



# NC PARTNERSHIP TO ADDRESS ADULT ABUSE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*Partnering to Preserve and Protect*

**NO COST to Attend, but REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**

Are you passionate about making a difference locally? Would you like to network with other NC professionals and laypersons working to end abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable adults? Please join the NCPAAA via Zoom for our annual conference from **May 17<sup>th</sup> – May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021**. We will hear from a wide range of experts from North Carolina and around the nation. They will provide insight and guidance to achieve better outcomes more often—both as individuals and by leveraging teams.



May 17<sup>th</sup> – May 19<sup>th</sup>

Focus on Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs), whether your team is in the works, already in existence, or highly functioning

CEUs Applied for - Law Enforcement, CLE, CPE, Social Worker, & Substance Abuse Professional

Virtual Conference

*Space is limited*

**REGISTER HERE TODAY!**

NCPAAA  
PO Box 10531  
Raleigh, NC 27605

[ncp3a.org](http://ncp3a.org)

# Professional Continuing Education Credit

In order to qualify for continuing education credit, attendees must identify as a professional of the type for which continuing education credit may be sought and follow the guidance of the professional accrediting entity.

- **Sworn Law Enforcement Officers** can earn credit through Wake Tech Public Safety by:
  - Registering **HERE** by May 12<sup>th</sup>. Select Case No. 244558 – Investigating Crimes Against the Elderly. (Scroll to the bottom of the page down to the calendar, then type in the section number or the class title and follow the prompts from there.) Sworn police officers are education credit **fee exempt** if they register through Wake Tech reservation site and attend these classes.
  - Officers **MUST** register themselves since this is a virtual class, so their training officer cannot handle registration.
  - Sworn officers who register may attend the 1.5-hour warm-up on May 17; however, education credit applies to the sessions, May 18-19th.
- **Lawyers and Certified Paralegals** may be able to earn credit through the NC Conference of District Attorneys, which has offered to apply. There is no cost to attend, but **all** credit-seeking attorney and certified paralegal attendees will be responsible for completing and submitting **the FORM to [Erica.M.Quillet@nccourts.org](mailto:Erica.M.Quillet@nccourts.org) no later than May 21, 2021**, and paying their own CLE fees upon billing by the NC State Bar.
- **Social Worker** continuing education credits have been applied for.
- **Substance Abuse Professionals** can earn credit through the NC Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Board 21-324-C for up to 11.5 hours (GSB and SS available based on sessions attended). **Attendees are responsible for submitting appropriate paperwork and paying their own CEU fees.**
- **Others** consider submitting the Agenda and Speaker List, along with a Certification of Hours Attended to the entity that governs continuing education in your field.



# *“Partnering to Preserve and Protect”*

## DAY ONE

**Monday, May 17, 2021**

**2:00 – 3:30PM EST**

“Conference Warmup: Nuts and Bolts of MDTs”

**2:00 – 3:30**

“Nuts and Bolts of MDTs from Federal and State Perspectives”

*Talitha Guinn-Shaver (federal) and Meredith Smith (state)*

## DAY TWO

**Tuesday, May 18, 2021**

**9:30AM – 4:00PM EST**

“Skills and Resources Strengthening”

**9:30 – 9:45**

Welcome and Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) Award

**9:45 – 10:45**

Opening Keynote

**10:45 – 11:00**

Break

**11:00 – 12:00**

**Four concurrent morning breakout sessions:**

**BREAKOUT A:** “Preparing the Case for Prosecution”

*Jessica Spencer, JD*

**BREAKOUT B:** “Reframing to Elicit Cooperation”

*Julie Schoen, JD and Alycia Cisneros, MSW*

**BREAKOUT C:** “Adaptations for Interviewing Vulnerable Populations”

*Kathryn Lanier, MSG*

**BREAKOUT D:** “How Banks Protect Our Most Vulnerable”

*Peter Gwaltney*

**12:00 – 1:00**

Lunch

**1:00 – 2:00**

**Four concurrent afternoon breakout sessions:**

**BREAKOUT E:** "Halt in the Name of the Law! Choosing the Right Remedy for Elder Financial Abuse"

*Heather Whitaker Goldstein, JD*

**BREAKOUT F:** "Racial and Diversity Inclusion in MDTs"

*Deric J. Boston, LCSW*

**BREAKOUT G:** "Dementia and Abuse: What Do You Need to Know to Make a Difference?"

*Melanie Bunn, RN, MS*

**BREAKOUT H:** "Accessing and Organizing Records in Elder Exploitation Cases"

*W. Scott Harkey, Senior Financial Crimes Prosecutor, NC Conference of DAs*

**2:00 – 2:15**

Break

**2:15 – 3:15**

**Afternoon Keynote:** "Trauma-Informed Care Plus Decisional-Ability Aware Interviewing"

*Michelle H. Guarino, MSW, LCSW*

**3:15 – 4:00**

Closing Remarks/Adjourn

## DAY THREE

**Wednesday, May 19, 2021**

**9:30AM – 4:00PM EST**

"MDT/Team Building"

