# **Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)/ Community Engagement Conference**

Prevention of Violent Extremism: Foreign Fighters at Home and Abroad



Biographies Keynote Speakers and Panelists

National Counterterrorism Center - Countering Violent Extremism & Community Engagement Conference | November 18th & 19th 2014

# DAY I – Foreign Terrorist Fighter Recruitment & Flow: Domestic & International Impacts & Strategies

### **Welcoming Remarks**

November 18th - 8:35-8:45 am



### Lieutenant General Bennet S. Sacolick

Director, Directorate of Strategic Operational Planning, NCTC

Bennet Sacolick was promoted to Lieutenant General and assumed duties as the Director for Strategic Operational Planning at the National Counterterrorism Center on 14 April 2014.

He began his military service by enlisting in the United States Army in 1981 and was assigned to 2nd Ranger Battalion prior to attending Officer Candidate School. He was commissioned as an Infantry Officer in June 1982.

His military education is consistent with that of a career Special Forces officer and includes graduating from the Defense Language Institute (Spanish), a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from San Francisco

State University, a Master's in Administration from Central Michigan University and completion of the National Clandestine Services Graduate Studies program while serving as an Army Fellow at the Central Intelligence Agency.

Lieutenant General Sacolick has more than 30 years as a special operator and has commanded Special Operations Forces at the detachment, troop, squadron, group, task force, and division level.

He has completed tours with the 2nd Ranger Battalion at Fort Lewis, WA; 1st Battalion, 509th Airborne Battalion Combat Team in Vicenza, Italy; 3rd Battalion and the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) in Panama. He was a Military Advisor in El Salvador and served more than 12 years in the 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment – Delta, culminating as both the unit and Task Force Commander during Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. General Sacolick also served as both the Deputy and Commanding General of the United States Army's John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School.

His staff assignments include serving as the Chief of Current Operations at the Joint Special Operations Command, Deputy Director for Defense at the CIA's Counter Terrorism Center and Director of Force Management & Development at the United States Special Operations Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida.

He has participated in combat operations in El Salvador, Peru, Colombia, and Named Operations; JUST CAUSE (Panama), DESERT STORM (Middle East), TF RANGER (Somalia), JOINT ENDEAVOR (Bosnia), ENDURING FREEDOM (Afghanistan), and IRAQI FREEDOM.

Bennet and his wife, Joyce, are happily married and consider Fayetteville North Carolina their home.

# Keynote Speaker

November 18th - 8:45-9:15 am



#### Rand Beers

Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Homeland Security Advisor

Rand Beers currently serves as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Homeland Security Advisor on the National Security Council Staff of the White House.

Prior to this position, Mr. Beers was the Acting Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Previously he served as Acting Deputy Secretary from May 2013 until September 2013. In June 2009, Rand Beers was nominated by President Barack Obama and confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve as the Under Secretary for the National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD) at the DHS, where he has led NPPD's integrated efforts to reduce risks to physical, cyber and communications infrastructures.

Throughout his service at DHS, prior to becoming Acting Secretary, Rand Beers was a trusted advisor to the Secretary of Homeland Security, providing invaluable counsel and guidance on a wide spectrum of homeland security issues, from counterterrorism efforts to cybersecurity.

During his tenure at DHS before becoming the Acting Secretary, he concurrently served as the Department's Counterterrorism Coordinator, overseeing departmental operational and policy functions to prevent, respond to, and mitigate threats to U.S. national security from acts of terrorism. Before serving in DHS, he was the co-chair of the DHS Transition Team for the incoming Obama Administration.

Prior to the Obama Administration, Rand Beers was the President of the National Security Network, a network of experts seeking to foster discussion of progressive national security ideas around the country, and an Adjunct Lecturer at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

Mr. Beers served on the National Security Council Staff under four Presidents as Director for Counter-terrorism and Counter-narcotics (1988-1992), Director for Peacekeeping (1993-1995), Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Intelligence Programs (1995-1998), and Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Combating Terrorism (2002-2003). He resigned from the NSC Staff in March 2003 and retired from government service in April 2003. Following his departure, he served as national security advisor for the Kerry campaign (2003-2004).

Rand Beers began his professional career as a Marine Corps officer and rifle company commander in Vietnam (1964-1968). He entered the Foreign Service in 1971 and transferred to the Civil Service in 1983. He served most of his career in the Department of State, including as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Regional Affairs in the Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs, focusing on the Middle East and Persian Gulf (1992-1993). He was Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (1998-2002).

Mr. Beers earned a bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College and a master's degree from the University of Michigan.

# Panel #1: Foreign Terrorist Fighter Flow: 5Ws

November 18th - 9:15 - 10:30 am

This panel will discuss the sources, recruitment, motivations, destinations, financing, and facilitation of foreign fighters to frame future discussions. Panelists will focus on the effects of social media and technology.



Brette Steele (Moderator)

Senior Counsel, Office of the Deputy Attorney General

Brette Steele serves as Senior Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General and coordinates the Department of Justice's efforts to counter violent extremism. Steele also chairs the Department of Justice Arab- and Muslim-American Engagement Advisory Committee and Vice Chairs the Attorney General's Advisory Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities. Before joining the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, she coordinated Departmental CVE policy through the Office of Legal Policy.

Steele graduated with a B.A. from University of California, Berkeley, and a J.D. from UCLA School of Law. Following law school, she clerked for Judge Dorothy W. Nelson on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the

Ninth Circuit and worked as an associate in the Supreme Court and Appellate Group of Mayer Brown LLP.



#### Matthew Levitt

Director, Stein Program on Counterterrorism and Intelligence, Fromer-Wexler Fellow, Washington Institute for Near East Policy

Matthew Levitt is the Fromer-Wexler fellow and director of The Washington Institute's Stein Program on Counterterrorism and Intelligence. From 2005 to early 2007, he served as deputy assistant secretary for intelligence and analysis at the U.S. Department of the Treasury. In that capacity, he served both as a senior official within the department's terrorism and financial intelligence branch and as deputy chief of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis, one of sixteen U.S. intelligence agencies coordinated under the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. During his tenure at Treasury, Dr. Levitt played a central role in efforts to protect the U.S. financial system from abuse and to deny terrorists, weapons proliferators, and other rogue actors the

ability to finance threats to U.S. national security. In 2008-2009, he served as a State Department counterterrorism advisor to the special envoy for Middle East regional security (SEMERS), General James L. Jones.

From 2001 to 2005, Dr. Levitt served the Institute as founding director of its Terrorism Research Program (now renamed as above), which was established in the wake of the September 11 attacks. Previously, he served as a counterterrorism intelligence analyst at the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), where he provided tactical and strategic analytical support for counterterrorism operations, focusing on fundraising and logistical support networks for Middle Eastern terrorist groups. During his FBI service, Dr. Levitt participated as a team member in a number of crisis situations, including the terrorist threat surrounding the turn of the millennium and the September 11 attacks. He has earned numerous awards and commendations for his government service at both the FBI and the Treasury Department.

Dr. Levitt holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Yeshiva University, as well as a master's degree in law and diplomacy and a doctorate from Tufts University's Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. He was a graduate research fellow at Harvard Law School's Program on Negotiation and has taught at both Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies and Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Levitt has served as an expert witness in several criminal and civil cases, lectured on international terrorism on behalf of the Departments of State, Justice, Defense, and Homeland Security, consulted for various U.S. government agencies and private industry, and testified before the Senate and House on matters relating to international terrorism. He has held fellowships with the Combating Terrorism Center (CTC) at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and the Homeland Security Policy Institute at the George Washington University, is a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and serves as a member of the international advisory board for both the Institute for Counter-Terrorism in Israel and the International Centre for Political Violence & Terrorism Research in Singapore.

Dr. Levitt has written extensively on terrorism, countering violent extremism, illicit finance and sanctions, the Middle East, and Arab-Israeli peace negotiations, with articles appearing in peer-reviewed journals, policy magazines, and the press, including the Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, and numerous other publications. He is also a frequent guest on the national and international media, and the author of several books and monographs, including Hamas: Politics, Charity and Terrorism in the Service of Jihad (Yale University Press, 2006), Negotiating Under Fire: Preserving Peace Talks in the Face of Terror Attacks (Rowman & Littlefield, 2008), and Hezbollah: The Global Footprint of Lebanon's Party of God (Georgetown University Press, 2013).



