

# The BROWARD COUNTY CRIME COMMISSION

# **Presents**

"Child on Child Sexual Abuse: How and Why is this Happening?"

# **A Solution Based Symposium**

As Part of the Crime Commission's *Building Bridges*Mental Health Conference Series

#### **DATE:**

Tuesday, May 26th, 2015

## **ADDRESS:**

Hillcrest Golf & Country Club 4600 Hillcrest Dr, Hollywood, FL 33021

#### **SIGN-IN SERVED WITH BREAKFAST**

7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.

# AGENDA SERVED WITH SIT-DOWN LUNCH

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Lunch 12:35 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.)

www.BrowardCrime.org

"Evil Triumphs When Good People Stand Idly By"

10640 Northwest 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, Sunrise, FL 33351; TEL: (954) 746-3117; FAX: (954) 572-7988; EMAIL: info@browardcrime.org

# CHILD ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE: HOW AND WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?

## **THE NEED:**

Broward County reported a bit more than 500 cases of Child on Child Sexual Abuse in 2014. These numbers unfortunately led the state of Florida in these acts. In its role of assessing crime (and social issues), the Broward County Crime Commission felt it imperative to conduct a public forum on Child on Child Sexual Abuse, and the Mental Psychosis associated with such acts. As part of the Crime Commission's Building Bridges Mental Health Conference series, the Crime Commission is hosting this one day symposium, with a variety of panels, speakers, and experts to address solutions that can rendered to this problem. Some of the foremost professionals, educators, and brightest minds in the fields of law enforcement, pharmacology, psychiatry, psychology and medicine are participating.

## **AWARENESS**:

Although stakeholders and frontline government officials are fully aware of the nuances associated with the epidemic, mainstream society also known as (aka) "Main Street", may not be aware, unless they have been involved in an incident. Henceforth, the Crime Commission is not only conducting this symposium for solutions, but also to make people omniscient, so that preemptive protocols can be instilled, to prevent such acts from happening in the future.

# **GABBRIEL MYERS:**

Department of Children and Families Secretary George H. Sheldon established the Gabriel Myers Work Group in April 2009 to examine the case of Gabriel Myers, a 7-year-old who, on April 16, 2009, was found hanging in the home of his foster parents in Margate, Florida. This report, the second of two prepared by this Work Group, focuses on the issue of child-on-child sexual abuse. The first report, submitted to the Task Force on Fostering Success on November 19, 2009, provided findings and recommendations relating to the administration of psychotropic medications to children in out-of-home care.

On December 17, 2009, the Work Group held the first of seven public meetings on child - on-child sexual abuse and heard testimony that emphasized the prevalence of child-on child sexual abuse nationally and in Florida. *It is estimated that adolescents account for one-half of all child molestation cases each year*, a figure that may be significantly underreported and which

supports the need for better data collection in order to accurately understand and effectively respond to the true magnitude of the problem.

The Work Group determined that children exhibiting sexual behavior problems are often victims themselves and are further traumatized when labeled with terms such as "juvenile sexual offender." As in its previous report on the use of psychotropic medications, the Work Group identified numerous failures and gaps in the integration of efforts, in decisions to place children, and in information sharing and communication among involved agencies. These failures and gaps were also evident in the training, supervision, and monitoring of child welfare personnel, all of which impact the ability of Florida's child welfare system to effectively protect the children in its charge.

Florida must act aggressively to protect the children in its care and to break the cycle of abuse. Child-on-child sexual abuse presents unique challenges to foster parents, child welfare workers, supervisors, and the children involved. The damage caused by such abuse requires the use of innovative and integrated approaches to treatment, such as trauma informed care, and the involvement of professionals who possess the necessary education, expertise, and practical skills. While this report focuses on children in care of the State, the Work Group also recognizes that it is the primary responsibility of parents-- natural, adoptive or foster--to educate their children on appropriate sexual activities, sexual boundaries, and the consequences of violating laws relating to sexual conduct.