**9:30 – 9:45**

Welcome

**9:45 – 10:45**

**Morning Keynote:** "USDOJ HelpVul Pilot Project - Present and Future in North Carolina"

*Geoffrey Rogers and Sally Reisch of Hunter College in NYC*

*Sarah Maness-Smith of NC DHHS,*

*John Maron of the NC Department of the Secretary of State*

**10:45 – 11:00**

Break

**11:00 – 12:00**

**Three concurrent morning breakout sessions:**

**BREAKOUT A:** "MDTs for Addressing Elder Abuse: Why They Matter"

*Pamela B. Teaster, Ph.D. and Stacy Carey*

**BREAKOUT B:** "APS: Real Stories, Real Impact and Community Collaboration"

*Sarah Maness-Smith, Karey Perez, and April Black, all of NC DHHS*

**BREAKOUT C: “Taking it to the Next Level by Establishing a Forensic Center”**  
*Angela Rosato, MBA*

**12:00 – 1:00**

Lunch

**1:00 – 2:00**

**Three concurrent afternoon breakout sessions:**

**BREAKOUT D TOPIC: “The NC Experience with MDTs”**

*Shawn Hosier (Special Victims Unit-High Point Police)*

*Lori L. Wickline (ADA-High Point)*

*Diane Hayden (Program Manager-DHHS)*

*Heather Magill (Elder Justice Specialist Coordinator, Guilford County Family Justice Center)*

*Moderated by Meredith Smith, JD (Associate Professor, UNC School of Government)*

**BREAKOUT E: “Unlocking Information Sharing to Produce Better Outcomes”**

*Aimee Wall, JD, and Raj Premakumar, JD*

**BREAKOUT F: “Taking It to the Next Level by Establishing an Elder Financial Safety Center”**

*The Honorable Brenda Hull Thompson, Judge, Julie Krawczyk, JD, and Kinsey Stango, JD*

**2:00 – 2:15**

Break

**2:15 – 3:30**

**Afternoon Keynote: “Let Me Gamble and Drink in Peace-A Case Study and Discussion of Self-Determination, Alcohol and Substance Abuse and ‘Soft Tools’ to Prevent and Address Elder Abuse”**

*Abby Adams, JD*

*Paula Kohut, JD*

*Shevel Mavins, MSW*

*Moderated by Meredith Smith, JD*

**3:30 – 4:00**

Closing Remarks/Adjourn

# SESSION DESCRIPTIONS AND SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

## DAY ONE

May 17, 2021

### CONFERENCE WARMUP: “Nuts and Bolts of MDTs from Federal and State Perspectives”

*Talitha Guinn-Shaver (federal) and Meredith Smith (state)*

This session will introduce multidisciplinary teams and explore why they may be useful in your community to address adult abuse. It will identify the elements of a strong MDT and challenges common to MDTs as they form and grow over time. Finally, it will highlight state and national resources available to help support the work of MDTs.

**Talitha Guinn-Shaver** is the Elder Abuse Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) Technical Advisor for the Elder Justice Initiative (EJI) at the US Department of Justice. Guinn-Shaver’s experience with MDTs includes her prior role as Director of the Elder Abuse Prevention program at the Institute on Aging, where she served as the Director of the San Francisco Elder Abuse Forensic Center and chair of the San Francisco Elder Abuse MDT. She has also participated in other MDT models such as serving on the San Francisco Elder Death Review Team and The Hoarding and Cluttering Taskforce. She has also proudly served the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) working on elder abuse special projects. Supporting existing elder abuse case review MDTs and facilitating the expansion of the model, is the primary objective of the EJI MDT TAC.

**Meredith Smith** is an Associate Professor of Public Law and Government at the UNC School of Government. Her work focuses on the areas where clerks of superior court serve as judicial officials, including guardianship proceedings, power of attorney proceedings, and estate administration. She also is a co-creator of the North Carolina Elder Protection Network, available at <http://protectadults.sog.unc.edu/> and co-author of the manual, the Legal Framework for North Carolina’s Elder Protection System. Prior to joining the SOG, Meredith practiced law in Charlotte with the law firm of McGuireWoods LLP. She earned a BA in political science and Spanish, with distinction, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a law degree, cum laude, from Georgetown University School of Law.

## DAY TWO

May 18, 2021

### Morning Concurrent Breakout Sessions

#### CONCURRENT BREAKOUT A: “Preparing the Case for Prosecution”

*Jessica Spencer, JD*

This session will walk attendees through the preparation of a criminal case from the prosecution perspective. Who are the players? What does a prosecutor need and want? Are there case features that need to be highlighted to improve the possibilities of the case (1) moving forward and (2) achieving a successful resolution?

A fifth generation native of North Carolina’s Outer Banks, **Jessica Spencer** moved West after law school to work as an Assistant District Attorney in Winston-Salem. Jessica has served the citizens of Forsyth County in that capacity for the past 14½ years. She has handled a variety of crimes, with a current focus on drug crimes and white-collar crimes. She has served on the Forsyth County Elder Abuse Task Force and has presented in various conferences and events on topics concerning older adults. Additionally, she has served as a contributor to the first-ever Elder Abuse and Exploitation Prosecution Manual, which is being distributed in 2021 by the NC Conference of District Attorneys.



## **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT B: "Reframing to Elicit Cooperation"**

*Julie Schoen, JD and Alycia Cisneros, MSW*

For both those who do investigative work and those who do outreach, this session addresses how to reframe outreach and investigation to more productively engage adults who are older and disabled, as well as others who may assist. Specially covered is how to engage older adults without triggering resistance based on fear-of-loss-of-independence but which enables older adults to protect themselves and more actively engage the community. Also covered will be how to elicit broader cooperation in these cases without inadvertently cueing/reinforcing stereotypes of older as other, old age is about deterioration and decline and vulnerability, older adults as objects of care v. contributors, the fatalistic view that it's inevitable; nothing can be done....

