



Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association 2025 CONVENTION

June 16 - 20, 2025

Billings Hotel and Convention Center ♦ Billings, Montana

TOTAL POST HOURS AVAILABLE: 23

8 Detention Officer Specific

15 Law Enforcement Specific

In addition to the draft agenda, this document contains conference details, online registration & payment link, hotel reservation information, training session overviews and instructor biographies, and additional training opportunities for Chaplains and Honor Guard Members.



Agenda

Monday, June 16, 2025

MSPOA Board Meeting

0 POST HRS

*** No Meals Provided ***

11:00 am – 3:30 pm

Registration

Foyer

12:00 pm – 5:15 pm

Chaplain's Academy Registration and Training

Bitterroot Room

Additional Details on Pages 9 & 10

3:30 pm – 6:00 pm

MSPOA Board Meeting

Gardner Room

Tuesday, June 17, 2025

**Detention Focused Training
& General Training Options**

8 POST HRS

6 POST HRS

*** Breakfast on Your Own***

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

NIJO Detention Training

8 POST HRS

Gardner Room

Presented by National Institute for Jail Operations

Instructors Sean Stewart and Rachel Love

8:00 am – 5:15 pm

Chaplain's Academy

Bitterroot Room

Tuesday, June 17, 2025 Continued

8:00 am – 5:00 pm <i>Yellowstone Room</i>	General Training Breakout Opportunity	6 POST HRS
	8:00 am – 12:30 pm Mutual Aid Debriefs <i>Jason Jarrett, Mutual Aid Coordinator Gallatin County Sheriff's Office</i>	4 POST HRS
	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Cyber Threats & Security <i>Karli King, MACo IT Manager, Member Cybersecurity</i> <i>Darci Humphrey, Crime Analyst DCI, MATIC, MT DOJ</i>	2 POST HRS
	3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Fundraising for your Association or Foundation <i>Montana Community Foundation</i>	0 POST HRS

12:00 pm – 11:00 pm **Lunch**
Boulder/Stillwater/Big Horn

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Exhibitor Set-Up
Missouri Conference Center

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Exhibitor Showcase with Appetizers
Missouri Conference Center

**** Appetizers Provided ****

****Two Drink Tickets Per Person****

Wednesday, June 18, 2025 General Law Enforcement Training

7 POST HRS



MAN UP DAY ~ Wear Purple - Sponsored by the Man Up Crusade

*If you received a purple shirt in 2023 or 2024, please bring it.
MSPOA will have a limited supply of purple shirts!*

7:00 am – 8:00 am Breakfast
Boulder/Stillwater/Big Horn
Interested in being a board member? Attend breakfast and gather information about the board and board member responsibilities.

**** Breakfast Provided ****

8:00 am – 8:15 am Welcome, Housekeeping, Etc.
Gardner/Yellowstone
Sheriff Mike Linder, MSPOA President

Wednesday, June 18, 2025 Continued

8:00 am – 5:15 pm Chaplain's Academy
Bitterroot Room

8:15 am – 11:45 am **Navigating Modern Challenges in Law Enforcement:** 3 POST HRS
Gardner/Yellowstone **Liability, Sovereign Citizens, Courtroom Security, Officer Wellness**
Presented by LLRMI
Instructor Rick Baker

*** Breaks throughout the morning to visit exhibit hall ***

11:45 am – 12:00 pm Exhibitor Break
Ballroom

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Vendor Lunch
Boulder/Stillwater/Big Horn

**** Lunch Provided ****

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm **Training, continued** 4 POST HRS
Gardner/Yellowstone Presented by LLRMI
Instructor Rick Baker

*** Breaks throughout the afternoon to visit exhibit hall ***

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm BBQ and Sporting Clays
OFF SITE – Blue Creek Sport Shooting Complex
1767 Bender Road

**** Dinner Provided ****

8:00 pm – 10:00 pm Social Hour and Chaplain's Auction
Boulder/Stillwater/Big Horn

**** Two Drink Tickets Per Person ****

Thursday, June 19, 2025 General Training and Social Events 2 POST HRS

7:00 am – 8:00 am Breakfast on Your Own

8:00 am – 12:00 pm Chaplain's Academy
Bitterroot Room

8:00 am – 5:00 pm Honor Guard Training
Missouri River Conference Center

Thursday, June 19, 2025 Continued

8:15 am – 10:15 am <i>Gardner/Yellowstone</i>	2025 Legislative Update <i>Practical Application of Criminal Statutory Changes</i> <i>Presented by MT DOJ</i> <i>Instructor Training Coordinator</i>	2 POST HRS
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**** Lunch On Your Own ****