# CHILD ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE CONFERENCE AGENDA

7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. - SIGN-IN - Breakfast, Networking

**8:15 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.** – <u>OPENING REMARKS</u> – Welcome Address by the Broward County Crime Commission; Acknowledge Distinguished Speakers and Guests

8:30 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. - PRESENTATIONS

**TOPIC:** Why Are These Acts Occurring?

**Dr. Brooke Lyall Foris (40 minutes) -** Director of Clinical Training at Chrysalis Health providing supervision to practicum students and interns in the doctoral program at Nova Southeastern University

**Dr. James D. Sewell (40 minutes)** - Former Assistant Commissioner of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement; Former advisor to the Secretary of Florida's Department of Children and Families

#### **Discussion Points:**

- 1. What are the psychological factors of why a Child Initiator would commit such an act?
- 2. What are the specific environmental influences of why a Child Initiator commits an act?
- 3. What are the documented studies, warning signs, and tendencies of the Child Initiator of which teachers, instructors, coaches, child care personnel, camp counselors, parents, guardians, and parents of potential victims should be aware?

- 4. Are most innocent and vulnerable, 5 6 year old Victims, mentally capable of protecting themselves, when the Initiator makes the whole ordeal seem as if they are simply playing?
- 5. How can these acts be prevented?

9:50 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. - **BREAK** 

10:05 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. - PANEL I

**TOPIC:** Why Are These Acts Occurring? Further Discussion

**MODERATOR:** Dr. Michael Brannon, Founder, the Institute of Behavioral Sciences and the Law

## **PANELIST'S:**

- 1. Steve Becerra, Director of Operations, Elite Krav Maga Fighting Chance
- 2. Dr. Lori Butts, President and Director of the Clinical & Forensic Institute
- 3. Detective Angela Dearing, Pembroke Pines Police Department, Special Victims Unit
- 4. Dr. Brooke Foris, Director of Clinical Training at Chrysalis Health
- 5. Ms. Aggie Pappas, Executive Director, Pace Center for Girls, Broward County
- 6. Bridget Schneiderman, President, Broward Victims Rights Coalition (BVRC)
- 7. Dr. Jim Sewell, Retired Assistant Commissioner, Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE)
- 8. Neva Rainford Smith, Assistant State Attorney in Charge (ASAIC), Sexual Battery Unit, Office of the State Attorney, 17th Judicial Circuit, Broward County Florida
- 9. Shari Thomas, Director of Youth and Family at Henderson Behavioral Health
- 10. Dawn Thompson, Assistant Executive Director, Kristi House
- 11. Dr. John Wright, Medical Director Broward County Child Protection Team, Holy Cross Medical Group

# 11:15 a.m. to 12:35 p.m. - <u>PRESENTATIONS</u>

# **TOPIC:** What Happens After the Act?

**Dr. Juliana Gerena (40 minutes)** - Founder, "Gerena & Associates", providing mental health services to adults, youths and children throughout southeastern Florida

**James Walker (40 minutes)** - Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO), Assistant Program Administrator, Child Protective Investigative Services (CPIS)

## **Discussion Points:**

- 1. How can a parent recognize if their child has been a Victim, if the Victim Child has not told them? What are typical and atypical personality signs?
- 2. Why is it important for the Parents of the Victim to file a police report, no matter where the act occurs?
- 3. Is there a protocol in place, in which a checklist can be compiled, similar to the Human Trafficking checklist, that would enable investigative agencies to more efficiently investigate the adults, older siblings, relatives, and friends of the Initiator, to establish correctly as to why the Initiator is acting out such acts?
- 4. What is the most competent process to investigate if the Child Initiator is being exposed to pornography, or being victimized themselves by sexual abuse in the household?
- 5. What is the best applied therapy, and suggested length of therapy, for both the Child Initiator and Victim Child?
- 6. What responsibility and accountability is on the parents of the Child Initiator?
- 7. What responsibility and accountability is on the person supervising or overseeing the children when the act occurs?

  I.e. school setting, camp setting etc.
- 8. What mandates and quality control processes are in place to ensure the Child Initiator, and his/her parents and family, enter and complete diversionary directed counseling?
- 9. What are the counseling conclusions of when both the Child Initiator and Victim Child can reintegrate with other children again?

