



NACOLE

Review

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

www.nacole.org

Conference Wrap Up 2014

20th Annual NACOLE Conference

Christian Klossner

Co-Chair, Conference Planning Committee 2013-2014

THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU WHO attended and participated in “Building Community, Broadening Oversight,” NACOLE’s 20th Annual Conference in Kansas City, Missouri.

The past several years have seen the NACOLE oversight community grow significantly, and as a result, this was the most highly attended conference in NACOLE history, with more than 310 people representing 31 states, the District of Columbia, and 8 countries. All together, an astonishing 95 communities were represented! Even more impressive than the total number was the incredibly broad array of backgrounds of those who attended – not just investigators, auditors, and monitors, but community members, organizers, academics, elected officials, Department of Justice attorneys and conciliators, police officers, union members, litigators, and policy experts as well.

This conference was also rich with the history of police oversight. We shared our milestone anniversary with Kansas City as it celebrated



the 45th anniversary of its Office of Community Complaints—one of the longest continuously operating civilian oversight agencies in the country. We were honored to be joined by five of the NACOLE founders: Don Casimere, Clyde Davis, Jim Johnson, Robin Lolar, and Chris Reeder. We were also lucky to have eight of NACOLE’s past

presidents. I am confident that even as NACOLE continues to mature and develop, the founders and past leaders stand proud of the organization they established and its growth, what we have collectively accomplished, and how far we have come together.

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NACOLE and ILEAA Host Inaugural Joint Conference

NACOLE and ILEAA (the International Law Enforcement Auditors Association) hosted their first joint training conference in Austin, Texas on November 13 and 14. Over 60 attendees from eight states, the District of Columbia, and two Canadian provinces attended the two-day training seminar, featuring topics such as Performance Auditing in a Law Enforcement Environment;

Developing an Audit Work Plan: Balancing Risk and Resources; Systemic Investigations; Planning and Prioritizing Investigations; Ethics, Accountability & Leadership; How to Assess the Quality of an Investigation; and Managing Risk and Building Community Trust: The Benefits of Audits and Oversight. Cameron McEllhiney, the Director of Training and Education for NACOLE, stated “I feel that

our first collaboration with ILEAA to provide training was nothing less than a success. I am looking forward to future opportunities to work with the Board and staff of ILEAA to produce training opportunities for all those involved in the oversight of law enforcement.” Stay tuned to the NACOLE website, www.nacole.org, for details on future training and outreach activities. •

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Greetings from the President

IT WAS WONDERFUL TO SEE SO MANY of you at the 20th Annual NACOLE Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, which was—as if we didn't mention it enough at the time—the highest attended conference to date! Thank you for your part in making it a success! We received a great deal of positive feedback; we received some constructive criticism, too. We are taking all of it into consideration for the planning of next year's conference in Riverside,

civilian oversight at the forefront of everything we do this year.

For those of you who attended the annual membership meeting, you got to hear all of the great things that the association accomplished over the last twelve months. You heard about the 20 percent increase in membership this year; the forming of strategic partnerships with the Canadian Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement and the International Law

Enforcement Auditors Association; the successful webinar on law enforcement and the transgender community; the addition of a second part-time staff person; the launch of the first-of-its-kind graduate course on police oversight; the \$6,000 raised for the Annual Conference Scholarship Fund; and so much more. It was an incredibly busy year, and I look forward to working with the Board of Directors, committees, and you to continue to build on that success this year.

What's in store for this year? Here's a preview: continuing our engagement with the City of Ferguson (MO) and the Ferguson community; arranging regional meetings in

at least three cities across the country; participating in the National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice; offering more webinars on emerging topics; hosting the inaugural academic symposium in Seattle; enhancing the NACOLE website; and communicating



Brian Buchner, NACOLE President

more regularly and directly with our members.

There has been much attention paid to police accountability and oversight recently as police-involved incidents across the country awakened the national consciousness. Local governments, the media, and communities everywhere are intensifying their calls for transparent, accountable, and constitutional policing, and, in many of those places, civilian oversight is at the center of their agenda for reform. This is a unique opportunity and NACOLE, as a result of the hard work of the founders, past presidents, previous boards of directors, volunteers, and others, is well positioned to capitalize on this intensified focus on civilian oversight and take full advantage to advance independent review of the police.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts. Please send an email to nacolenewsletter@gmail.com. Your email may be featured in a future newsletter. •

Brian Buchner is the president of NACOLE and a special investigator with the Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners, Office of the Inspector General.