### Frank Cilluffo

Associate Vice President & Director, Homeland Security Policy Institute, the George Washington University

Frank J. Cilluffo is an Associate Vice President at The George Washington University where he leads a number of national security and cyber security policy and research initiatives. Cilluffo directs the inter-disciplinary Homeland Security Policy Institute (HSPI), is co-director of GW's Cyber Center for National and Economic Security and along with the School of Business, launched the university's World Executive MBA in Cybersecurity program. He also directs a new University-wide strategic

effort, the Cybersecurity Initiative on policy, research and education chaired by Judge Michael Chertoff.

Cilluffo is routinely called upon to advise senior officials in the Executive Branch, US Armed Services, and State and Local governments on an array of national and homeland security strategy and policy matters. He also frequently briefs Congressional committees and their staffs and has testified before Congress over 25 times at high profile hearings on counterterrorism, cyber threats, security and deterrence, weapons proliferation, organized crime, intelligence and threat assessment, as well as emergency management, border and transportation security. Similarly, he works with US allies and organizations such as NATO and Europol. He has presented at a number of bi-lateral and multi-lateral summits on cybersecurity and countering Islamist terrorism, including the UN Security Council.

Cilluffo has published extensively in academic, law, business, and policy journals, and magazines and newspapers worldwide, including: ABC News, Foreign Policy, The Journal of International Security Affairs, The National Interest, Parameters, Politico, Studies in Conflict and Terrorism, USA Today, US News & World Report, The Washington Quarterly and the Washington Post. He currently serves on the editorial advisory board for Military and Strategic Affairs and routinely acts as a reviewer for other publications and for grant-making foundations.

Cilluffo serves or has served on various national security-related committees sponsored by the US government and non-profit organizations, including the Homeland Security Advisory Council, where he served as the Vice Chairman of the Future of Terrorism Task Force, chaired by Congressman Lee Hamilton. Cilluffo also served as a member of the Secure Borders and Open Doors Advisory Committee, Defense Science Board committees and summer studies, and along with Norm Augustine, chaired the first Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Advisory Council. He continues to remain active in the non-profit, educational and think tank communities serving on various committees and panels. His current leadership positions include serving on the National Council of Advisors for the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress and as chairman of the National Consortium for Advanced Policing.

Cilluffo joined GW in 2003, establishing HSPI as a prominent nonpartisan "think and do tank" dedicated to the building bridges between theory and practice to advance US security. HSPI has hosted numerous Cabinet Members and agency directors, military and law enforcement officers, Members of Congress, diplomats, business executives and academics and has issued dozens of reports that are widely cited by media, research institutions, think tanks and governments.

Prior to joining GW, Cilluffo served as Special Assistant to the President for Homeland Security. Immediately following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, Cilluffo was appointed by President George W. Bush to the newly created Office of Homeland Security. During his tenure at The White House, he was involved in a wide range of counterterrorism and homeland security strategy and policy initiatives, served as a principal advisor to Governor Tom Ridge, and directed the President's Homeland Security Advisory Council.

Before his White House appointment, Cilluffo spent eight years in senior policy positions with the Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS), a Washington-based think tank. At CSIS, he chaired or directed numerous committees and task forces on homeland defense, counterterrorism, transnational organized crime, as well as information warfare and information assurance.



### William Braniff

Executive Director, START, University of Maryland

William Braniff is the Executive Director at START. He previously served as the Director of Practitioner Education and an Instructor at West Point's Combating Terrorism Center (CTC). There he led the practitioner education program, the nation's largest provider of counterterrorism education to federal, state and local governmental audiences. Braniff is a graduate of the United States Military Academy where he received his bachelor's degree. Following his Company Command as an Armor Officer in the U.S. Army, Braniff attended the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) where he received a master's degree in international relations. Upon graduation, Bill worked in the nuclear counterterrorism field at the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration, and as a

research associate with the CTC Harmony Project at West Point. Braniff lectures frequently for counterterrorism audiences including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Joint Special Operations University, National Defense University, the United States Attorneys' Office and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. In June of 2013, he testified before Congress on American attitudes towards terrorism and counterterrorism. Braniff has also taken a keen interest in the field of Countering Violent Extremism (CVE). He has consulted with the Department of Justice, the FBI and the National Security Staff, playing a key role in an interagency working group dedicated to the topic. Braniff is also heavily involved in public education. His speaking engagements include several Council on Foreign Relations and World Affairs Council events in cities around the country. In May of 2010, Bill took part in the National September 11th Museum and Memorial Speaker Series and is featured in the Museum's educational webcast series. He has been interviewed on numerous occasions by National Public Radio, the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times, and by a host of additional international, national and local print and radio media outlets.

# Keynote Speaker

November 18th - 10:30-11:00 am



# Congressman Michael T. McCaul

Chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security

Congressman Michael T. McCaul is serving in his fifth term representing Texas' 10th District in the United States Congress and in January 2013 he became Chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security. As Chairman his top priorities are to address the al Qaeda-Hezbollah terrorist threat, border security, cyber security and fixing the Department of Homeland Security to ensure it is capable of carrying out its core mission of protecting the homeland. In addition, Chairman McCaul will work to make the nation's airport security system smarter and more efficient.

During the 112th Congress, McCaul served as Chairman of the Oversight, Investigations and Management Subcommittee, which has oversight of all Department of Homeland Security operations.

Hailing from a border state, Chairman McCaul has been a leader in border security since he entered Congress in 2005. In November 2012, McCaul authored the second edition of his report "A Line in the Sand: Confronting Crime, Violence and Terror at the Southwest Border", which revealed the increased presence of Iran and Hezbollah in Latin America and their relationships with drug cartels that control smuggling routes into the United States.

Congressman McCaul has helped to secure three Unmanned Aerial Vehicles for Texas to provide law enforcement better border surveillance. He has taken the lead in identifying existing Department of Defense technologies that have proven successful in Iraq and Afghanistan, for use along the Southwest border without duplicating research and development, ultimately saving taxpayers money and making the equipment operational more quickly.

Congressman McCaul is a leader on cyber security policy. He co-chaired the Center for Strategic and International Studies' (CSIS) Commission on Cybersecurity for the 44th President, which presented cyber security recommendations to President Obama's administration upon taking office in 2009. In 2012 McCaul authored the Cyber Security Enhancement Act, which passed the House, and would help harden federal networks, improve coordination inside and outside of government, improve research and development as well as the quality of our cyber workforce. With a high concentration of high tech companies in his district, McCaul has cultivated a relationship with the high tech community from Austin to Washington to Silicon Valley and has worked to include industry in shaping cyber security policy in order to promote information sharing and protect critical infrastructure.

Prior to Congress, Michael McCaul served as Chief of Counter-Terrorism and National Security in the U.S. Attorney's office, Western District of Texas, and led the Joint Terrorism Task Force. He served as Texas Deputy Attorney General under current U.S. Senator John Cornyn, and served as a federal prosecutor in the Department of Justice's Public Integrity Section in Washington, D.C.

McCaul earned a B.A. in Business and History from Trinity University and holds a J.D. from St. Mary's University School of Law. He is a graduate of the Senior Executive Fellows Program of the School of Government, Harvard University.

# Foreign Fighters Community Awareness Briefing

November 18th - 11:15-12:00



# Seamus Hughes

Policy Staffer, National Counterterrorism Center

Seamus Hughes is policy staffer in the Countering Violent Extremism Group of the National Counterterrorism Center. He helps coordinate and lead USG efforts to partner with State and Local governments, and communities to counter violent extremism. Previously, Seamus served as the Senior Counterterrorism Advisor on the U.S. Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. In that capacity, he advised on international and domestic terrorism issues with a focus on the use of the internet for radicalization and recruitment of terrorists. Seamus was a lead investigator and contributor to the bipartisan Congressional report entitled A Ticking Time Bomb:

Counterterrorism Lessons from the U.S. Government's Failure to Prevent the Fort Hood Attack. He is also the author of a congressional report entitled Zachary Chesser: A Case Study in Online Islamist Radicalization and Its Meaning for the Threat of Homegrown Terrorism. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland and was a Senior Fellow at the George Washington University Homeland Security Policy Institute.



