

# Homicide Investigators of Texas

2025 Conference Agenda

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## 2025

# Homicide Investigators of Texas



## Annual Conference March 24– 27, 2025

Drury Plaza Hotel

105 S. St. Mary's Street

San Antonio, TX 78205

Telephone: 210-270-7799

Website: [www.druryhotels.com](http://www.druryhotels.com)

\$300.00 for non-life members

\$200.00 for life members

Conference cost includes one-year membership for non-life members

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Visit: [www.hitx.org](http://www.hitx.org) to register online or to obtain further information

TCOLE Credit awarded for Training Hours

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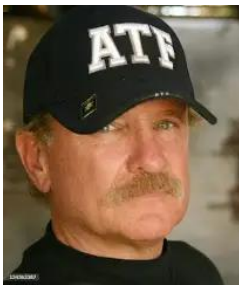
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**Conference Registration – March 24, 2025 – 8:00 am – 12:00 pm**

**Opening Ceremony – March 24, 2025 12:30 – 1:00 p.m.**

**Monday - March 24, 2025; Session 1; 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

**Billy Queen** – United States Army, Vietnam Veteran, Police Officer in North Carolina for eight years, U.S. Border Patrol Agent for one and a half years, Special Agent for the Department of Justice, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms for twenty years.



While with ATF, Agent Queen worked undercover operations around the United States infiltrating hate groups and anti-government organizations to include the American Nazi Party, the KKK, the Skin Heads, the National Alliance and a vast number of gun trafficking and drug trafficking organizations.

His last undercover operation was to infiltrate the Mongols, a motorcycle organization known as one of the most violent Outlaw Biker Gangs in the United States. Agent Queen spent more than two years riding as a full member of the gang eventually rising to the rank of secretary-treasurer of the San Fernando Valley Chapter. As a result of his undercover operation, ATF and the United States Attorney's Office indicted 54 members of the Mongols motorcycle gang and convicted 53 for crimes ranging from gun and narcotics trafficking to aggravated assaults and murder. Also, as a result of his undercover work, in 2001, agent Queen was awarded the Medal of Valor from the County of Los Angeles, The Medal of Valor from The International Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Investigators Association, and the Medal of Valor from the U. S. Federal Bar Association.

He's the New York Times bestselling author of *Under and Alone* the book he wrote, chronicling his two plus year undercover operation into the Mongol motorcycle gang.

**Topic:** Operation Ivan Case Study

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**Tuesday - March 25, 2025; Session 1; 8:00 am – 12:00 pm**

**Detective Summer Benton – Atlanta Police Department / First 48**



Detective Summer R. Benton joined the Atlanta Police Department in 2001 and made the rank of detective in 2007. Since 2009, Det. Benton has been assigned to the homicide unit. Since 2019, she has specialized in child murders and complex (including no body homicides) and cold cases. Since joining the Atlanta Police Department, she has been a part of Zone 5 patrol, Field Investigative Units, undercover narcotics, the gang unit, and the major case division. Det. Benton has extensive training in homicide investigations in her 15+ years as a homicide detective. She has led over 200 cases and assisted with over 1000 cases.

Detective Benton holds a bachelor's degree from Georgia State University, a master's degree in Public Safety Leadership from Mercer University, and is currently obtaining her PhD in Criminal Justice Leadership at Liberty University.

Outside of homicide, Det. Benton is a hostage negotiator, the CEO of the APD store, and a senior guest instructor at the APD academy. She appeared on the First 48 for 5 years, Inside Homicide for 1 year, and an episode of See No Evil.

**Topic:** No Body Homicide Investigations

**Tuesday - March 25, 2025; Session 2 - 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

**Dr. Sarah Getz / Office of the Chief Medical Examiner for the State of Oklahoma**



Dr. Sara Getz holds a BS in Biological Anthropology and PhD in Anthropology from Penn State University, as well as an MS in Forensic and Biological Anthropology from Mercyhurst University (2011). Before

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starting her position as a full-time forensic anthropologist with the Oklahoma Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, she held full-time academic appointments at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Idaho State University, and Mercyhurst University. In 2022, Dr. Getz was certified by the American Board of Forensic Anthropology and was elected to the ABFA Board of Directors. She is also an active contributor to both the AAFS Academy Standards Board (ASB) Consensus Bodies for Anthropology and Crime Scene Investigation, as well as a member of the ASB Board of Directors. She is passionate about education and training that emphasizes the interdisciplinary relationships among forensic specialties and the criminal justice system.

**Topic:** Forensic Anthropology

### **Tuesday - March 25, 2025; Session 3 - 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

**Eric Devlin / Lonestar Forensic Group**



Eric Devlin is considered one of the foremost experts in Child Exploitation and Cybercrime in the United States. While an Assistant District Attorney with Harris County he created the Child Exploitation and Cybercrimes Section and served as its Chief Prosecutor.