11:00 am – 5:00 pm <i>OFF SITE – Lake Hills Golf Club</i> <i>1930 Clubhouse Way</i>	Golf Tournament <i>You can sign up in advance or when you check-in!</i> SHOTGUN START AT 11:00 AM
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1:00 pm – 3:30 pm <i>OFF SITE – Fireside Lane</i> <i>1431 Industrial Way</i>	Bowling Event <i>You can sign up in advance or when you check-in!</i>
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6:30 pm – 7:00 pm <i>Madison Room</i>	Social ½ Hour
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7:00 pm – 9:00 pm <i>Madison Room</i>	Annual Banquet <i>An evening of celebration, camaraderie, and awards</i> <i>Keynote Speaker Perry Johnson, Former Ravalli County Sheriff & Undersheriff</i>
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**** Dinner Provided ****

Friday, June 20, 2025 MSPOA Annual Meeting

0 POST HRS

*** No Meals Provided***

7:15 am <i>Courtyard</i>	MSPOA Sheriff Picture
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**** Wear Your Uniform ****

8:00 am – 12:00 pm <i>Gallatin Room</i>	MSPOA Annual Meeting Board Elections Annual Gun Raffle
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Additional Training Course Information and Presenter Biographies

NIJO Detention

Legal Issues in Corrections (2 hrs)

This class will review legal issues that are common in today's correction facilities and provide methods to protect your facility and employees.

Inmate Disciplinary Practices (2 hrs)

This class will answer questions and provide techniques to manage inmate disciplinary issues. What is required when you discipline inmates? What is the process to implement disciplinary action towards inmates? Learn the tools needed to successfully take disciplinary action due to an inmate's failure to follow rules and regulations.

Gangs (2 hrs)

It is the responsibility of all correction commanders and officers to be aware of any and all gang members in your facilities and to closely monitor their activities. Close and constant supervision is the most effective tool in preventing gang activity from becoming a major problem. The sharing of this information with other law enforcement agencies is also a crucial component in combating gang activities.

Intelligence (2 hrs)

There is often a lack of coordination between police departments and corrections officials. This is largely due to the fact that many officers are unaware of the wealth of intelligence related to criminal activity, gangs and game members available within corrections facilities. Corrections officials and databases are an unexploited source of vital intelligence. Many correctional facilities identify gang members, validate gang membership, and have the capacity to monitor mail, telephone calls, and visits. This class will prepare your officers to be a resource for other law enforcement agencies and work collaboratively with the intel gathered inside the facility.

Instructors

Rachel Love



Rachel is an accomplished trial attorney who successfully and aggressively defends government entities, government partners, corporations, and individual defendants in complicated and high stakes litigation. Rachel focuses her practice on defense of America's largest partnership corrections provider, state departments of corrections, jail systems, and law enforcement agencies and their officers in civil rights litigation, including defense of 42 U.S.C. § 1983, *Bivens* and tort actions, class actions, and complex multi-party litigation matters.

Rachel is experienced in the successful defense of law enforcement agencies and officers in excessive force, K-9 use of force, false arrest, unlawful search, and in-custody suicide claims. She has successfully obtained defense verdicts at trial in lawsuits alleging excessive force, K-9 excessive use of force, illegal search, and illegal interrogation cases.

Rachel is respected throughout Arizona and across the nation for specialized defense of corrections and jail systems, and their employees, in excessive force, inmate assault/homicide, employee/inmate sexual assault,

inmate suicide, inmate disturbance response, STG/gang management, maximum custody management, classification, conditions of confinement, deliberate indifference to medical needs, retaliation, catastrophic injury, and wrongful death claims filed by inmates and inmate advocacy groups. She also specializes in forward-thinking defense of RLUIPA and First Amendment claims filed by inmates and inmate advocacy groups that challenge the provision of religious accommodations and programming in the prison environment, as well as First Amendment claims challenging prison publication policies.

Rachel also serves as Legal Advisor to the National Institute of Jail Operations, providing training at NIJO regional conferences and its Elite Academies for jail leadership, corrections defense attorneys, and jail risk managers. She also advises on NIJO legal-based training curriculum, legal-based jail guidelines, and policy development for jail and detention systems across the nation.

Sean Stewart



Sean Stewart is a Captain at the Pima County Sheriff's Office, AZ, and has over 20 years of experience. He is the Division Commander of Housing Operations and has overseen multiple management and tactical operations in his career. Sean is a NSA (CJE) Certified Jail Executive and instructs on a national basis. He currently serves on the NIJO Jail Advisory Committee. Sean provides continuous assistance to outside law enforcement agencies and also provides expert defense services in defending jails against prisoner litigation.