### Irfan Saeed

Senior Policy Advisor, U.S. Department of Homeland Security,

Irfan Saeed currently serves as a Senior Policy Advisor, in the US Department of Homeland Security, Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. Mr. Saeed advises DHS leadership on policy issues at the intersection of civil rights and homeland security, developing and coordinating activities relating to countering violent extremism. Prior to joining Homeland Security, Mr. Saeed worked as a criminal prosecutor, at the state and federal level. Mr. Saeed worked as an Assistant United States Attorney, US Department of Justice, in the Eastern District of Louisiana, as well as an Assistant District Attorney, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

During his federal employment, Mr. Saeed has also worked extensively overseas. He served as the Resident Legal Advisor in two US Embassies- in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, and Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. In addition, while deployed to the US Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan, he was tasked to develop the Community Engagement Office, the first of its kind in U.S. Embassies worldwide, to use traditional public diplomacy tools to counter violent extremism (CVE) in Pakistan.

Mr. Saeed is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Academy, College of Analytical Studies, Quantico, Virginia; Loyola University School of Law, and Louisiana State University.

# U.S. International Media Strategy to Counter Extremist Influences in Syria/Iraq

November 18th - 1:30-2:00 pm



#### Robert Bole

Director of Global Strategy, Broadcasting Board of Governors

Robert Bole is the Director of Global Strategy, managing, supervising and directing the Office of Digital Design and Innovation, the Office of Strategy and Development, the Office of Performance Review and the Office of Policy.

Prior to this role, he served as Director of Innovation, where he leads the agency's use of technology to improve storytelling, news delivery and crisis response. He directs the agency's digital strategy and works with journalists to apply innovation in their digital media products, with a particular focus on opportunities that engage and connect audiences.

Before coming to the BBG in 2011, Bole served as the vice president of Digital Media Strategies at the Corporation for Public Broadcasting where he helped lead the creation of a unified digital distribution platform across television, radio and mobile content. He also created and executed a strategy to improve public media's use of social media as a means of engaging citizens in journalism, civic dialogue and education. Prior to that, Bole worked for the One Economy Corporation, a global non-profit organization that leverages the power of technology in underserved communities around the world.

Bole received a B.A. in Economics from George Washington University and a Masters in City Planning from the University of Pennsylvania. He is a frequent speaker at technology and media events such as SXSW, FedScoop, CES and Tech@State, and was an Executive in Residence at Wharton. He has led teams to such successes as a Webby Business Award in 2003 and an Online News Association Award in 2012.



# Brian Conniff

President of the Middle East Broadcasting Networks, Inc.

Brian T. Conniff is President of the Middle East Broadcasting Networks, Inc. (MBN), broadcasting news and information in Arabic to the Middle East. As President of MBN, Conniff oversees the operation of the popular radio network Radio Sawa, as well as, two television channels: Alhurra and Alhurra-Iraq. According to international research firms such as ACNielsen, Alhurra and Radio Sawa have an unduplicated weekly reach of more than 29 million people in the Middle East. Sponsored by the U.S. Government, MBN's mission is to broadcast accurate, timely and relevant news and information about the region, the world and the United States to a broad, Arabic-speaking audience.

Prior to joining MBN, Conniff was the Executive Director of the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), the U.S. Government agency that oversees all U.S-funded, non-military international broadcasting. The BBG is headed by a part-time, bipartisan board of governors. As Executive Director, Conniff served as the agency's senior management official responsible for implementing the policy decisions of the BBG. He directed the agency's strategic planning, budget formulation and allocation process, and provided oversight and coordination of all U.S.-funded international broadcasting entities — Voice of America, Office of Cuba Broadcasting (Radio/TV Marti), Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Radio Free Asia, Middle East Broadcasting Networks (Radio Sawa/Alhurra TV), and the International Broadcasting Bureau.

From 1999 to 2002 Conniff served as the acting director of the International Broadcasting Bureau (IBB). In this capacity Conniff was responsible for the day-to-day management of bureau activities, including the operations of the Voice of America, Radio and TV Marti, and a worldwide engineering and transmission network. During his tenure, IBB made the transition from a radio-based organization to a multi-media enterprise, significantly expanding the use of the Internet and television. This modernization of the BBG's delivery systems resulted in significantly increased audiences for U.S. international broadcasting.

Before joining the BBG, Conniff was the Inspector General for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty from 1989 to 1995. Conniff previously worked for the U.S. Information Agency and the U.S. General Accountability Office.

# Panel #2: Employing CVE to the Foreign Fighter Problem Internationally – Prevention and Counter-Recruitment

November 18th - 2:00 - 3:15 pm

Representatives from U.S. efforts to combat foreign fighters will discuss current efforts to counter this phenomenon, CVE best practices, and lessons learned.



#### AMB Robert A. Bradtke (Moderator)

Senior Advisor for Partner Engagement on Syria Foreign Fighters

Ambassador Robert Bradtke serves as Senior Advisor for Partner Engagement on Syria Foreign Fighters. He is responsible for leading Department of State and inter-agency efforts in engaging with foreign partners to prevent and interdict foreign extremist travel to Syria. Mr. Bradtke brings to this position in the Bureau of Counterterrorism more than forty years of experience in dealing with foreign policy and national security issues, including service in a series of senior positions in the State Department and on the National Security Council staff.

A career Foreign Service Officer, Mr. Bradtke joined the State Department in 1973. His first overseas assignments were Georgetown, Guyana and Zagreb, Yugoslavia. Returning to Washington in 1978, he served in the Office of Eastern European Affairs and as an American Political Science Association Congressional Fellow, working in the offices of Senator Charles Mathias and then-Congressman Dick Cheney. In 1983, he was posted to Moscow and then to Bonn. From 1990 to 1994, Mr. Bradtke worked in the Department of State's Bureau of Legislative Affairs, becoming Deputy Assistant Secretary in 1992.

In August 1994, Secretary of State Warren Christopher selected Mr. Bradtke as his Executive Assistant. Upon completing that assignment in 1996, Mr. Bradtke served for three years as Deputy Chief of Mission at the American Embassy in London. In July 1999, President Clinton appointed Mr. Bradtke as Executive Secretary of the National Security Council. He remained in that position under President Bush, until August 2001. From September 2001 through 2005, Mr. Bradtke served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for European Affairs, responsible for European security issues. From 2006 to 2009, he was the United States Ambassador to Croatia. Following his retirement in 2009, he was asked by Secretary Clinton to serve as the United States Co-Chair of the OSCE Minsk Group. He worked in that capacity for more than three years as a mediator assisting the parties to find a peaceful settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. In 2013, he served as head of the U.S. delegation to the OSCE Human Dimension meeting.

A native of Chicago, Mr. Bradtke completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Notre Dame, including spending a year in the University's foreign studies program in Angers, France. He did graduate work at the Bologna Center of the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and at the University of Virginia, He has three times been the recipient of the Department of State's Superior Honor Award, and in 2001 and 2009 received Presidential Meritorious Service Awards from President Bush and President Obama for sustained superior accomplishment in the conduct of foreign policy and public service.



#### Eric Geelan

Deputy Director, International Security Operations, Pol/Mil Bureau, U.S. Department of State

Eric Geelan is a Foreign Service Officer with the Department of State. Eric joined the Department in 2012, and is currently working in the State Department's Bureau of Political Military Affairs. From 2011 to summer 2014, Eric served as the head of the Political Military team at Embassy London. In that capacity, he led the Embassy's Countering Violent Extremism efforts in partnership with the Embassy's Public Affairs Office. Prior to that Eric served in Panama as Deputy Political Counselor, in Jerusalem as Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer, and Caracas as a Political and Counselor Officer. He is married and has two sons.