**Julie Schoen** brings her passion for all aspects of aging issues to her role as Deputy Director of the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) at the Keck School of Medicine at USC. An attorney with a strong background in Medicare Advocacy, she now works to counter Elder Abuse by building public awareness through collaboration. Julie is an active board member of the Elder Financial Protection Network (EFPN) and the National Organization of Victim Assistance (NOVA). Her influence in the aging field has been well documented in the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times and USA Today. Julie also makes frequent guest appearances on KFWB, Talk Radio, Money 101.

Before joining the NCEA team at USC, Julie devoted the first 20 years of her career as the director of the Health Insurance Counseling Advocacy Program and the CA Senior Medicare Patrol. Julie is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Madison and has lived in Orange County, California for the past 30 years with her husband Jim and daughter Emily.

**Alycia Cisneros** serves as outreach coordinator at the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA). At NCEA she works to forge new meaningful connections between local and national communities, elder justice and aging professionals, and other stakeholders. Alycia earned her Master's Degree in Social Work (MSW) at The University of Southern California's Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work. She has a background in clinical social work, with experience providing direct support in medical and in-home settings with older adults.

## **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT C: "Adaptations for Interviewing Vulnerable Populations"**

*Kathryn Lanier, MSG*

Learn how to employ tools and techniques to overcome multiple barriers that may exist when interviewing older or disabled adults who have been victims of crime. Topics to be discussed include some of the physiological and psychological changes associated with aging, such as hearing and vision loss, speech difficulties and cognitive deficits. Explore approaches and consider additional resources that may be necessary to conduct and obtain critical information.

**Kathryn Lanier** is the Section Chief for Elder Rights and Special Initiatives at the North Carolina Division of Aging and Adult Services where she has been employed for the past nineteen years. She oversees the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, Legal Services for the Elderly, Senior Community Service Employment Program, and Consumer Fraud Protection efforts. Prior to her current position, she served as the Ombudsman Program Specialist for ten years with the Division. While in that position, Kathryn created the Strategic Alliances for Elders in Long Term Care Taskforce (S.A.F.E.-in-LTC) a multidisciplinary group of professionals focused on addressing and seeking prosecution of crimes committed in long term care facilities. This group created a comprehensive interactive course for law enforcement officers entitled "Investigating Crimes in Long Term Care Settings: Voiceless Victims." The course has been taught at the NC Justice Academy's two state campuses for the past fifteen years and several times within the state's community college system. She continues to serve as an instructor in the course and enjoys educating detectives on how they can best serve North Carolina's citizens, regardless of whether they live in the community or a facility.

Kathryn has extensive experience in the field of aging services and has worked with the spectrum of older adults--from the very active to those who are most vulnerable. She has developed and presented training to professionals and the public on a wide variety of topics ranging from Alzheimer's disease to elder abuse awareness and prevention. She earned her Master of Science Degree in Gerontology with a concentration in Public Administration from the Medical

College of Virginia/Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA and a BA in Broadcast Electronic Communication from Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI.

### **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT D: “How Banks Protect Our Most Vulnerable”**

*Peter Gwaltney*

In this presentation, Peter will address how banks protect customers from theft, fraud and exploitation schemes. He will also touch on how customers and professionals working with at-risk adults can work with banks to prevent harm and achieve better outcomes when financial harm occurs.

**Peter Gwaltney** has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of the North Carolina Bankers Association since January 2015. He is a former banker and previously served as CEO of the Louisiana Bankers Association. During his career, Peter has served on numerous committees with the American Bankers Association and currently serves on the ABA Board of Directors and Chairman of the ABA Alliance of State Bankers Associations. He is a Past Chairman of the Louisiana Governor’s Prayer Breakfast, a Past Chairman of the Graduate School of Banking at LSU and currently serves as a member of the Board of Trustees at Mary Baldwin University in Staunton, Virginia and the Dean’s Advisory Council at the School of Business at Louisiana State University. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in General Studies with an emphasis in Economics and Finance from Louisiana State University. Peter and his wife, Ginny, have six children and seven grandchildren.

### **Afternoon Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

#### **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT E: "Halt in the Name of the Law! Choosing the Right Remedy for Elder Financial Abuse"**

*Heather Whitaker Goldstein, JD*

Effectively ending elder financial abuse is a multi-disciplinary endeavor, requiring understanding of criminal and civil legal remedies, government resources, and prevention strategies. When exploitation is occurring or has occurred, victims and their family members need to understand the advantages and limitations of various legal and non-legal pathways to stop the exploitation and recover assets that have been taken. This presentation will focus on helping those victims identify the right remedy. We will also highlight specific planning and prevention strategies that every older adult should consider mitigating, to avoid the risk of ever becoming a victim.

A principal with the Van Winkle Law Firm in Asheville, North Carolina, **Heather Whitaker Goldstein** focuses her practice on incapacity planning, client advocacy, and litigation in a wide variety of situations where an elderly person is vulnerable to exploitation. Her work includes guardianship proceedings, will contests, trust modifications, estate proceedings, and civil claims brought by and against agents, trustees, and guardians on behalf of older adults. She also works pro-actively with clients to develop aging plans, and counsels clients who serve in a fiduciary capacity for an older adult. Heather serves on Buncombe County’s Elder Justice Leadership Team and on the Board of the NC Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. She is a regular speaker on the topic of planning for incapacity, helping older adults protect themselves from financial exploitation.