"I am grateful to have been elected to serve a second one-year term as President of NACOLE...I promise to always keep the interest of NACOLE and civilian oversight at the forefront of everything we do this year."



Brian Buchner, NACOLE President at 20th Annual Conference with Cameron McElhiney, Director of Training and Education, and Liana Perez, Director of Operations

California, as well as all of our other training events throughout the year.

I am grateful to have been elected to serve a second one-year term as President of NACOLE, and humbled by your trust and support. I promise to always keep the interests of NACOLE and

NACOLE Board of Directors

Congratulations to the newest members of the NACOLE Board of Directors, Nicholas Mitchell, and Mark Smith, who were elected by the membership at the 2014 NACOLE Annual Meeting, and to Brian Corr and Dawn Reynolds, who were re-elected by the membership.

Officers: President

Brian Buchner, Los Angeles, CA

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Mark Smith, Oakland, CA

Director of Training and Education:

Cameron McElhiney, Indianapolis, IN

Director of Operations:

Liana Perez, Tucson, AZ

Moving Beyond Discipline:

The Role Of Civilians In Police Accountability



A One-Day Symposium

SAVE THE DATE!
February 6, 2015
Seattle University Law School

CO-SPONSORED BY



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

for the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) inaugural academic conference: Moving Beyond Discipline: The Role of Civilians in Police Accountability. This one-day symposium, co-sponsored by NACOLE, the Seattle University (SU) School of Law and the SU Criminal Justice Department, will be held on February 6, 2015 at the SU School of Law. Multidisciplinary scholars will speak on developments in civilian-led police accountability measures, and participants will have the opportunity to network with academics and practitioners in the policing and police oversight fields. Speakers this year include Samuel Walker, Roger Goldman, and Sue Rahr of the Washington State

Criminal Justice Training Commission. Please note that 7.0 CLE credits are pending approval for this event.

REGISTER today by clicking HERE: <http://police-accountability-symposium-feb-2015.eventbrite.com/>.

DOWNLOAD A COPY OF THE SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE by clicking HERE:

<https://nacole.org/wp-content/uploads/Symposium.Schedule.102014.pdf>.

WHERE TO STAY: We have also arranged for a discounted room rate at the Silver Cloud Hotel in Seattle, Washington. **Click HERE** <https://nacole.org/wp-content/uploads/Hotel-Booking-Instructions-02-06-2014-Academic-Symposium.pdf> for information on how to book at this special rate.

Please note that the following discounts for registrations are available:

- * \$25 discount for early registrants (deadline December 20)
- * \$25 discount for NACOLE (Kansas City) and/or NACOLE-ILEAA (Austin) conference attendees.

2015 Annual Conference Workshop Request for Proposals

The NACOLE Board of Directors is seeking proposals for panels and workshops for the Twenty-first Annual NACOLE Conference to be held in Riverside, California, from October 4-8, 2015. NACOLE endeavors to include panels and presentations covering both basic and more advanced skills and topics in oversight, as well as emerging trends, current research, and good practices from across the United States and internationally. Anyone may submit a proposal. In the past, proposals have been submitted and developed by civilian oversight practitioners, community members, academicians, journalists, law enforcement, elected officials and other government representatives, and individuals and organizations working in related fields.

All proposals must be received by December 5, 2014, to be considered.

To download a copy of the 2015 Annual Conference Workshop RFP in either Microsoft Word or PDF, please visit <http://www.nacole.org/annual-conference/>.

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stay connected and up to date!



YAHOO!
GROUPS

2016 Annual Conference Request for Proposals

The NACOLE Board of Directors (Board) invites proposals for the five (5) day Twenty-second Annual NACOLE Conference to be held in September or October 2016 and a three-day planning meeting to be held by the Board in January or February of the same year. The Annual Conference attracts more than 300 participants from across the United States and internationally. NACOLE conferences provide extensive workshops, training sessions, panel discussions, and plenary presentations to further the training and development of those involved in civilian oversight of law enforcement.