#### Daniel Kimmage

Group Director for Digital Presence, Center for Strategic Counterterrorism Communications, U.S. Department of State

Daniel Kimmage is the Group Director for Digital Presence at the U.S. State Department's Center for Strategic Counterterrorism Communications. He received his undergraduate education at the State University of New York at Binghamton and earned an M.A. in Russian and Islamic history from Cornell University. From 2003 to 2008, Kimmage was a regional analyst at Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. In 2008-2010, Kimmage was a Senior Fellow at the Homeland Security Policy Institute. Kimmage's published reports on extremist media strategies include Iraqi Insurgent

Media: The War of Images and Ideas (co-author, 2007), The Al-Qaeda Media Nexus (author, 2008), and Al-Qaeda Central and the Internet (author, 2010).



#### Damon Stevens

Chief, Middle East Group, National Counterterrorism Center

Damon currently serves as the Chief of the Middle East Group within the National Counterterrorism Center's (NCTC) Strategic Operational Planning Directorate, where he leads the Center's efforts to develop and integrate whole-of-government regional counterterrorism strategies and actions. Damon has long been associated with NCTC's Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Group, a team he helped standup in 2007 to lead the coordination and integration of US Government counter-radicalization policies and initiatives (both overseas and domestically). From 2010-2012 Damon was detailed to the Department of Defense where he served as a Fellow and then Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, as well as leading OSD's Global Strategic Engagement Team (GSET). In this role, Damon worked

with senior DoD leaders and advised Under Secretaries Michele Flournoy and Jim Miller on numerous defense policy efforts ranging from countering extremism, U.S. policy responses to the 'Arab Spring', Asia, and most importantly, the coordination and implementation of strategic communication policy and plans. Prior to joining NCTC, Damon served as a Foreign Affairs Officer in the U.S. Department of State, where he focused on the development and implementation of policies and projects to counter religion-based discrimination within the Middle East and Africa regions. Previously, Damon litigated complex commercial and securities law cases in Chicago with the international law firm of Baker McKenzie LLP and served as an Officer in the US. Marine Corps, where he deployed to Iraq and Kuwait in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He started his professional career as an aide to U.S. Senator Connie Mack in Florida and holds academic degrees from Georgetown University, the U.S. Naval War College, Michigan State University, and most importantly, the University of Florida.



#### CPT Robert McQueen

92nd Civil Affairs Battalion

CPT McQueen was born in Sun Valley, ID on September 20th, 1981. He enlisted in the Idaho National Guard in 2004 and was assigned to A CO, 116th Engineer BN, 116th Cavalry BDE, Post Falls Idaho. In 2006 he graduated with a Bachelor's of Science from the University of Idaho and Commissioned as an Armor Officer through R.O.T.C. CPT McQueen was assigned to 1st PLT (RECON), C Company, 1st Squadron 33rd Cavalry, 3rd Brigade Combat Team (Rakkasans), 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). CPT McQueen deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2007-2008 as a Dismounted Reconnaissance Platoon Leader. In October of 2008 CPT McQueen was assigned to A Co, 1/33 CAV where he served as the Executive Officer. In

2010 CPT McQueen attended the Civil Affairs Qualification Course (SOF) and upon completion was assigned to Civil Affairs Team 211, 95th Civil Affairs Brigade (A). From January 2012- October 2012 he deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, conducting Village Stability Operations under Special Operations Task Force-Southeast. In December 2012 CPT McQueen was assigned to Civil Affairs Team 222. October 2013-August 2014 CAT 222 deployed in support of Special Operations Command Europe as the Civil Military Support Element to Bosnia & Herzegovina. As the element OIC, CPT McQueen worked with international agencies, Bosnian Military and Counter Terrorism forces, and Interagency Partners to mitigate Civil Vulnerabilities and Counter Violent Extremism.

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CPT McQueen's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (IOLC), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Department of State Meritorious Honor Award, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal (IOLC), Afghanistan Campaign Medal (IOLC), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon(3), NATO Medal, Combat Action Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, Basic Parachutist Badge, the Chilean Parachutist Badge, and the Peruvian Parachutist Badge.

CPT McQueen's military education includes Armor Officer Basic Course, Army Reconnaissance Course(Scout Leaders Course), Airborne School, Air Assault School, Infantry Captains Career Course, Advanced Short Range Marksmanship, Long Range Designated Marksman, Pathfinder School, Special Operations Language Course in Mandarin Chinese, Civil Affairs Qualification Course (SOF), SERE C(High Risk), SERE 211 (Specialized SERE), Anti-Terrorism Force Protection (LVL 2), USAID District Stability Framework, FEMA Civil Defense Officer Course, Gryphon Group's Mobile Military Force Protection Course, Surveillance Detection, Advanced Negotiation Training Course, Interagency Integration Training, and Advanced Off Road Mobility.

# Panel #3: Foreign Terrorist Fighters and the Homeland and Domestic CVE Resilience Strategies

November 18th - 2:45-4:15 pm

This panel will examine the effect on the homeland of the recruitment and departure of foreign fighters, the potential dangers inherent in their eventual return to the US, and strategies to address these including Community Resilience Exercises, and Awareness Briefings.



David Gersten (Moderator)

Coordinator for Countering Violent Extremism, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

David Gersten is a Senior Executive in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) serving as the Department's Coordinator for Countering Violent Extremism (CVE). David was named CVE Coordinator in July, 2014 by DHS Deputy Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas and serves as the CVE point of contact for interaction with the White House, Congress, and interagency and international partners. David provides unity of effort for the Department's ongoing CVE policy formation, strategic CVE activities, CVE support activities and CVE-relevant activities.

From 2006-2014, David served as Director of the Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Programs Branch in the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. He was responsible for promoting respect for civil rights and civil liberties in policy creation and implementation by advising Department leadership and personnel, and state and local partners. Gersten led efforts to communicate with individuals and communities whose civil rights and civil liberties may be affected by DHS activities, informing them about policies and avenues of redress, and promoting appropriate attention within the Department to their experiences and concerns.

Before joining DHS he held a variety of leadership roles in government, private sector and non-profit organizations. Mr. Gersten's work included education, immigration and assimilation policy making; human resources, recruitment and training for a data communications industry leader; and nationwide efforts to identify, train and place young people in public policy positions. Gersten is a native of Denver, Colorado and is the proud parent of five children, including eleven year old triplets.



Andrew Luger

The United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota

Andrew M. Luger was formally nominated by President Obama on November 21, 2013, unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate on February 12, 2014, and sworn in on February 14, 2014, as United States Attorney for the District of Minnesota. From 1989 – 1992, U.S. Attorney Luger served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Eastern District of New York and from 1992 – 1995, in the District of Minnesota, where he prosecuted a wide variety of narcotics and violent crimes cases, as well as large white collar cases. Mr. Luger was a partner at Greene Espel in Minneapolis from 1995 to 2014. His practice focused on complex business litigation and white-collar criminal defense. He received a J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center, magna cum laude (1985), and earned his bachelor's degree from

Amherst College, summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa (1981).



Darryl W. McSwain

Assistant Chief of Police, Montgomery County Police Department

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Assistant Chief Darryl McSwain is a 26-year veteran of the Montgomery County Department of Police. Assistant Chief McSwain currently leads the Patrol Services Bureau which includes the six (6) District Stations and the overnight Duty Commanders. Previous assignments included Deputy Commander of the 3rd District, Director of the Internal Affairs Division, Commander of the 1st District Station, and Director of the Special Operations Division. As the Special Operations Division Director, he served as the Incident Commander on dozens of critical incidents or events to include the Discovery Building suicide bomber/hostage ordeal and the 2011 U.S Open Golf Championship. Chief McSwain works with the Montgomery County Faith Community Working Group and Dr. Hedieh Mirahmadi to address prevention, mitigation, and recovery efforts specific to violent extremism.

Assistant Chief McSwain obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland and earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Bowie State University. He is a graduate of the F.B.I. National Academy.



#### Haroon Azar

Regional Director for Strategic Engagement-Los Angeles, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Haroon Azar is the DHS Regional Director for Strategic Engagement in Los Angeles. Partnering with the City of Los Angeles in November of 2011, DHS established the first office of its kind in the nation. Mr. Azar's primary responsibility is strengthening the department's relationships with state and local law enforcement, government officials, community groups, academic institutions, and the private sector. His office seeks to partner with both government and nongovernment entities locally to advance the Department's risk mitigation mission.