Eric is also one of the founders and served as a commander of the Houston Metro Internet Crimes Against Children Taskforce, which became one of the largest and most productive cooperative taskforces in the United States. While a member of HMICAC, he was one of the principal authors of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement's Cybercrime Certification, for which he still serves as an Instructor.

Eric has taught forensics, cybercrime, and child protection across the United States and served as an expert witness in various state and federal courts as well as with legislative entities. He serves as an on air digital forensic expert and legal consultant for the hit television shows Cold Justice Homicide and Cold Justice Sex Crimes and a new show set to begin airing shortly. Eric is a licensed attorney by the State Bar of Texas, and as an investigator by the Texas Department of Public Safety. He is currently the Director of the Houston based Lone Star Forensic Group, which specializes in Digital Forensics and Technology.

**Topic:** Digital Forensics

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**Wednesday - March 26, 2025; Session 1; 8:00 am – 12:00 pm**

**Gil Carillo – Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Ret.)**



Gil Carillo entered the US Army at age 17 where he spent one year in combat. At age 21 he was sworn in as a member of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department where he spent 38 years prior to his retirement in 2009. During the 38 years he worked custody, patrol, started the first plain clothes Gang team at East Los Angeles. Most of his time on the Department was spent at Sheriff's Homicide where he worked 21 years as an Investigator and his final five years as a team Lieutenant where he supervised 14 Investigators. During his time as a Homicide Investigator Gil was called upon to be the Co-Lead Investigator on the much celebrated Night Stalker serial killer case. Gil holds a Bachelor's Degree from Cal-State Long Beach.

Gil has lectured all over the United States as well as outside the US in Mexico and Panama. Most recently he was the subject of a Netflix 4 part Documentary on the Night Stalker case.

Gil also recently finished 2 years serving as the as Co-Host for the George Lopez OMG HI Podcast. He recently took part in a documentary on the Peacock channel and is awaiting the release of a movie entitled "Hubbard Street".

**Topic:** Night Stalker Case

**Wednesday, March 26, 2025; Session 2 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

**Det. Lawrence Saiz – San Antonio Police Department Homicide**



Detective Saiz is a 30-year veteran of the San Antonio Police Department and has been assigned to the Homicide Unit Murder Detail for the past 12 years. Before being assigned to the Homicide Unit, Detective spent five years working in the Property Crimes and Robbery Units.

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Detective Saiz holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Texas at San Antonio and Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice Leadership and Management from Sam Houston State University. He also holds a Master Peace Officer and TCOLE Instructor Certification. In 2017, Detective Saiz attended training at the National Center for Explosives Training and Research (NCETR) in Huntsville, Alabama where he obtained certification as a National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) Technician.

**Topic:** Use of multiple technologies to solve a road rage homicide.

A comprehensive explanation of NIBIN, CODIS, AFIS, video and cell phone evidence used to solve a road rage homicide, and the importance of handling every call, even the most mundane, with the same dedication and tenacity.

**Thursday - March 27, 2025, Closing Session; 8:00 am – 12:00 pm**

**Susan Brown Davis, B.A, MPA**

**PhD Candidate**

**Genealogist**

**UNT Center for Human [identificationsusan.davis@unthsc.edu](mailto:identificationsusan.davis@unthsc.edu)**



Susan Davis is an Anthropologist and serves as Genealogist at the Center for Human Identification (CHI). She has been conducting genealogical research for the past 25 years. She has utilized genetic genealogy as an inductive and deductive investigative tool to help solve family mysteries for the past 20 years. Since 2019, she has been instrumental in providing investigative leads to federal, state, Texas Rangers, and local law enforcement agencies to help solve cold cases of homicide, sexual assault, and unknown human remains. Her background in the criminal justice system spans over 40 years. She currently is a PhD Candidate in Criminal Justice focusing on Criminology.

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**Robert C. Moore III, MS**

**Director – Investigative Support Unit**

**Center for Human Identification (CHI)**

**[robert.moore@unthsc.edu](mailto:robert.moore@unthsc.edu)**

**[ISU@unthsc.edu](mailto:ISU@unthsc.edu)Topic: UNT's Forensic Genetic Genealogy**



As director of the investigative support unit at the Center for Human Identification (CHI) in Fort Worth, Texas, Robert Moore manages CHI's integrated team of genetic genealogists and investigators to provide forensic genetic genealogy services to criminal justice stakeholders.

Throughout his 30-year Texas law enforcement career, Moore served as a persons' crimes investigator, PIO/agency spokesperson, tactical sniper, street crimes unit investigator, DA child abuse investigator, and law enforcement academy director.

Moore earned a BA in journalism from the University of Texas at Arlington and an MS in police and public administration from the University of North Texas in Denton.

Moore taught criminal law and procedure for 5 years at the college level, and for 6 years at the high school level.

Moore also currently serves as a reserve officer for his hometown of River Oaks, TX.

**Topic:** Genetic Genealogy