to Victims

This panel will feature research on victim engagement including the role of victim advocates and other systems-based responders. Panelists will highlight research as it relates to law enforcement-based victim service personnel, the impacts of Covid -19 on victim service providers and their ability to provide services to survivors of gender-based violence, and the role that law

enforcement and other systems professionals play in responding to and preventing victimization in the wake of natural disasters.

**3:00 – 3:15 p.m.**

Break

**3:15 – 4:45 p.m.**

**Addressing Drug Overdose Deaths with Increased Public Safety and Public Health Coordination**

This panel will discuss illicit drug markets and their connection to drug overdoses and community violence, as well as opportunities for incorporating an integrated approach for improving safety while mitigating harm.

**4:45 – 5:00 p.m.**

Closing Remarks

**5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

Networking Event

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## Day Two Agenda

**9:00 – 10:00 a.m.** Coffee and Virtual Reality Demonstration

**10:00 – 10:05 a.m.** Welcome

**10:05 – 11:15 a.m.** Addressing How Law Enforcement and Community-Based Organizations Can Work Together to Reduce Community Violence

This panel will showcase examples from the field on what it looks like to develop a relationship, collaborate, and establish boundaries between law enforcement and community violence interrupters who serve in the same communities. Panelists will share perspectives from both sides of this relationship and will hear how research conducted at RTI contextualizes the issue of community violence and has generated recommendations for successful relationships between law enforcement and community groups.

**11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.** Modeling Human Behaviors After an Act of Targeted Violence

Securing soft targets and crowded places is a priority for public safety and homeland security. This panel will discuss efforts to better understand the responses of civilians and first responders during, and immediately after, acts of terrorism and other forms of targeted

violence. An overview of the research, preliminary findings, and applications for state and local law enforcement will also be presented.

**12:30 – 1:45 p.m.**

Lunch

**1:45 – 3:15 p.m.**

**Forensic Genetic Genealogy for Solving Cases and Addressing Serial Offending**

Forensic Genetic Genealogy (FGG) is an innovative investigative tool that combines DNA analysis with traditional genealogy research for the purpose of generating investigative leads that will assist law enforcement in identifying an unknown perpetrator and/or victim of violent crime.

**3:15 – 3:30 p.m.**

Break

**3:30 – 4:45 p.m.**

**Lawfully Owed DNA**

Conservative estimates indicate thousands of convicted offenders are missing from the combined DNA Index System (CODIS) across the country. This panel will discuss key factors contributing to this widespread problem including case examples which highlight the importance of collecting lawfully owed DNA samples and entering them into CODIS for solving cold cases and preventing future violent crime. Available resources to help address this issue will be discussed.

**4:45 – 5:00 p.m.**

Closing Remarks