Previously, Mr. Azar worked as Deputy Director and Senior Policy Analyst for the Middle East, Africa,

& South Asia in the Office of International Affairs at DHS. His portfolio included providing the Secretary and other department leadership with policy analysis and management of international affairs related to homeland security. Additionally, Mr. Azar was responsible for negotiating bilateral and multilateral security agreements with international partners focusing on improving immigration policy, visa security, aviation security, border security, supply chain management, and countering violent extremism efforts. Mr. Azar received a Juris Doctor from the UCLA School of Law where he focused on the intersection of national security and international law.



#### Chris Castillo

Supervisory Special Agent, CT Program Coordinator, FBI Los Angeles Field Office

Christopher Castillo is an FBI Supervisory Special Agent and the Counterterrorism Program Coordinator for the Joint Terrorism Task Force in Los Angeles. SSA Castillo is a former U.S. Marine Artillery Officer and a combat veteran with tours in the Middle East and Asia. He is a graduate of the University of California (Santa Cruz) with a degree in Mathematics.

In Los Angeles, SSA Castillo was the case agent for Operation Eastern Approach which engaged and neutralized a terrorist immigration smuggling ring in the 1990s. This very successful undercover operation led to the arrests and prosecutions of 36 terrorist subjects and the first successful prosecution of the material

support and resources violation of federal law in the U.S. From this investigation SSA Castillo led Operation Eastern Money which targeted this terrorist group's leadership in Los Angeles and their fund raising efforts. After the arrest and prosecution of their seven leaders, he expanded his investigations and worked directly with French and German partners in Operation Lion Hunter which resulted in 54 arrests in Germany and over 150 arrests in France. Finally, after the U.S. led Coalition invasion of Iraq in 2003, SSA Castillo led the team to Northern Iraq to conduct the exploitation of the home base of this same terrorist group to include interviews and interrogations, evidence collection, and inventory of weapons, equipment, and links to WMD. SSA Castillo served as a line supervisor on the Los Angeles JTTF from 2007 until 2013. SSA Castillo also served as an Inspection Team Leader at FBIHQ in Washington DC from June 2010 Until August 2011.

Presently, as the CT Program Coordinator, SSA Castillo assists the Los Angeles SAC with coordination of 20 JTTF Squads split into three branches and covering one of the largest territories in population and size in the FBI. Additionally, he was responsible for

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standing up the Foreign Fighter program for the LA JTTF. He is currently tasked with representing FBI Los Angeles and developing the LA CVE model and participating in the interagency working group.

# Keynote Speaker

November 18th - 4:45-5:15 pm



# Secretary Jeh Johnson

Secretary of Homeland Security

Jeh Charles Johnson was sworn in on December 23, 2013 as the fourth Secretary of Homeland Security. Prior to joining DHS, Secretary Johnson served as General Counsel for the Department of Defense, where he was part of the senior management team and led the more than 10,000 military and civilian lawyers across the Department. As General Counsel of the Defense Department, Secretary Johnson oversaw the development of the legal aspects of many of our nation's counterterrorism policies, spearheaded reforms to the military commissions system at Guantanamo Bay in 2009, and co-authored the 250-page report that paved the way for the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" in 2010.

Secretary Johnson's career has included extensive service in national security, law enforcement, and as an attorney in private corporate law practice. Secretary Johnson was General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force from 1998 to 2001, and he served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York from 1989 to 1991.

In private law practice, Secretary Johnson was a partner with the New York City-based law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP. In 2004, Secretary Johnson was elected a Fellow in the prestigious American College of Trial Lawyers, and he is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Secretary Johnson graduated from Morehouse College in 1979 and received his law degree from Columbia Law School in 1982.

# **Opening Remarks**

November 19th - 8:35-9:00 am



#### Nicholas J. Rasmussen

Acting Director, National Counterterrorism Center

Nicholas "Nick" Rasmussen was appointed the National Counterterrorism Center's (NCTC) Deputy Director in June 2012. Prior to joining NCTC he had served since October 2007 with the National Security Council staff as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Counterterrorism, where he was responsible for providing staff support to the President, the National Security Advisor and Homeland Security Advisor on counterterrorism policy and strategy.

Mr. Rasmussen served at NCTC from 2004-2007 in senior policy and planning positions responsible for producing net assessments of U.S. policy and strategy for the War on Terror for the NSC and the President.

From 2001 to 2004 he served on the NSC as Director for Regional Affairs in the Office of Combating Terrorism where he focused on Middle East, Southeast Asia and related counterterrorism issues in the period after September 11, 2001.

He joined the Department of State in 1991 as a Presidential Management Intern in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs and for more than a decade served in a variety of key positions. Mr. Rasmussen was Special Assistant to the State Department's Special Middle East Coordinator, Ambassador Dennis Ross, from 1996-2001, providing support to the Arab-Israeli peace process. Mr. Rasmussen was a member of the U.S. peace team at the Wye River, Shepardstown, and Camp David summits. From 1994-1996 he was a Special Assistant to Ambassador-at-Large Robert Gallucci, providing analysis of the negotiation and implementation of the U.S.-North Korea Agreed Framework. He worked as a foreign affairs analyst in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs from 1991-1994 focusing on Persian Gulf security issues following Operation Desert Storm, including negotiation for U.S. forces' access and basing in Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Rasmussen received a B.A. degree with high honors from the College of Social Studies at Wesleyan University and was awarded a Masters in Public and International Affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including an International Affairs Fellowship by the Council on Foreign Relations, and has taught a course on U.S. counterterrorism policy at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service.

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# White House CVE Summit

November 19th - 9:00-9:30 am

A presenter from the WH will discuss the upcoming White House Summit on CVE, the Comprehensive U.S. Government Approach to Countering Violent Extremism, the Pilot Cities program and an overview of the President's Strategy going forward for CVE.



# George Selim

Director for Community Partnerships, National Security Staff, White House

George Selim currently serves as a Director on the National Security Council Staff at the White House. Specific issues in Mr. Selim's portfolio include efforts to prevent violent extremism in the United States, building community resilience against transnational gangs, and enhancing partnerships with new American communities to support national security priorities at home and aboard. Prior to serving at the White House, Mr. Selim served as a Senior Policy Adviser in the Office for Civil Rights & Civil Liberties at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) where he helped lead Federal Government efforts to develop and strengthen the U.S. Government's civic engagement, public outreach and public diplomacy initiatives domestically.

# <u>Panel #4: CVE beyond Foreign Fighters – International Prevention and Counter-Recruitment</u>

November 19th - 9:30-10:45 am

U.S. Government CVE practitioners and partners posted abroad will discuss the CVE work the U.S. is supporting in Africa, Asia, and Europe to prevent and counter recruitment by violent extremists. The panelists will offer unique perspectives and challenges that can help inform USG programs and policies by exposing new ideas, techniques, and best practices.



# Haroon Ullah (Moderator)

Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, Department of State

Haroon K. Ullah is a scholar, US diplomat, and field researcher specializing in South Asia and the Middle East. Haroon serves as Senior Advisor to Richard Stengel (Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy) at the US State Department, focusing on public diplomacy and countering violent extremism. Haroon grew up in a farming community in Washington State and was trained at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, where he served as a senior fellow and completed his MPA.

Haroon has a PhD in Political Science and Public Policy from the University of Michigan and was a William J. Fulbright fellow, a Harvard University presidential scholar, a National Security Education Program fellow, and a Woodrow Wilson Public Service fellow. He is also the author of Vying for Allah's Vote (Georgetown University Press, 2013). He is an Adjunct Professor in International Relations at Georgetown University. His recent book, The Bargain From the Bazaar: A Family's Day of Reckoning, published in March 2014 by Public Affairs, has received widespread praise and acclaim, including from the New York Review of Books, the Wall Street Journal, Mother Jones, Seattle Times, NPR and Publisher's Weekly.