LLRMI Training

Navigating Modern Challenges in Law Enforcement:

Liability, Sovereign Citizens, Courtroom Security, Officer Wellness

LLRMI Training

This dynamic LLRMI course equips law enforcement professionals with essential knowledge in four critical areas: agency liability, the sovereign citizen movement, courtroom security, and officer wellness. Participants will learn strategies to reduce legal exposure, safely manage encounters with non-traditional threat groups, enhance courtroom safety, and promote mental health and resiliency among officers. This training offers practical tools to navigate today's evolving law enforcement challenges.

Instructor

Rick Baker



Rick is President of the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Officers Association. Retired Lieutenant from Putnam County Sheriff's Office, Cookeville, Tennessee. Rick has spent time lecturing and teaching officers, court clerks, Court Officers, and elected officials. He has lectured and taught at numerous national and state conferences. Throughout his 27-year law enforcement career, Rick has supervised Corrections, Patrol, Training, and SWAT, as well as, providing specialized training to other agencies. Rick has been called on as an expert witness in several court cases.

Rick received his Bachelor of Science from Lee University and his Master's in criminal justice management from Columbus University. Rick holds numerous training, instructor, and

specialized certifications. He has been the coordinator for the Academy, Instructor Development, Ethics, and Leadership. Rick is currently the National Training Director for the Legal and Liability Risk Management Institute, Coordinator with LLRMI and the FBINAA Leadership Certification.

2025 Legislative Update

Practical Application of Newly Enacted Statutory Changes

This training session provides Montana law enforcement officers with a comprehensive review of significant criminal statutory changes, as well as other statutory changes applicable to local governments and local law enforcement, enacted during the 2025 legislative session. By understanding these legislative updates, officers will be better equipped to apply the new laws effectively in their daily duties, ensuring compliance, and enhancing public safety across Montana.

Instructor

Montana DOJ Training Coordinator Designee

Keynote Speaker

Ethics in Law Enforcement and Standard We Must Uphold

Perry Johnson



Perry Johnson is a dedicated public servant with a distinguished career in law enforcement spanning over 27 years. He began his service with the Ravalli County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy and steadily rose through the ranks, eventually becoming the Ravalli County Sheriff. Perry concluded his tenure with the office as the Undersheriff, bringing decades of experience and leadership to the role. Perry also served the state as a dedicated board member of the Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association Board of Directors.

Following his retirement from the Ravalli County Sheriff's Office, Perry continued his commitment to public safety at the state level. He served as the Executive Director of the Montana Public Safety Officer Standards and Training (POST) Council, where he played a key role in overseeing the certification and professional development of law enforcement officers throughout Montana.

Perry Johnson is recognized for his integrity, leadership, and lifelong dedication to upholding the law and supporting the professional standards of Montana's law enforcement community. He always has a story and he never expects of others what he is not willing to do himself!



Supplemental Training Opportunities

Advanced Chaplain's Academy

Monday, June 16 – Thursday, June 19

This special training is specifically for law enforcement chaplains. If you have a Chaplain in your agency this is a great opportunity. Attendees must be an LE Chaplain in good standing with your Sheriff's Office.

Register

Complete the registration form and check the Chaplain's Academy Training Option.

Registration Fee

There is not a registration fee for Chaplains. Simply complete Part 1 of the online registration form, but NOT part 2, which is the payment part.

Reimbursement

Chaplains will complete and submit an MSPOA reimbursement form at the end of the event for hotel and miles. Keep track of your miles if you are driving a personal vehicle.

Hotel Reservations

You will make your own reservations (see hotel information below).

Meals, Auction, Bowling, Banquet

You are invited to participate in all events and your fees are covered through the MSPOA Chaplain. Simply check which activities you plan to participate in throughout the week.

Questions

Call or email Warren Hiebert: 406-570-6848 or chaplain650@gmail.com.