- 10. What is the supervision of the Child Initiator once he or she returns to school (or whichever location the act occurred) to ensure this does not happen to other Children?
- 11. How can Better Controls and Processes be implemented to ensure optimum counseling is adhered to and recidivism of repeat offenses does not occur by the same Child Initiator?

12:35 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. - **LUNCH** 

#### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER:**

Judge Carlos Rebollo (20 minutes) - 17th Circuit Court of Florida, Juvenile Division

#### **LUNCHEON SPEAKER:**

Jeff Herman (20 minutes) - Founder and Managing Partner, Herman Law

1:30 p.m. to 2:40 p.m. - <u>PANEL II</u>

**TOPIC:** What Happens After the Act? Further Discussion

**MODERATOR:** Bridget Schneiderman, President, Broward Victims Rights Coalition (BVRC)

# **PANELIST'S:**

- 1. Dr. Michael Brannon, Founder, Institute of Behavioral Sciences and the Law
- 2. Lt. Rodney Brimlow, Executive Officer, Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO), Weston District
- 3. Dr. Juliana Gerena, Founder, Gerena and Associates
- 4. Detective, Adam Granit, Davie Police Department
- 5. Jeff Herman, Founder and Managing Partner, Herman Law
- 6. Dr. Rachel Kaplan, Director of Service Coordination, ChildNet
- 7. Maria Schneider, Assistant State Attorney in Charge (ASAIC), Juvenile Unit, Office of the State Attorney, 17th Judicial Circuit, Broward County
- 8. Special Agent Terry Thomas, Statewide Coordinator of the Crimes Against Children Unit of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE)
- 9. Patricia Vazquez, Southeast Regional Criminal Justice Coordinator at Florida Department of Children and Families
- 10. James Walker, Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO), Assistant Program Administrator, Child Protective Investigative Services (CPIS)
- 11. Attorney James K. Weick, Jr., Law Offices of James K. Weick, Jr.

2:45 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. – Q & A of PANELIST'S

# DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER'S & PANELIST'S

# Steve Becerra, Director of Operations, Fighting Chance Programs -

#### Panelist Participant: Why Are These Acts Occurring? - Panel I

Steve Becerra is the Director of Operations for Fighting Chance Programs. Mr. Becerra has a background in the sciences including archeology, paleontology and linguistics and, at a very young age, became an educator for adults and children of all ages. Steve taught English abroad for children and adults, as well as Science for grades 2-5. He speaks eight languages, including Spanish, Portuguese, Japanese, and Hebrew, and after working as a translator, went on to manage one of the leading Supplemental Education Services (S.E.S) providers in Florida. He has more than 30 years of experience in martial arts and has earned multiple black belts and instructor levels in: Krav Maga (the official martial art of the Israeli Defense Forces), Tae Kwon Do, Brazilian Jiu-jitsu, Muay Thai, Wing Chun Kung Fu, and others. <a href="http://fightingchanceprograms.org/frontline-krav-maga/">http://fightingchanceprograms.org/frontline-krav-maga/</a>

Dr. Michael P. Brannon, Founder, the Institute of Behavioral Sciences and the Law –

**MODERATOR:** Why Are These Acts Occurring? - Panel I

Panelist Participant: What Happens After the Act? – Panel II

Dr. Michael P. Brannon holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology, a Master of Science degree in Psychology, and a Doctorate degree in Clinical Psychology from Nova University. He was the Clinical Director of The Starting Place, a program for teenagers with substance abuse problems, from 1980 to 1990. He has been licensed as a psychologist in the state of Florida since 1990. He has specialized in the area of forensic psychology since 1994. He is currently the co-director of the Institute for Behavioral Sciences and the Law in Coral Springs, Florida. He has conducted over 20,000 forensic evaluations and testified as an expert over 1500 times in Federal Court and State Court. He has been featured on numerous television shows including CNN, The Today Show, Erin Burnett OutFront, Forensic Files, Chris Matthews Hardball, The O'Reilly Factor, and Headline News Network. <a href="http://www.forensic-experts.net">http://www.forensic-experts.net</a>