#### **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT F: “Racial and Diversity Inclusion in MDTs”**

*Deric J. Boston, LCSW*

This “how to” session will help local MDTs identify and address cultural/racial biases and ease reluctance to report and cooperate while encouraging participation so we may better serve our entire community with less friction.

**Deric Boston** is Senior Lecturer for the North Carolina State University School of Social Work. He earned a Bachelor of Education from the Citadel and a Master of Social Work from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Deric is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and has worked with children providing cognitive behavioral therapy, and supervised teams providing intensive family and community-based treatment youth. For most of his 17-year career as a social worker, he has worked with children and their families by providing and supervising their mental health therapies and treatments.



## **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT G: “Dementia and Abuse: What Do You Need to Know to Make a Difference?”**

*Melanie Bunn, RN, MS*

This session focuses on why people living with dementia are at high risk for abuse, identifying signs of abuse in people living with dementia, communication approaches, and strategies that reduce abuse.

**Melanie Bunn** is a nurse, teacher, trainer, speaker, coach, consultant, support group facilitator, researcher, mom, daughter and sister. She combines these roles with a love of travel and a fear of boredom to create a way of supporting herself and her family while improving the lives of people with dementia and their care partners. She is associated with Dementia Alliance of North Carolina, Teepa Snow’s Positive Approach to Care, Bunn Consulting, and Duke University School of Nursing.

Melanie received her undergraduate degree in nursing from UNC-Chapel Hill, her master’s degree from Clemson University and a Post-Master’s Gerontological Nurse Practitioner Certificate from Duke University. She is a skilled and experienced advanced practice nurse and nurse educator, conducting over 200 presentations and trainings annually to health professionals, community organizations, first responders, families and others. She has volunteered as an Alzheimer’s Support Group Facilitator for over 25 years.

## **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT H: "Accessing and Organizing Records in Elder Exploitation Cases"**

*W. Scott Harkey, Senior Financial Crimes Prosecutor, NC Conference of DAs*

Accessing and organizing records offers lessons on a variety of investigative tools for accessing business and banking records when investigating cases. This presentation will cover the methods available to investigators before and after a case has been charged. We will look at several proven methods of organizing and presenting voluminous records in the courtroom.

**W. Scott Harkey** is the Senior Financial Crimes Prosecutor with the North Carolina Conference of District Attorneys. He prosecutes complex financial crimes including embezzlement, elder exploitation, public corruption, and other white-collar matters. Scott has tried dozens of complex cases in Superior courtrooms across North Carolina. He served as lead counsel in the prosecution of some of the most notorious fraud cases in North Carolina history, including a \$269.9 million contract fraud case and the UNC Chapel-Hill Athlete Agent Scandal. Since 2018, Scott has been recognized as a Board-Certified Specialist in North Carolina criminal law by the North Carolina State Bar.

## **AFTERNOON KEYNOTE: “Trauma-Informed Care Plus Decisional-Ability Aware Interviewing”**

*Michelle H. Guarino, MSW, LCSW*

This presentation will provide training on how individuals can employ trauma-informed care when interviewing individuals who have been abused or have trauma. She will explain what trauma-informed is and how to infuse it in their work. Also, she will discuss things to look for to determine an individual’s decisional-ability awareness.

A senior lecturer for North Carolina State University’s School of Social Work, **Michelle Guarino** earned a Bachelor of Social Work from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and a Master of Social Work from New York University. Michelle is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and has worked with gang affiliated, high-risk youth and families since 1996. Michelle began her career as the Youth Intervention Counselor for the New Hanover County Sheriff/ Wilmington City Police Gang Task Force; a first of its kind position employing a civilian within a law enforcement entity to intervene with gangs, gang members and families. Michelle has developed numerous successful prevention, intervention, diversion and re-entry programs that subsequently were recognized with multiple awards and accolades. Michelle’s 23-year social work career has focused on working within the law enforcement setting and has held titles such as Division Commander, Program Director, Gang Counselor, Crisis Unit Supervisor and Crisis Negotiation Team.

## DAY THREE

### May 19, 2021

#### **MORNING KEYNOTE: "USDOJ HelpVul Pilot Project - Present and Future in North Carolina"**

*Geoffrey Rogers and Sally Reisch of Hunter College in NYC*

*Sarah Maness-Smith of NC Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)*

*John Maron of the NC Department of the Secretary of State*

This session will focus on HelpVul, a project that aims to address barriers for reporting and addressing suspected financial exploitation in North Carolina (and other locations).

Participants will:

- Come away with an enhanced understanding of the prevalence of financial exploitation among older and vulnerable adults today
- Identify relevant issues related to financial institutions reporting financial exploitation
- Talk about challenges encountered by financial institutions when they collaborate with Adult Protective Services on financial exploitation cases
- Explore past, present, and future HelpVul implementation in North Carolina
- Learn about the HelpVul project and how to get involved

**Geoff Rogers** has more than two decades of professional experience helping individuals and organizations learn, manage, change, and seize new opportunities. Prior to joining Brookdale in 2007 as director of Learning and Development, Geoff was director of operations for the New York City Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP). He has also worked in advertising, publishing, and marketing, and served as a director of special projects, director of training, and director of operations for New York City Adult Protective Services. Geoff's unusual background spanning creative industries, public administration and management consulting informs his work at Brookdale to develop learning opportunities that engage a diverse array of human services professionals. Geoff has a BA in European history and English from Colby College.

