



Critical Incident Response Speaker Bio/Summary

Omni Austin Hotel Southpark
4140 Governors Row
Austin, TX 78744

Friday, September 16, 2016



Chief Art Acevedo Austin Police Department

Art Acevedo is Chief of the Austin, TX, Police Department. He leads a department of 2,547 sworn law enforcement and support personnel who carry out police operations within the City of Austin, as well as the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, city parks and lakes, and municipal courts. With an annual general fund budget of \$369 million, the department serves Austin's diversified population in the 11th largest city in the United States. Under Chief Acevedo's leadership, the department has been reengineered into a data driven and intelligence led policing organization.

The first Hispanic to lead the Austin Police Department, Acevedo brings a unique understanding to the concerns of a diverse Austin community. Born in Cuba, Acevedo was four years old when he migrated to the United States with his family in 1968. He grew up in California and earned his B.S. degree, with honors, in Public Administration from the University of La Verne in California.



John M. Jones, Assistant Director/Chief Texas Department of Public Safety, Intelligence & Counterterrorism Division

Prior to joining the Texas Department of Public Safety in October 2009, John M. Jones served as Task Force Commander at SEAL Team Five, a command whose mission is to train, equip and deploy as a Naval Special Warfare Squadron to conduct Special Operations in the Pacific and Middle East. In 2003 he conducted multiple deployments and lead, developed, and guided large joint-functional teams of Special Forces, specialists and staff members in special operations within high-risk areas around the globe. Jones partnered with Allied Forces on joint planning and executing operations in counterterrorism as a cohesive, high-performing team in volatile foreign countries.

Jones transferred to the Navy Reserves in 2009 and joined the Texas Department of Public Safety as Assistant Director and Chief of the Intelligence and Counterterrorism Division, encompassing 150 analysts across Texas and Headquarters in Austin. Jones is responsible for providing timely information and analysis necessary to prevent and protect against all threats. This includes providing analysis and case support to the Texas Rangers, Border Security Operations, Criminal Investigators, Texas Highway Patrol and other state, local and federal agencies as requested. Jones is also responsible for the state fusion center, Texas Joint Crime Information Center (TxJCIC), which is a 24/7 operation that works closely with federal, state, regional, and local law enforcement and serves as the state repository for homeland security information and incident reporting.



**Chief Fred Fletcher
Chattanooga, Tennessee Police Department**

On June 12th of 2014, Fred Fletcher was sworn in as the Chief of Police for the City of Chattanooga. Chief Fletcher has over 22 years of law enforcement experience in Austin, TX and Chattanooga, TN. In his former leadership positions, Fletcher served in a wide variety of roles including training, internal affairs, and special operations. He implemented community outreach programs to improve relationships between police officers and neighborhoods. His hands-on approach to leadership built bridges both inside and outside of the police force. His dedication to crime reduction produced significant results, including a dramatic decline in property crime, the closure of a chronic open-air drug market, and a 14 percent reduction in violent crime.

In the last two-plus years as the Chief of Police for the City of Chattanooga, Fletcher has changed not only how the Chattanooga Police Department does business, but how community and police partner to solve problems. Fletcher brought professional experience to Chattanooga along with his own personal philosophies on effective policing. He has reformed the department's entire value system, implemented community policing from the top down, engaged the community, built a victim-centered organization, and implemented aggressive and progressive crime fighting approaches which include the development of a Crime Analysis Unit and a future Real Time Intelligence Center. Fletcher, who led the department through the terror attack on local military on July 16, 2015, led the city to an overall reduction of crime by 11 percent in 2015, with 1,386 fewer crimes reported than the previous year.



**Earl Anthony "Tony" Reavley
Hamilton County Emergency Services and Homeland Security Director**

Tony Reavley was named Director of Hamilton County Emergency Services and Homeland Security on August 11, 2011. Prior to that appointment, he served as Chief of Field Services for Hamilton County Emergency Services for 20 years. He served 43-plus years in the fire service. Reavley is a certified firefighter and instructor with the Tennessee Commission on Firefighting, the Tennessee Fire and Codes Academy, the National Fire Academy, the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, the Federal Homeland Security Consortium, and the Tennessee Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission. Reavley holds a hazardous materials specialist certification. He is currently a member of the Tennessee Fire Chief's Association, is the Immediate Past-President of the Emergency Management Association of Tennessee, and is a member of the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force. He has an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Fire Science Technology from Chattanooga State and is currently pursuing his bachelor's degree in Fire Science through Columbia Southern University in Orange Beach, Alabama.

In February of 2015, Reavley participated in and completed the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Executive Education Program at the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, California.

He is currently Chief of Safety with the Sale Creek Fire & Rescue, where he has served for over 43 years. Prior to his employment with Hamilton County he was employed by the City of Dayton Tennessee Fire Department, where he rose through the ranks and served as the Assistant Fire Chief, a position he held for 12 years.



George K. "Skip" Noe
Aurora, Colorado City Manager

George K. "Skip" Noe has been engaged in public service for over 35 years holding local government management positions in Texas and Colorado. After completing his B.A. degree from St. Mary's University in San Antonio and a brief stint as a high school social studies teacher, Noe began his public service career as an Administrative Assistant in the City Council Office in San Antonio. Over the course of the next 32 years, Noe would hold management positions with the cities of San Antonio, Texas; Kingsville, Texas; Fort Collins, Colorado, College Station, Texas and Corpus Christi, Texas, including the City Manager's position in Kingsville, College Station and Corpus Christi. Noe was selected to lead the City of Aurora after a nation-wide search. He was sworn in on December 20, 2010. As City Manager, Noe is responsible for overseeing the city's \$626 million budget, 2,799 full-time employees and managing the city's day-to-day operations under Council direction.