Andrei M. Cotton

Political-Military Officer, U.S. Embassy Dhaka

Andrei M. Cotton is a career Foreign Service Officer and covers political affairs, military affairs, counterterrorism, and counternarcotics at U.S. Embassy Dhaka, Bangladesh. During previous tours, he served in the following countries/positions: Nairobi, Kenya - Regional Counterterrorism Coordinator for East Africa (2010 – 2012); Islamabad, Pakistan - Political Officer (2009 – 2010), Sao Paulo, Brazil - Consular Officer (2008 – 2009); and, Bogota, Colombia – Consular Officer (2006 – 2008). He is a graduate of Auburn University and Tuskegee University with degrees in Agricultural Economics. He is married to Kelly Cotton and has two children.



COL Mike Lwin

Deputy Director, Information Operations Directorate & Director, Military Information Support Operations Policy in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Combatting Terrorism

Colonel Michael R. "Mike" Lwin, United States Army, is the Deputy Director for the Information Operations Directorate and the Director for Military Information Support Operations Policy in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Combatting Terrorism at the Pentagon.

COL Lwin most recently served as Director for Multinational Engagement at Special Operations Command, Pacific at Camp Smith, Hawaii. He has also served as Commander of a Military Information Support Battalion at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Deputy Commander for the Joint Information Support Task Force (Special Operations) in the Central Command Area of Responsibility, Deputy Director for Special Operations Proponency and Psychological Operations Branch Chief at the U.S. Army's John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, and Deputy Chief, J39 Information Operations Division, at U.S. Pacific Command.

COL Lwin is a graduate of the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and the Naval Postgraduate School. He has completed a U.S. Army War College Fellowship and served as a Military Professor at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS), Honolulu, Hawaii. He has also published articles in Joint Force Quarterly, Army, Infantry, Naval Institute Proceedings and Special Warfare magazines.



#### Dara Katz

Senior Advisor on Democracy, Governance, Peace and Security Issues for the Middle East Bureau, USAID

Ms. Dara Katz currently serves in USAID as a senior advisor on democracy, governance, peace and security issues for the Middle East Bureau. She also is the co-chair of USAID's Violent Extremism and Insurgency Steering Committee. Over the past three years, Ms. Katz has advised and designed programming across the Middle East, including Libya, Syria, Egypt and Jordan, and has expanded the Middle East Bureau's peace and security portfolio, particularly its work on countering violent extremism. Ms. Katz also worked for USAID in South Sudan on conflict mitigation. Before joining USAID in 2010, Ms. Katz spent more than a decade in conflict and

post-conflict zones focused on human rights and electoral administration. With the UN in Afghanistan, Ms. Katz served with three UN organizations, but primarily in the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), where she led analytics for the human rights component and headed the human rights team in the northeastern provinces, and authored a key report on arbitrary detention practices. At the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Mission in Kosovo, Ms. Katz was senior human rights advisor, where she headed the Property Rights Unit and led the drafting and implementation of the UN Security Council approved Property Rights Standard Implementation Plan. Ms. Katz also has served on election administration bodies in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Kosovo. She holds a BA with Honors and Phi Beta Kappa from Wesleyan University and a LLM with Distinction in International Human Rights Law from the University of Essex.



Jamie Martin

Deputy Cultural Attaché, U.S. Embassy, London

Jamie Martin is the Deputy Cultural Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in London where she focuses on CVE, exchange programs, alumni, and community engagement. She arrived in London in August 2012 following a two-year assignment at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan where she worked as an Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer and as a Human Rights Officer. Jamie's prior postings include Cape Town, South Africa and Mexico City, Mexico. Prior to joining the State Department, she worked for the Congressional Research Service and for CNN. A graduate of the London School of Economics and Bryn Mawr College, she grew up outside of Boston, Massachusetts. She is married with a 2-year old daughter.

# Keynote Speaker

November 19th - 11:00-11:30 am



#### Sarah Sewall

Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights, U.S. Department of State

Sarah Sewall was sworn in as Under Secretary of State for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights on February 20, 2014. Prior to this position, Under Secretary Sewall served as a Senior Lecturer in Public Policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. In 2012, Dr. Sewall was Minerva Chair at the Naval War College and from 2006 to 2009 she served as the Director of Harvard's Carr Center for Human Rights Policy. She joined the Kennedy School in 2000 as Director of the National Security and Human Rights Program, founding the Mass Atrocity Response Operations Project and the Project on the Means of Intervention.

Previously, Under Secretary Sewall was Associate Director for the Committee on International Security Studies at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences from 1998 to 1999. In 1997, she was a Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellow at Harvard's Program on Negotiations. Dr. Sewall served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Assistance at the Department of Defense from 1993 to 1996. From 1987 to 1996, she served as the Senior Foreign Policy Advisor to U.S. Senate Majority Leader George J. Mitchell. Dr. Sewall received an A.B. from Harvard College and a D.Phil. from Oxford University.

Under Secretary Sewall serves concurrently as Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues.

# Creative Approaches to CVE

November 19th - 11:30 - 12:15

Three of the many innovative approaches to CVE will be presented to give participants some examples of new programs and resources available to CVE practitioners.



#### Michael P. Davidson

Chief Executive Officer, Gen Next

Michael P. Davidson connects innovative and successful leaders to dynamic mission-based ideas and organizations, creating powerful networks that help make the world better. As CEO of Gen Next, an exclusive organization of successful individuals engaged with ensuring future generations have access to great opportunities. Michael works with emerging and established leaders and helps them take on tomorrow's biggest societal challenges.

Michael helped launch Gen Next, Inc. as a Membership organization in 2008, after starting with Generation Next PAC in 2005. While Michael has been CEO, Gen Next has grown from ten Members in Southern California to a

multi-million dollar enterprise, with close to 250 Members nationwide and operations in six major cities and growing. He has helped engage some of the brightest, most innovative entrepreneurs and leaders from around the U.S. and world in Gen Next's mission to ensure future generations have opportunity to flourish. Gen Next regularly hosts programs with thoughts leaders, dignitaries, elected officials, and high-profile business executives, allowing its Members to dialogue on global issues with the world's foremost experts and decision makers. Michael has also lead Gen Next delegations to key regions around the world, including China, Western Europe, Brazil, Russia, and the Middle East, in order to stay at the leading edge of global trends. Michael's leadership has helped Gen Next provide unmatched experiences to its Members and partners.

In addition to his leadership of Gen Next, Michael is also the President of the Gen Next Foundation (GNF), which utilizes venture philanthropy and social entrepreneurship strategies to create high-impact solutions in the areas of economic opportunity, education, and global security. Through 2013, the Gen Next Foundation raised more than \$1.6 million. Michael has helped lead GNF to significant partnerships, including collaborations with Google Ideas, the Council on Foreign Relations, and the Institute for Strategic Dialogue, on projects like AgainstViolentExtremism.org (AVE).

Michael's work supporting great missions and exploring generational issues goes beyond Gen Next. He also serves on the U.S. Board of Directors for the Quilliam Foundation, the world's first counter-extremism think tank, which was created to address the unique challenges of citizenship, identity, and community in a globalized world. He is also a Fellow at the Unruh Institute of Politics at the University of Southern California. He is also a Founding Member or PTTOW!, an annual summit that discusses culture, media, and marketing to consumers between the ages of 14 and 34. In the private sector, Michael was on the Board of Managers for Personal Care Physicians from 2012 to 213, a medical concierge healthcare company based in Newport Beach, CA. He also currently serves on the Board of Advisors of EQtainment, an educational media company that makes fun and affordable games, toys, and videos to promote emotional intelligence.

Michael has provided commentary for CNN, Fox News, MTV, C-Span, KABC radio, Sacramento Bee, Orange County Business Journal, Orange County Register, San Francisco Chronicle, Los Angeles Times, California Political Review, Flashreport.org and more.

He graduated from the University of California, Berkeley and enjoys spending time with family and friends, travel, movies, trying to play guitar, and reading.