**Sally Reisch's** background is in clinical and academic research. At Brookdale, Sally coordinates a Department of Justice grant and manages a multidisciplinary team comprised of government, private sector, and financial industry partners who are working together to create a web platform to address financial exploitation of older adults. Prior to joining Brookdale, she ran a National Cancer Institute grant-funded training program at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. The program aimed to educate oncology clinicians in Meaning-Centered Psychotherapy for terminally ill patients. Sally has worked as an associate producer for an independent film company. Her BA in English is from Rutgers University.

**Sarah Maness-Smith** is the Adult Services Program Administrator for the NC Department of Health Human Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services. She is responsible for the development and delivery of training curriculum to all one hundred county Departments of Social Services adult services sections and disinterested public agent guardians. She is also responsible for the programmatic monitoring of Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funded programs in county Departments of Social Services such as Adult Protective Services, Guardianship, Special Assistance In Home case management, Medicaid Administrative Claiming and In-Home Aide certification. Prior to joining the Division, she served as Supervisor for Adult Services with Montgomery County Department of Social Services and temporary Program Manager for the Montgomery County Council on Aging. She has participated in various workgroups and committees around Adult Protective Services, Guardianship and issues affecting older and vulnerable adults. Sarah is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

**John Maron** is the Director of the Investor Protection and Education Services Program with the Securities Division of the North Carolina Department of the Secretary of State in Raleigh. He joined the Division in April 2005. Prior to this, he served five years as Director of Constituency Services for former US Senator John Edwards, three years as Human Resources Manager at Integrated Laboratory Services in Research Triangle Park, NC, and eight years as a staffer for US Representative David Price. He is a Co-Chair of the NC Senior Consumer Fraud Task Force, an Executive Committee

member of the North Carolina Partnership to Address Adult Abuse, and serves as Secretary of State Elaine Marshall's representative on the Governor's Advisory Council for Latino/Hispanic Affairs and the Governor's Financial Literacy Council. He is Vice-Chair of the Alerts and Advisories Project Group for the North American Securities Administrators Association. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is married with two daughters. Contact him at (919) 814-5560 or [jmaron@sosnc.gov](mailto:jmaron@sosnc.gov).

### **Morning Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

#### **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT A: "MDTs for Addressing Elder Abuse: Why They Matter"**

*Pamela B. Teaster, Ph.D., and Stacy Carey, Kentucky Local Elder Abuse Coordinating Council*

A nationally recognized researcher will share the numbers and more behind the success stories. These are reasons why having a local elder abuse MDT improves APS outcomes. This session will review the scholarly literature and outcomes of MDTs, providing attendees with additional support for securing commitments to undertake and participate in MDTs. Dr. Teaster will be joined by Stacy Carey, representing Kentucky's Local Elder Abuse Coordinating Councils.

Professor and the Director of the Center for Gerontology at Virginia Tech, **Pamela Teaster** is the North American Representative of the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, Immediate Past President of the Board of Trustees for the Center for Guardianship Certification and serves on the Editorial Boards of the Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect and the Journal of Trauma, Violence, and Abuse Review. Also, Dr. Teaster is a Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America and the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education and is a recipient of the Isabella Horton Grant Award for Guardianship (National College of Probate Judges), the Rosalie Wolf Award for Research on Elder Abuse (NAPSA), the Outstanding Affiliate Member Award (Kentucky Guardianship Association), and the Distinguished Educator Award (Kentucky Association for Gerontology). Former president of the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, she has received continuous funding for over 20 years from public and private sources. Her areas of scholarship include the abuse of elders and vulnerable adults, guardianship, end-of-life issues, ethical treatment of older adults, and public policy and public affairs. She has published over 200 scholarly articles, reports, and book chapters and is the editor/author of six books.

**Stacy Carey** has served as Branch Manager of Adult Protective Services in the Department for Community Based Services within the Kentucky Cabinet for Families and Children since 2019. In this position, Stacy provides support to the Adult Protective Services teams across the state through case consultation, case reviews, technical assistance, training, and development of standards of practice. Stacy has served in DCBS for 20 years and has seven years' experience working as an investigative worker for both Adult and Child Protective Services. Before being promoted to APS branch manager, she joined the branch as a field consultant in 2007.

Stacy also provides training to DCBS staff and community partners on Adult Protective Services-Kentucky Revised Statute 209. As a consultant within the branch, Stacy served as the liaison for the statewide Local Coordinating Councils on Elder Abuse. In this role, she has enabled a network of communication for the councils to share their ideas and accomplishments throughout the state. Stacy also kept the councils updated on national and state news pertaining to elder abuse prevention efforts and public awareness.

A 2000 graduate of Eastern Kentucky University with a bachelor's degree in social work, Stacy is a member of the National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA).

#### **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT B: "APS: Real Stories, Real Impact and Community Collaboration"**

*Sarah Maness-Smith, Karey Perez, and April Black of the NC DHHS*

This session will discuss the effects of APS, the importance of data collected and why community collaboration is essential. The co-presenters will discuss APS statistics and what it means as well as identify possible groups and other community members that can be involved in the fight against abuse, neglect and exploitation of older and vulnerable adults.