All proposals must be received by April 1, 2015, to be considered.

To download a copy of the 2016 Annual Conference RFP in either Microsoft Word or PDF, please visit <http://www.nacole.org/annual-conference/>

The NACOLE Review

The NACOLE Review is produced under the supervision of the NACOLE Board of Directors and Newsletter Committee Chair **Karen Williams**. The Board thanks those individuals who contributed to this issue of the newsletter and extends a special thanks to the Newsletter Committee: **William**

Huey, Loan Le, and Kathryn Olson. Additionally, the Board is grateful to **Cameron McElhiney** and **Liana Perez**, who provide independent contracting services for NACOLE. We would also like to extend our gratitude to **Jerry Hemsworth** of NewmanGrace (www.newmangrace.com) for providing layout and publication services to the NACOLE Review.

20th Annual Conference

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The content of the sessions was also impressive. Topics ranged from emerging issues to new technologies, from new approaches for practicing oversight to honing our basic skills, from views of oversight at the local level to international perspectives. Featured Speaker Ronald L. Davis, Director of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) talked about trust between police and the communities they serve and the critical role of civilian oversight in helping build that trust. As our keynote speaker, Innocence Project Executive Director Maddy deLone reminded us of the importance of always striving to develop and implement best practices in policing, and that the failure to do so comes at a tremendous cost to our civil rights and liberties. She introduced us to those who paid this cost in a compelling video featuring wrongfully convicted and incarcerated individuals whose stories inspired attendees to continue our shared mission of pursuing justice.

Civil rights icon and Los Angeles community leader John W. Mack received the 2014 Flame Award, NACOLE's highest honor, in recognition of his tireless fight to reform and fundamentally change the culture of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). As a member and President of the Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners, he helped the Department achieve full compliance with a federal consent decree put in place in 2001.

As the recipients of the Achievement in Oversight award, New York City Councilmembers Jumaane Williams and Brad Lander were recognized for their efforts in establishing an independent Inspector General for the New York Police Department and for creating a legally enforceable civil right against bias-based profiling.

Two Contribution to Oversight Awards were presented this year. One was given to Patrice Cullors for her community organizing around reforming the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and enhancing civilian oversight. The other was shared by San Diego-based reporters Kelly Davis and Dave Maass of San Diego CityBeat and Liam Dillon of the Voice of San Diego for their collective reporting on inmate deaths and police misconduct in San Diego.

This tremendous conference would not have been possible without the hard work of both the Conference Planning Committee, including my co-chair Brian Corr, William Harrison, Nicole Junior, Matthew Larson, Camelia Naguib, and Richard Rasmussen, and Local Conference Committee members I. Pearl Fain and Merrell Bennekin. A special note of recognition and thanks goes to NACOLE Board member Karen Williams, who served on both committees, and NACOLE Director of Operations Liana Perez,

who provided critical administrative support. Lastly, NACOLE Director of Training and Education Cameron McElhiney took her years of experience organizing the annual conference and doubled down on her previous work to help us reach new heights.

The NACOLE Annual Conference Scholarship Fund, which supported the attendance of a record six attendees at this year's conference, hosted its first annual fundraiser. This sold out event, held at local barbecue favorite Gates Bar-B-Q, along with other fundraising activities, raised approximately \$6000, an amount that will surely allow NACOLE to even better support deserving recipients in the years to come. Please consider making a donation today to supplement these efforts!

At the close of the conference, nearly 150 people have participated in the NACOLE Certified Practitioner of Oversight (CPO) Program, which now has almost 50 members who have obtained and maintained their certifications.

The RFP for conference workshops for the 2015 conference has been released, and I encourage you to propose topics, speakers, and sessions. Anticipating more great things to come, I look forward to seeing you all at the 21st Annual Conference in Riverside, California, from October 4-8, 2015! •

Christian Klossner is the 2013-2014 NACOLE Conference Planning Committee Co-Chair and a member at large.



SAVE THE DATE!

We're headed to California!

**The 21st Annual
NACOLE Conference
October 4-8, 2015**

Mission Inn &
Riverside Conference Center
Riverside, California

Photos Courtesy of Merrell Bennekin, Office of Community Complaints, and Lynsay Holst, Kansas City, Missouri Police Department.