During his career, Noe has been involved in a number of significant programs including budget management, economic development, performance measurement, application of information technology, development and implementation of significant capital improvements and public-private joint ventures. He has been recognized at state and national levels for the creative use of technology to improve services and for the implementation of innovative management techniques such as the 'balanced scorecard'.

Noe has been involved in a number of professional organizations and groups. Noe is active in the Colorado City Management Association and the International City Management Association and was named City Manager of the Year by the Colorado organization in 2013. He was the Aurora Chamber of Commerce 2014 Man of the Year. He has also been active with the Public Technology Institute.



James Puscian
Aurora, Colorado Assistant Police Chief

Chief Puscian joined the Aurora Police Department 22 years ago in July 1994. He also has additional police experience, serving a combined 23 years in the Air Force and Air Force Reserve. He was the on-call Duty Captain during the Aurora theater shooting and was the coordinator for the After Action Report and subsequent responses to the recommendations in the report. Puscian holds a Master's of Science Degree in Organizational Leadership and is a graduate of the Senior Management Institute for Police and the FBI National Academy.



Byron Brooks
Orlando, Florida Chief Administrative Officer

Mr. Brooks has more than thirty years of professional experience in the public sector. He was appointed as Chief Administrative Officer of the City of Orlando by Mayor Buddy Dyer in 2005 and is responsible for assisting the mayor with the day-to-day oversight and supervision of the city's operating departments and services. This involves administration of an organization with approximately 3,300 employees and an annual budget of approximately \$1.1 billion, serving a community of more than 265,000 residents, thriving businesses, and that welcomes approximately 60 million visitors annually.

Prior to working with the City of Orlando, Brooks served as Executive Director (chief executive officer) of the Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority (LYNX). He worked with Orange County, Florida government for more than 14 years, performing as Deputy County Administrator for eight years, with day-to-day administrative oversight of as many as 6,000 employees, a \$1.7 billion annual operating and capital budget, and responsibilities in every service area of local government.

Brooks received a master's degree in city/regional planning from Clemson University and received his bachelor's degree from Furman University. He also completed the Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and completed the Executive Leadership Institute of the National Forum for Black Public Administrators. Brooks obtained his official designation as a certified planner (AICP) from the American Institute of Certified Planners, American Planning Association in 1992.



April Michael
City of Orlando Communications Manager

April Michael has served as a marketing and communications professional for more than 13 years with eight of those years in municipal government with the City of Orlando. In her role as communications manager for the Office of Communications and Neighborhood Relations, she provides support to Mayor Buddy Dyer and the City of Orlando's internal and external communications strategy. She oversees a team of 14 who are responsible for the city's graphic design, web, social media, newsletters, events, marketing, videography and photography. April is responsible for ensuring the mayor's initiatives and city's mission is consistent throughout all of the city's communications platforms.

Prior to joining the City of Orlando, April worked for CBS Radio as Promotions Director for WOCL-FM. In this role she was responsible for the station's overall brand on-air, online and onsite.

April holds a B.A. in Humanities from Florida State University.



Dr. Jeremi Suri
Mack Brown Distinguished Chair for Leadership in Global Affairs
UT's Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs

Dr. Jeremi Suri has a joint appointment in the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs and the University of Texas at Austin Department of History. Suri was previously with the University of Wisconsin, where he was the E. Gordon Fox Professor of History, the Director of the European Union Center of Excellence, and the Director of the Grand Strategy Program.

He has received numerous awards for his research and teaching, and Smithsonian Magazine named him one of America's "Top Young Innovators" in the Arts and Sciences in 2007. He is the author of four books, including the widely acclaimed biography of one of America's most distinguished diplomats, *Henry Kissinger and the American Century* (Harvard University Press, 2007). His latest book, *Liberty's Surest Guardian: American Nation-Building from Washington to Obama*, was the Free Press/Simon and Schuster's lead non-fiction release in the fall of 2011.

Suri earned his B.A. in history from Stanford University in 1994 and an M.A. in history from Ohio University in 1996. He then earned his PhD from Yale University in 2001.

Professor Suri blogs on foreign policy and contemporary politics at <http://globalbrief.ca>. His research interests include the formation and spread of nation-states; the emergence of modern international relations; the connections between foreign policy and domestic politics; the rise of knowledge of institutions as global actors; contemporary foreign policy; international security; protest and dissident movements; and globalization.



Sana Syed
Public Information Officer, City of Dallas, Texas

Sana Syed serves as the spokesperson/Director of the Public Information Office for the City of Dallas. During this time, Sana managed the city's international response to Ebola and the July 7, 2016 ambush on Dallas police officers, developing and executing an aggressive two-year transparency and communications plan in between those two crises. She manages a team of 17, a \$1.5 million departmental budget and an additional multimillion dollar account for cable broadcasting. Syed's responsibilities include overseeing open records for the city, broadcast production, graphic design and external communications. She is also developing a Communications & Policy Institute, which will serve students from every major university in North Texas, Dallas community colleges and the Dallas Independent School District. She is a former journalist with a bachelor's degree in Economics, master's degree in Journalism and she is currently completing her PhD in Public Policy.