**Sarah Maness-Smith** is the Adult Services Program Administrator for the NC Department of Health Human Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services. She is responsible for the development and delivery of training curriculum to all one hundred county Departments of Social Services adult services sections and disinterested public agent guardians. She is also responsible for the programmatic monitoring of Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funded programs in county Departments of Social Services such as Adult Protective Services, Guardianship, Special Assistance In Home case management, Medicaid Administrative Claiming and In-Home Aide certification. Prior to joining the Division, she served as Supervisor for Adult Services with Montgomery County Department of Social Services and temporary Program Manager for the Montgomery County Council on Aging. She has participated in various workgroups and committees around Adult Protective Services, Guardianship and issues affecting older and vulnerable adults. Sarah is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

**Karey Perez** serves as Adult Services Section Chief for North Carolina's Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS). A passionate social services advocate, Karey possesses over a decade of professional, programmatic, and leadership experience in social work principles, techniques, and practices which she applies to implement viable solutions impacting community issues. She is responsible for the administration and management of the Aging and Adult Services social work programs and the Special Assistance programs administered by the 100 county Departments of Social Services (DSS). As Adult Services Section Chief, Karey ensures DSS Aging and Adult Services Programs are operated in accordance with Federal and State laws, policies and rules adopted by the Social Services Commission, and verifies exceptional service delivery to clients. Her devotion for community service is evident in her compassionate engagement with individuals and communities. An alumna of Methodist University, Karey completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology with a concentration in Clinical and Counseling.

**April Black** graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Prior to joining the Division of Aging and Adult Services team, she was a dedicated public servant in the field of social work at a county DSS for over a decade. April excels and thrives in creating innovative solutions utilizing technology and served as a lead team member in designing, developing and implementing the Division of Aging and Adult Services SharePoint site. April also serves on the Virtual Training Advisory Group providing support and guidance internally for virtual training adaptations. The efforts of this group were acknowledged during the COVID pandemic with an invitation from Microsoft to share the successful innovations in training efforts adapted by the Adult Services unit. In her free time, April enjoys serving at church, cruising and hiking at state and national parks with her husband and 5 children who range in ages from 5 - 21.

### **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT C: "Taking it to the Next Level by Establishing a Forensic Center"**

**Angela Rosato, MBA**

This session examines the forensic center as a mechanism for addressing abuse. The Riverside County Elder Abuse Forensic Center will be showcased. Specific topics will include: 1) What is an EAFC, 2) How EAFCs differ from other MDTs, 3) How the Riverside County EAFC was established, 4) Riverside County EAFC Team and Services, and 5) How EAFCs serve to improve collaboration and case outcomes.

Currently serving as the Coordinator for the Elder Abuse Forensic Center with Riverside County Department of Public Social Services, Adult Services Division, **Angela Rosato** has over 12 years of professional experience in the adult protective services field specializing in Multi-Disciplinary Team facilitation. Prior to her work with Riverside County EAFC she served as a District Coordinator for Riverside County DPSS, Adult Services Division, CARE Program (Curtailling Abuse Related to the Elderly) an award winning program which provides MDT meetings, elder abuse training, education and advocacy for elder and dependent adult victims of consumer fraud and abuse.

Angela is also a P.O.S.T. Certified Instructor and team teaches on the topic of elder and dependent adult abuse investigations at the Ben Clark Training Academy for law enforcement and provides training on EAFC related topics with her staff development unit for APS social worker induction training. Angela received her Bachelor of Arts in Sociology with an emphasis in Social Work from the California State University, San Bernardino and earned her Master's in Business Management from the University of Redlands. She also holds a Certificate in Aging from the Boston University, School of Social Work.

## **Afternoon Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

### **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT D: "The NC Experience with MDTs"**

*Shawn Hosier (Special Victims Unit-High Point Police)*

*Lori Wickline (ADA-High Point)*

*Diane Hayden (Program Manager-DHHS)*

*Heather Magill (Elder Justice Specialist Coordinator, Guilford County Family Justice Center)*

*Moderated by Meredith Smith, JD (Associate Professor, UNC School of Government)*

This session features professionals currently doing collaborative work in Guilford County, North Carolina. They discuss successes they have achieved and challenges they have overcome or are working to overcome. The group will share real life examples of how collaboration made for a better outcome.

**Detective Shawn Hosier** has been in the field of law enforcement for 24.5 years. Shawn has spent most of his career in investigations. He has been a detective with the Special Victims Unit for the past five years. The special victim unit is currently housed in the Family Justice Center. Shawn is married with two teenage sons.