Tony Sgro

Founder and CEO, EdVenture Partners

Tony Sgro is the Founder and CEO of EdVenture Partners, a marketing education firm that develops industry-education partnerships on over 800 universities throughout the globe for government, Fortune 100's and trade associations. Tony has more than 35 years of experience in marketing, advertising and promotion. Originally from Boston, Tony is a graduate of State University of New

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York, Empire State. He was a member of the U.S. Freestyle Ski Team, competing in international acrobatic skiing competition for 4 years and appeared on ABC's Wide World of Sports, Skiing Magazine and numerous Warren Miller Films. During his tenure as a professional athlete, he directed freestyle campus for youth in New England, California, France, Argentina, France, and in Japan for *Playboy Magazine*. He was Ski School Director at Squaw Valley USA, General Manager for City Sports Magazine. Promotions Director for CBS Radio in Los Angeles and Vice President of Marketing and Sales for one of America's largest sporting goods retailers.

Tony and his wife Laurel started EdVenture Partners 24 years ago as a way to provide young people with practical experience in the classroom. EVP's unique peer-to-peer strategy has been used with great success in the classroom and on college campuses by a wide variety of clients. Tony can be found cycling and fly fishing in Northern California, or traveling via bicycle throughout North America, Italy, Sicily, Yugoslavia, Spain, France, Vietnam and Laos. He is also a father of twin teenage girls, Marlo and Lucca. Tony quips, "Raising kids is harder than running a company."



#### Sasha Havlicek

Chief Executive Officer, Institute for Strategic Dialogue

As ISD's co-founding CEO, Sasha leads the organisation's government advisory work, research and action programmes in the fields of counter-extremism, counter-terrorism and European foreign policy. In this capacity she advises a number of Western governments and the private sector and has spearheaded a series of transformative initiatives including: a global network of former extremists (AVE); a partnership with Google Ideas to counter online radicalisation; the first pan-European Muslim professional mentoring network; a transatlantic task force with Turkey on counter-terrorism; a leadership programme for young professionals from Afghanistan to Bosnia, run with Oxford University.

Previously she served as Senior Director at the EastWest Institute (EWI), heading up their conflict resolution and transitions work.

Sasha chairs the intergovernmental Policy Planners' Network on counter-radicalisation, and co-chairs the EU's Internet Radicalisation working group. She is on the board of Sisters Against Violent Extremism (SAVE), is a member of the European Council on Foreign Relations and is a regular commentator on the BBC, Channel 4 News, Radio 4 and other networks.

# Panel #5: Foreign Partner Perspectives on Foreign Fighters and Strategies to Reduce their Flow

November 19th - 1:45-3:00 pm

This panel will include international allies and partners whose unique perspectives and challenges can help to inform USG programs and policies by exposing new ideas, techniques, and best practices.



# Timothy Curry (Moderator)

Deputy Director of Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Timothy Brian Curry is the Deputy Director for Counter Terrorism Policy in the Office of the Counterterrorism Coordinator at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). In this capacity he works on policy topics that include terrorist travel, foreign fighter facilitation, countering violent extremism, human smuggling and trafficking, and other threats as they arise. Mr. Curry has been recognized for his efforts receiving the 2012 DHS Thought Leadership Award and several Distinguished Services Awards over his tenure at DHS. He has spoken at conferences hosted by the European Commission, academic institutions, private sector and government agencies in the U.S. and Europe on countering violent extremism, foreign fighter facilitation, counter terrorism and Somalia. Prior to his work at DHS Mr. Curry worked as a Program

Coordinator for the Technology and Public Policy Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). Mr. Curry's work focused on areas such as critical infrastructure protection, cyber security, emerging technologies, space as well as homeland and national security.

Before working at CSIS Mr. Curry lived in Belfast, Northern Ireland where he worked for Weber Shandwick Worldwide and taught American Politics at Queen's University Belfast. This was after working in Congress for Senator Edward M. Kennedy and at the Irish Institute of Boston College. Mr. Curry received a Masters with merit in Comparative Ethnic Conflict from Queen's University in Belfast, and a B.A. cum laude in Theology with a minor in Art History from Boston College where he was a four year member of the Division I Varsity Lacrosse Team. His Masters dissertation was a comparative analysis of the IRA and Hezbollah and his undergraduate Scholar of the College project focused on the role of religion in conflict.



B.M. (Martijn) Meeder

Senior Policy Advisor, National Coordinator for Counterterrorism and Security, Ministry of Security and Justice, the Netherlands

Martijn Meeder has been working in the field of counterterrorism for over a decade. The last seven years, he has served as the international advisor within the NCTV. Martijn holds degrees of Leiden University, the University of Amsterdam and Johns Hopkins University, in the fields of political science, international and European law as well as terrorism and counterterrorism. Martijn is father of two kids (a boy and a girl), and he loves to travel, sail and play cricket.



Adrian Morton

Australian Federal Police, Counter Terrorism Liaison Officer

Federal Agent Adrian Morton joined the Australian Federal Police (AFP) in 1999. His career has involved Adrian working within the core investigative functions of the AFP including Counter Terrorism, Serious Organised Crime and drug investigations, working on transnational complex matters. He is also trained fully in Surveillance and Close Personal Protection (CPP). He has travelled extensively as a part of his

role in investigating terrorism related offences and organised crime including travel to Europe, South East Asia, the Pacific and the Middle East.

In 2004, he was deployed on the AFP's Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands (RAMSI) where he conducted peace keeping operations. During this time Adrian investigated serious crimes ranging from murder, rape, arson as well as working extensively with human sources and the Australian Defence force to track down and arrest wanted militia leaders.

Adrian has been an active participant in joint operations and joint task forces with both State, Federal and International law enforcement and intelligence agencies. Adrian has also worked as the officer-in-charge of the Specialist Support Team in Sydney which is tasked predominantly with arresting high risk offenders as well as dealing with other high risk situations such as public order rioting.

Adrian has completed a range of studies including a Master of Arts (International Relations – Strategic). He was also the Dux of the AFP Advanced Investigator Program (2010) and has received his Detective designation. Adrian participates actively in sports including Rugby League, Soccer, Brazillian Jiu-Jitsu and CrossFit.



#### Michael Carl Erich Vogel

Counselor, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany

Dr. Michael Vogel is the Liaison for the German Federal Ministry of the Interior to the United States Department of Homeland Security. He has held this position since 2012. Before that, he served in various positions at the Federal Ministry of the Interior dealing with National Security, especially Counter Terrorism, focused especially on International CT-affairs.

# Keynote Speaker

November 19<sup>th</sup> - 3:15-3:45 pm



# Michael Downing

Deputy Chief, Counter-Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau, Los Angeles Police Department

Deputy Chief Michael P. Downing is the Commanding Officer, Counter-Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau where he leads five operational divisions: Major Crimes Division, Emergency Services Division. Metropolitan Division, Air Support Division, and Emergency Operations Division. These divisions include the Anti-Terrorism Intelligence Section, Criminal Investigative Section, Organized Crime, Surveillance Section, Hazardous Devices Section, Operation Archangel, LAX Bomb K-9 Section, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), Mounted Unit, Underwater Dive Team, and Emergency Preparedness and Response. Deputy Chief Downing is also a member of the Executive Board of the Los Angeles Joint

Regional Intelligence Center (JRIC).

Deputy Chief Downing was appointed to the Los Angeles Police Department in April 1982 and progressed through the ranks, promoting to Sergeant in 1987, Lieutenant in 1991, Captain in 1996, Commander in April 2005, and Deputy Chief in April 2007.

As the Commanding Officer, Hollywood Community Police Station, from July 1999 to April 2005, then Captain Downing led a command of 300 sworn and 40 civilian personnel providing service to a diverse residential population that exceeded 300,000 with an area that span 17.2 square miles.

Upon being promoted to Commander in April 2005, Deputy Chief Downing was assigned as the Assistant Commanding Officer, Operations-South Bureau, a command serving nearly 700,000 people, 4 service Areas, and 1,200 police officers in South Los Angeles. In this capacity he oversaw patrol operations, detectives, vice, and the administration of Bureau operations.

Since his assignment to Counter-Terrorism April 2006, Deputy Chief Downing has worked with the New Scotland Yard's Metropolitan Police Counter-Terrorism Command SO 15 during an eight-week attachment. Deputy Chief Downing has testified before Congressional subcommittees relative to intelligence, homeland security and information sharing. In April 2010, Chief Downing served as a member of the Department of Homeland Security Advisory Council working group on developing a national strategy for countering violent extremism. He is a strong advocate of State and Local law enforcement agencies relative to a more integrated National Intelligence Enterprise.