Brief Agenda

Monday, June 16th, Arrive at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center

12:00 noon	–	1:00 pm	Registration
1:00 pm	–	5:00 pm	Integrating Certified Therapy Dogs in Critical Incident Response: A Professional Framework <i>Presented by Northern Lights Therapy Dogs</i> <i>Instructor Ramie Blakeman</i>
5:15 pm			MSPOA Agenda – No scheduled events

Tuesday, June 17th

Breakfast on your own

8:00 am	–	12:00 noon	Peer Support <i>Instructor Carol Staben-Burroughs</i>
12:00 noon	–	1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm	–	5:00 pm	Peer Support Training, continued
6:00 pm			MSPOA Agenda – Exhibitor Showcase with appetizers

Wednesday, June 18th

7:00 am	–	8:00 am	Breakfast
8:00 am	–	12:00 noon	Peer Support Training, continued
12:00 noon	–	1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm	–	5:00 pm	Peer Support Training, continued
5:15			MSPOA Agenda – BBQ and Chaplain's Auction

Thursday, June 19th

Breakfast on your own			
8:00 am	–	12:00 noon	Peer Support Training, continued
12:00 noon			MSPOA Agenda – Bowling Event
6:30 pm			MSPOA Agenda – Annual Banquet

Friday, June 20th

Breakfast on your own			
8:00 am	–	12:00 noon	MSPOA Agenda – Annual Membership Meeting and 30 Gun Raffle

Chaplain's Academy Presenter Biographies

Ramie Blakeman

Ms. Ramie Blakeman is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of Northern Lights Therapy Dogs, bringing decades of national and international counter-terrorism experience to the field of canine-assisted crisis intervention. Following her distinguished career, Blakeman established Northern Lights to deploy specialized therapy dog teams in a variety of community environments and trauma settings.

In partnership with founding sponsor MMK Dog Training, Blakeman has spent two years developing a premier organization with rigorously trained handlers and dogs. Northern Lights teams operate in multiple settings including: crisis response, cancer centers, hospitals, schools, schools experiencing trauma events, senior care facilities, locked memory care wards, community events etc.

Blakeman's unique background combines high-stakes operational expertise with traumainformed practices, enabling her to develop protocols that effectively integrate therapy dogs into emergency response systems. Under her leadership, Northern Lights has established itself as a valuable resource for first responders, healthcare providers, and educational institutions.

Her organization's mission reflects her personal commitment: bringing light and hope to communities and individuals facing their darkest moments.

Carol Staben-Burroughs

Carol Staben-Burroughs is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor in private practice in Bozeman, MT. She is a past president of the American Mental Health Counselors Association and the Montana Clinical Mental Health Counselors Association. Carol is a retired instructor at Montana State University in the Dept of Education, Health and Human Development. She is a trainer for the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation and has been an active volunteer in the Montana Critical Incident Stress Management Network. Carol lectures on a wide variety of subjects relating to first responders and has a humorous, high-energy, interactive training style.

MSPOA Honor Guard Training

Thursday, June 19 – 8 am – 8 pm

The MSPOA Honor Guard will train all day Thursday in order to prepare for a presentation at the annual banquet that evening.

If there is a member of your agency who would like to be involved in the MSPOA Honor Guard, this is an excellent way to get started. Your agency does not have to have an Honor Guard in order to participate.

Contact Lewis and Clark County Deputy Jeff Stoltz to sign-up and participate in the MSPOA Honor Guard: 406-437-8039 or JSTOLTZ@lccountymt.gov.



General Convention Information & Registration Link

Registration Requirements

This conference is only open to law enforcement officers, detention officers, & LE Chaplains. You must be one of those to attend and may be required to show your agency identification.

Registration Form

Complete the easy online registration process. Use the link below to register and pay for the 2025 MSPOA Convention. You have to complete one registration form per attendee. If you need assistance with registration, email Scott at scott@smithandmcgowan.com.

Online Registration Form: <https://forms.gle/iXdVNXoW4NPhpB5P9> OR SCAN QR CODE:



POST Reporting

At the conference, all attendees will receive a link to a short on-line form to report their individual POST Credit hours. MSPOA will receive all of the responses and report POST Credits to the MT POST Council on behalf of each registrant who completes the online reporting form.

Hotel Information and Room Reservations

The MSPOA Convention will be at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center, which is located at 1223 Mullowney Lane in Billings.

Call 406-248-7151 to make your sleeping room reservations.

Rates: The room rates start at \$96 + taxes/fees per night OR the current prevailing government rate for summer 2025 in Billings.

Cut-off Date: Monday, June 2 or when sold out, whichever occurs first

Group Name: Montana Sheriffs & Peace Officers

Cancellations/Refunds

Cancellations must be made before Monday, June 9, 2025. No Refunds will be given after Monday, June 9, 2025. You CAN send an alternate person if the original registrant is unable to attend. Please inform MSPOA of this change. If you DO NOT show and DO NOT cancel, you are still obligated to pay.