[shawn.hosier@highpointnc.gov](mailto:shawn.hosier@highpointnc.gov)

**Lori Wickline** is a graduate of Elon University and West Virginia University College of Law. She began her career as a prosecutor in Alamance County in 2005 and moved to Guilford County in January 2019. Lori specializes in Special Victims' Crimes including child sexual/physical abuse, domestic violence, elder abuse, neglect and exploitation and murder cases. [Lori.L.Wickline@nccourts.org](mailto:Lori.L.Wickline@nccourts.org)

**Diane Hayden** is an Aging and Adult Service Program Manager for the Guilford County Department of Health and Human Services/ Department of Social Services. She has 15 years' experience within Aging Services each involving Multidisciplinary Team approaches to effective social work practice. Mrs. Hayden recently received LEAN Facilitator Certification through NC State University. This project demonstrated how LEAN/ Kaizen principals can be utilized in a governmental MDT setting to identify waste, form solutions adding client value, prioritize change, and maintain results. [dhayden@guilfordcountync.gov](mailto:dhayden@guilfordcountync.gov)

**Heather Magill** is the Elder Justice Specialist Coordinator at the Guilford County Family Justice Center. Heather is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Heather has experience working with specific populations including individuals experiencing homelessness, older adults, and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Heather values the collaborative process in our community which strives to help vulnerable populations live a life that is free from violence and abuse. [hmagill@guilfordcountync.gov](mailto:hmagill@guilfordcountync.gov)

**Meredith Smith** is an Associate Professor of Public Law and Government at the UNC School of Government. Her work focuses on the areas where clerks of superior court serve as judicial officials, including guardianship proceedings, power of attorney proceedings, and estate administration. She also is a co-creator of the North Carolina Elder Protection Network, available at <http://protectadults.sog.unc.edu/> and co-author of the manual, the Legal Framework for North Carolina's Elder Protection System. Prior to joining the SOG, Meredith practice law in Charlotte with the law firm of McGuireWoods LLP. She earned a BA in political science and Spanish, with distinction, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a law degree, cum laude, from Georgetown University School of Law. [meredith.smith@sog.unc.edu](mailto:meredith.smith@sog.unc.edu)

### **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT E: "Unlocking Information Sharing to Produce Better Outcomes"**

*Raj Premakumar, JD, and Aimee Wall, JD*

This session will focus on the law of information sharing as it exists today, what is permissible information to share, what information must remain confidential, and what changes might be important for North Carolina to consider producing better outcomes.



**Raj Premakumar** is an Assistant Attorney General with the North Carolina Department of Justice (NC DOJ) and represents clients from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services including the Division of Health Benefits (NC Medicaid) and the Division of Aging and Adult Services. Prior to this, he worked in the Human Services and Medical Facilities Section of NC DOJ where he represented UNC Hospitals and UNC Healthcare. Raj earned his Bachelor of Science in Public Health degree with a concentration in Health Policy and Management from UNC Chapel Hill. He earned a joint degree in law and public health (JD/MPH) from Emory University.

**Aimee Wall** joined the UNC School of Government in 2001 and currently focuses on the role of county social services agencies in protecting adults from abuse, neglect and exploitation. She was appointed senior associate dean in July 2020. Prior to assuming this administrative role, she worked in several other substantive fields of law, including public health, social services, consolidated human services, animal services and legislative education. Prior to joining the School, she practiced health care law with Powell, Goldstein, Frazer and Murphy in Washington, DC, and served as a health policy analyst in the Office of the Secretary in the US Department of Health and Human Services. She is a member of the North Carolina State Bar and the District of Columbia Bar. Aimee earned a BA in English from Ohio State University and a JD/MPH from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

### **CONCURRENT BREAKOUT F: “Taking It to the Next Level by Establishing an Elder Financial Safety Center”**

*The Honorable Brenda Hull Thompson, Judge, Julie Krawczyk, JD, and Kinsey Stango, JD*

Learn about a cutting-edge, first of its kind center leading the nation in prevention, protection, and prosecution of financial crimes; prevention of financial exploitation, frauds, and scams; and financial security of older adults. The Elder Financial Safety Center is a unique collaboration between The Senior Source, Dallas County Probate Courts, and Dallas County District Attorney’s Office serving over 25,000 clients and victims with a financial impact of \$120 million, 500 protected incapacitated adults 50+, and 1,500 indictments of elder abuse. Engage with others on how a Center can exist in any community using models designed by Center leadership, develop a comprehensive, coordinated services plan approach, learn how to build strategic alliances, and track data that demonstrates impact.

*Objective 1:* Learn how to adapt the financial safety center model to any community addressing elder financial abuse.

*Objective 2:* Develop resources and learn concepts to help older adults become and stay financially secure.

*Objective 3:* Learn how to build strategic partnerships to combat the Crime of the 21st Century and how data can help.

**Brenda Hull Thompson** is the Presiding Judge of The Probate Court of Dallas County, Texas. She was elected in 2010 after more than twenty years of service in Texas to the community in civil practice and in mediation. Her civil practice focused on estate administration, guardianship administration and family law. In addition, she has been an adjunct professor at Texas Wesleyan School of Law, teaching mediation and arbitration. Prior to moving to Texas, she was a senior Staff attorney in the Office of the General Counsel for the Federal Trade Commission in Washington, D. C. She has made numerous presentations to local bar association sections and community groups and she has received numerous awards for her pro bono and public service activities pertaining to elderly and/or disabled persons, low income persons, and children.

Judge Thompson received her J.D. degree from Georgetown University Law School, Washington, D. C., a M. A. degree from Boston University, and a B. S. degree from the University of Maryland. She has attended the Harvard University Negotiation Program. She is a member of the Dallas Bar Association and is licensed to practice law in Texas state courts, in the U. S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania (inactive), and the District of Columbia Court of Appeals (inactive).