In October 2009, Deputy Chief Downing was appointed as the Interim Police Chief for the Los Angeles Police Department until the permanent Police Chief was appointed in November 2009.

As of May 2010, Chief Downing was elected the President of the Leadership in Counter-Terrorism (LinCT) Alumni Association. This association is working with alumni from the FBI's LinCT Program to develop a global enterprise of networked counter-terrorism practitioners from the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

Deputy Chief Downing has also worked with the Department of Justice, traveling to South America, Africa, Turkey, and Poland in an effort to transition large national police organizations into democratic civilian policing models.

Deputy Chief Downing attended the University of Southern California where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration in 1982 and completed POST Command College in 1997, the FBI's Leadership in Counter-Terrorism (LinCT) in 2008, and the Post Naval Graduate Executive Program in 2009. He is currently a senior fellow at the George Washington University Homeland Security Institute.

He resides in Southern California with his wife and two teenage daughters. Together the family enjoys the outdoors, water sports, sailing, and athletics.

# Panel #6: Local Engagement: Private Sector and Community Initiatives

November 19th - 3:45-5:00 pm

This panel will explore the results of recent CVE initiatives and seek new ideas and input from non-USG community leaders whose connections to and understanding of local communities can help inform future programs.



# Amy Pope (Moderator)

Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director, Transborder Security, National Security Council Staff, The White House

Amy Pope serves as the Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director of the Transborder Security Directorate. Her portfolio includes Aviation, Maritime, and Surface Transportation Security, the Arctic Region, Immigration and Visa Security, Border and Interior Enforcement, Global Supply Chain Security, Information Sharing and Access Policy, Transnational Organized Crime, and Countering Violent Extremism. She previously served as the Director for Border and Interior Enforcement in the same directorate. Prior to joining the National Security Council Staff, she was the Deputy Chief of Staff & Counselor to the Assistant Attorney General of the Criminal Division in the U.S. Department of Justice, where she oversaw the Criminal

Division's Office of Policy and Legislation, its Administrative Office, and its Training Center. She also had responsibility for coordinating the Division's extensive efforts in Mexico. Prior to joining the Office of the Assistant Attorney General, Amy was detailed as counsel to the office of Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, where she served as the liaison between Senate leadership and the Senate Judiciary Committee. During her career in the public sector, Ms. Pope has served as Counsel in the Criminal Division's Office of Policy and Legislation; as Counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Terrorism, Technology, and Homeland Security; as a trial attorney in the Civil Rights Division's Criminal Section; and as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of Virginia. Before joining the Department of Justice, Ms. Pope clerked for the Honorable Kim McLane Wardlaw of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Ms. Pope is a magna cum laude graduate of Duke University School of Law and a graduate of Haverford College.



Mohamed Farah

Executive Director, Ka Joog

Mohamed Farah is a co-founder of Ka Joog Non-profit Organization and currently serves as the Executive Director. In response to challenges facing the Somali community in Minnesota, Ka Joog was established in 2007. Through workshops, help with employment, guidance in education, and mentoring relationships, this 501c3 non-profit organization works to enrich the lives of Somali-American youth in Minnesota. It provides a platform and venue for their voices and positive community engagement.

On behalf of Ka Joog, Mr. Farah accepted the 2012 FBI Director's Community Leadership Award and the 2012 City of Minneapolis' Youth Leadership Award. In February 2013, Somali community leaders and members in the Twin Cities gave Ka Joog an award in appreciation for its work in the community. Mohamed Farah was invited to sit on and testified on a panel before the Foreign Affairs Committee in Congress in Washington, D.C., to assess the threat of Al-Shabaab and the recruitment of Somali-American youth in the United States and how to provide better opportunities to youth in order to deter them from being recruited.

Prior to his role with Ka Joog, Mr. Farah was a Project Manager for seven years at Element Materials Technology in St. Paul. He is a demonstrated achiever with exceptional knowledge of building material testing, the lean manufacturing management philosophy and processes, the 5S system to reduce waste and optimize productivity, the Kiazen practices that focus on continuous improvement, and Six Sigma. Mr. Farah's strong marketing and finance background is combined with his experience in safety and quality control, project management, leadership, business practices, and trade regulations.

Mr. Farah earned a degree in Manufacturing Engineering Technology in 2007 and a Bachelor of Manufacturing Management in 2009 from the University of Minnesota, Crookston.



**Dr. Hedieh Mirahmadi**President/Founder, World Organization for Resource Development and Education (WORDE)

Dr. Hedieh Mirahmadi is the President/Founder of the World Organization for Resource Development and Education (WORDE), an educational organization whose mission is to enhance communication and understanding between communities to mitigate social and political conflict. As Co-Chair of the Montgomery County Executive's Faith Community Working Group, she runs the country's first community led, public-private partnership in the intervention and prevention of violent extremism, which was just awarded a FY15 Community Policing Development Grant to Combat Violent Extremism, by the Department of Justice. As a

world renowned expert in CVE, she is an advisor to several US federal agencies including the Department of State, the Federal Bureau of Investigations, the National Counter-Terrorism Center, and the Department of Defense. Dr. Mirahmadi also serves on the Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families that supports vulnerable youth.

Dr Mirahmadi is the co-author of the monographs "Afghanistan 2014 and Beyond: The Role of Civil Society in Peace-building and Countering Violent Extremism", "From Community Building to Countering Extremism: A Guide to Afghanistan's Civil Society" (2014), "Pakistan's Civil Society: Alternative Channels to Countering Violent Extremism" (2012), "From Community Building to Countering Extremism: An A-to-Z Guide to Pakistan's Civil Society" (2012), and "Traditional Muslim Networks: Pakistan's Untapped Resource in the Fight against Terrorism" (2010).

She earned her Juris Doctorate from the University of Southern California Law Center.



Haris Tarin

Director, Washington DC Office, Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC)

In his capacity as the DC Director of MPAC he engages various agencies within government including the White House, Department of Justice, State Department, Department of Homeland Security and offices on Capitol Hill. Haris was among three leading young Americans President Barack Obama called in a one of its kind discussion on public policy issues; the President called and then met with Haris, specifically to discuss policies pertaining to national security, countering violent extremism, the American Muslim community and civic engagement. Haris has been published in various domestic and international publications including the LA Times, CNN, Washington Post and has a regular column on

the Huffington Post. He has spoken at various domestic and international conferences and media outlets on topics such as National Security, Islam and governance, US-Muslim World Relations, Religion and Public Life, and Civic Engagement. Haris is an Ariane de Rothschild Cambridge University Fellow and a USC/Georgetown AMCLI Fellow and is also the author of Intro to Muslim America and Brookings Institution's Rethinking the Redlines: The Intersections of Free Speech, Religious Freedom and Social Change. Haris is currently completing his graduate work at Georgetown University in Washington D.C



Imam Mohamed Magid

Executive Director, All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS)

Imam Magid is the Imam of All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS) Center in Sterling, Virginia. He is the chairman of International Interfaith Peace Corps (IIPC). Imam Magid served as the President of the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA). Under his direction, the ADAMS Center has grown to be one of the largest Muslim community organizations in the Washington Metropolitan Area. He also occupies the Chairmanship of the Fairfax County Faith Communities in Action, and a Chaplin of George Mason University Campus Ministry. He is also the Vice Chairman

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of Muflehun, a think tank, which focuses on confronting violent extremist thought through research-driven preventative programs within a religious paradigm.

Imam Magid has a long history of commitment to public service through organizations, such as The Peaceful Families Project.

Imam Magid has co-authored three books "Before You Tie the Knot: A Guide for Couples" "Reflections on the Qur'an" "Change from within". He has helped training and workshops for Imams and religious leaders, domestically and internationally, on the issue of violence against women. Imam Magid is leading an initiative to protect religious minorities in Muslim majority countries, through a series of conferences. He has written for the Washington Post and Huffington Post, and been profiled in Time Magazine and Wall Street Journal. He is the recipient for the Washingtonian of the Year 2009 and the Human Rights Award 2005 from Fairfax County.