# Lt. Rodney Brimlow, Executive Officer, Weston District, Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) -

#### Panelist Participant: What Happens After the Act? - Panel II

Rodney Brimlow began his law enforcement career with the Broward Sheriff's Office in 1995 as a deputy sheriff assigned to the Dania Beach district. After working in road patrol, he was later assigned as a detective in the Criminal Investigations Division working in the Major Crimes Unit, Abuse and Neglect Unit, and Sex Crimes/Missing Persons Unit. He also worked in the agency's Field Force, Bicycle Patrol Unit, and on the Crisis Intervention Team. In 2001, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant of the Child Protective Investigations Section. As a sergeant, he supervised employees in the areas of road patrol in the city of Tamarac and Central Broward, as well as district Criminal Investigations Units and Law Enforcement Operations. In 2011, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, serving as the accreditation manager for the Department of Law Enforcement and the director of Staff Inspections. In January 2013, Lt. Brimlow was selected to serve as the Executive Officer for the Weston district.

Lieutenant Brimlow holds a Bachelor's Degree in Microbiology and Cell Science from the University of Florida. He is currently working on a Master's Degree in Theological Sciences from St. Vincent de Paul Seminary. Lieutenant Brimlow is also a graduate of the National Sheriff's Association Executive Leadership Program.

https://www.sheriff.org/common/bio.cfm?id=226

# Lori J. Butts, J.D., Ph.D., President and Director of the Clinical & Forensic Institute -

#### Panelist Participant: Why Are These Acts Occurring? - Panel I

Dr. Lori J. Butts is currently the President of Florida Psychological Association. She is also the President and Director of the Clinical and Forensic Institute, with offices in Davie and Lake Worth, Florida. She is a Florida licensed psychologist, with specializations in clinical and forensic psychology; she is also a member of the Florida Bar Association. After graduating from Clemson University with Honors, Dr. Butts received her law and doctoral psychology degrees from the innovative jointly sponsored program by Villanova School of Law and Drexel University Department of Clinical Psychology. She completed her internship in clinical and forensic psychology at New York University School of Medicine, Bellevue Hospital, and Kirby Forensic Psychiatric Hospital. She began her career with the Clinical & Forensic Institute of Davie, Florida initially by fulfilling her residency requirements, and eventually accepting her position as President and Director of the Clinical & Forensic Institute. <a href="http://www.cfiexperts.com/">http://www.cfiexperts.com/</a>.

# Angela Dearing, Detective, Pembroke Pines Police Department, Special Victims Unit (SVU) –

#### Panelist Participant: Why Are These Acts Occurring? - Panel I

Detective Dearing is a fourteen year veteran of the Pembroke Pines Police Department, who has spent the last nine years in the Child Abuse/Sex Abuse Unit. Detective Dearing has investigated hundreds of crimes involving, child abuse/ neglect, adult and child sex abuse, child abductions, domestic violence, elderly abuse, missing person, and sexual crimes involving children on the internet. Detective Dearing is a member of the ICAC (internet Crimes Against Children) task force, who investigates these types of crimes. Detective Dearing has received six Unit Commendations, one life saving award, and Officer of the Quarter in 2013 and 2015. Detective Dearing has taken extensive training in the following types of investigations: ICAC, juvenile and adult sexual abuse, child abuse, child abductions, and child death. Detective Dearing is the most experienced and knowledgeable detective in the agency and is called upon for training new detectives and teaching classes to the community. <a href="http://www.ppines.com/index.aspx?NID=904">http://www.ppines.com/index.aspx?NID=904</a>

# Dr. Brooke Lyall Foris, Director of Clinical Training at Chrysalis Health -

Presenting: Why Are These Acts Occurring?;