Judge Thompson is the Local Administrative Judge for the Dallas County Probate Courts and she is the Presiding Judge for the Dallas County Probate Courts. She is the first elected African American Probate Judge in the State of Texas.

She is one of the co-authors on the O’Connor’s Estates Code Plus for 2014-2015, the O’Connor’s Estates Code Plus for 2013-2014 and the O’Connor’s Probate Code for 2012-2013. She is a member of the Executive Committee of the National College of Probate Judges and is a member of the Texas Bar Foundation.



**Julie Krawczyk** is the director of the Elder Financial Safety Center leading the nation in the prevention, protection, and prosecution of financial crimes and prevention of financial exploitation, frauds, and scams. She oversees operations for the first of its kind Center, a unique collaboration between The Senior Source, Dallas County Probate Courts, and Dallas County District Attorney's Office serving over 25,000 clients and victims with a financial impact of \$123 million, 500 protected incapacitated adults 50+, and 1,500 indictments of elder abuse. Employed by The Senior Source helping all older adults to THRIVE since 1961, she leads a 12-member team with a \$1.5M budget.

Leveraging human, organizational, and institutional capital to tackle major projects, Julie is recognized for her energy, wit, candor, and collaborative and strategic leadership. She holds a Master of Arts in Management from Dallas Baptist University and B.S. in Psychology and English from Southern Vermont College.

**Kinsey Stango** is an Assistant District Attorney in Dallas County currently assigned to the Elder Abuse Unit. The Unit prosecutes cases of financial and physical abuse of vulnerable adults. During her time at the DA's office, she has served in several divisions including organized crime, mental health, and the felony trial division. Prior to joining the DA's Office in 2015, Kinsey worked as a criminal defense attorney. Kinsey graduated cum laude, from the Dedman School of Law at Southern Methodist University, receiving her J.D. in 2013. Kinsey graduated cum laude from the University of Texas at Austin before attending SMU.

**AFTERNOON KEYNOTE: "Let Me Gamble and Drink in Peace – A Case Study and Discussion of Self-Determination, Alcohol and Substance Abuse and 'Soft Tools' to Prevent and Address Elder Abuse"**

*Abby L. Adams, JD*

*Paula Kohut, JD*

*Shevel Mavins, MSW*

*Moderated by Meredith Smith, JD*

In the absence of capacity issues, being an older adult does not preclude one from the right of self-determination and ability to engage in conduct of which children or other family members do not approve. This presentation will discuss the balance of an older adult's independence while protecting them from actions that can be harmful. We will also discuss potential resolutions, including family settlements and guardianships, as well as procedural difficulties with each.

**Abby L. Adams** is a shareholder at Kohut and Adams, P.A., in Wilmington, North Carolina. Her principal practice areas are estate planning, trust and estate administration, business law and asset protection. Abby also helps clients with elder law matters, including Medicaid long-term care planning, special needs planning, and guardianships. She is a member of the Estate Planning and Fiduciary Law and Elder and Special Needs Law Sections of the North Carolina Bar Association as well as a member of the National LGBT Bar Association. She is Co-Chair, Fiduciary Litigation Committee, Estate Planning and Fiduciary Law Section, North Carolina Bar Association. She received her B.A. degree from Ferris State University and her J.D. degree from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. She is a member of the Board of the New Hanover County Estate Planning Council.

**Paula A. Kohut** is a shareholder at Kohut and Adams, PA, in Wilmington, North Carolina where she focuses her practice on trust and estate planning and administration, non-profits and business law. She received her B.A. degree, from the University of California at Irvine and her J.D. degree, with honors, from Wake Forest University School of Law. She is a Fellow in the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, Secretary and Council Member of the Estate Planning and Fiduciary Law Section of the North Carolina Bar Association, Council Member of the North Carolina Governor's Advisory Council on Aging, Commission Member of the North Carolina Commission on Inclusion, and Board Member of St. Jude's Wilmington Foundation, Inc.

**Shevel Mavins** is the founder of Addiction-Prevention, LLC, where she provides training on substance use, mental health, and wellness. Also, she works as a social worker in Adult Services for the Department of Social Services, where she investigates cases of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older adults. The next 20 years of her career she worked as an addiction clinician and other behavioral health therapist. With her experience working in a dually diagnosed inpatient and outpatient treatment program, which lead her to work as a New York State Certified Education and Training Provider. She worked as a Family and Adolescent therapist in the Upstate New York school district. She also has experience working with the Federal Parole system, New York State Parole system, and the local criminal court for the

prisoner re-entry programs. She earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from Le Moyne College, attended Syracuse University's dual graduate program in Rehabilitation Counseling and School Counseling, and earned her master's degree in counseling with specialization in addiction and mental health disorders from Capella University. Before moving to North Carolina, she started her career working as a therapist in a hospital in Upstate New York.

**Meredith Smith** is an Associate Professor of Public Law and Government at the UNC School of Government. Her work focuses on the areas where clerks of superior court serve as judicial officials, including guardianship proceedings, power of attorney proceedings, and estate administration. She also is a co-creator of the North Carolina Elder Protection Network, available <http://protectadults.sog.unc.edu/> and co-author of the manual, the Legal Framework for North Carolina's Elder Protection System. Prior to joining the SOG, Meredith practice law in Charlotte with the law firm of McGuireWoods LLP. She earned a BA in political science and Spanish, with distinction, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a law degree, cum laude, from Georgetown University School of Law.