## Panelist Participant: Why Are These Acts Occurring? - Panel I

Dr. Foris has been a Licensed Psychologist for approximately 4 years after earning a doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology from Nova Southeastern University (NSU) in 2009. Her internship training and postdoctoral residency primarily focused on the evaluation and treatment of sexual abuse victims and perpetrators, which is her current specialty, in addition to conducting comprehensive psychological and psychosexual evaluations. Dr Foris' area of expertise resides in the area of trauma and sexual specific treatment for juveniles and their families in addition to comprehensive psychological and psychosexual assessments. Throughout her training and professional endeavors, she has been afforded the opportunity to participate in Multidisciplinary Assessment Team meetings with Broward Sheriff's Office and other community agencies, focusing on providing treatment recommendations for suspected human trafficking victims as well as alleged victims and aggressors of child-on-child sexual abuse. She is a professional member of the American Psychological Association (APA), Florida Psychological Association (FPA), Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (ATSA), and the Florida Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers (FATSA). www.ChrysalisHealth.com.

## Dr. Juliana Gerena, Founder, Gerena and Associates -

**Presenting: What Happens After the Act?** 

#### Panelist Participant: What Happens After the Act? – Panel II

Gerena & Associates has experience providing contracted mental health services for: the Department of Children and Families, conducting psychological and psychosexual assessments for adults and youths; the Department of Juvenile Justice, conducting comprehensive evaluations for youths alleged to have committed a delinquent act and outpatient sexual offender/sexual behavior specific treatment; the State of Florida, Agency for Persons with Disabilities, conducting mental retardation and autism assessments; ChildNet Inc. and Our Kids of Miami/Monroe, Inc., providing psychological, psychosocial, psychosexual, and psychiatric evaluations and individual therapy for dependent youths and adults in Broward and Dade Counties; Camelot Community Care, ChildNet, Inc., Broward Sherriff's Office, Sandy Pines, the Department of Juvenile Justice and the Children's Services Council, providing staff training in the assessment and treatment of sexual offenders and children with sexual behavior problems. www.gerena-associates.com.

## Adam Granit, Detective, Davie Police Department -

#### Panelist Participant: What Happens After the Act? - Panel II

Detective Adam Granit is a veteran investigator with the Criminal Investigations Unit of the Davie Police Department. The Davie Police Department Investigations Bureau is comprised of the Person Crimes Division, Property Crimes Division, Special Investigations Division, Victim Advocate, Crime Analysis, Crime Scene Unit and the Missing Persons Unit. The Person Crimes Division handles a variety of criminal investigations, including: homicide, sexual assault, robbery, etc. They are also responsible for identifying and tracking sexual predators and sexual offenders.

www.davie-fl.gov/Pages/DavieFL NewPoliceDept/Investigations/index

## Jeff Herman, Founder and Managing Partner, Herman Law -

#### **LUNCHEON PRESENTOR**

#### Panelist Participant: What Happens After the Act? - Panel II

Jeff Herman is a nationally-recognized trial lawyer and advocate for survivors of rape, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation. He is a trailblazer in the representation of victims of sexual abuse, devoting 100% of his practice to the cause. Over his career he has represented hundreds of brave men, women and children. Over the past 2 decades, Jeff has built a national practice and has become one of the nation's leading childhood sexual abuse attorneys and pioneers, a true champion of his clients' rights. Jeff is the founding and managing partner of Herman Law, a Boca Raton-based law firm that represents clients of sexual abuse nationwide. In November, 2011, Jeff won a landmark \$100 million verdict on behalf of a client who was sexually abused by Father Neil Doherty, a Roman Catholic priest of the Archdiocese of Miami. For more than 25 years, Jeff has enjoyed a reputation for aggressive and tireless advocacy on behalf of his clients. He understands the unique issues

involved in the representation of survivors of rape and sexual abuse. He believes that empowering abuse victims is the most important part of representing them. Victims of rape, sexual abuse, and sexual exploitation from all over the United States seek Jeff out to represent them in civil lawsuits. <a href="http://www.HermanLaw.com">http://www.HermanLaw.com</a>

## Dr. Rachel Kaplan, Director of Service Coordination, ChildNet -

#### Panelist Participant: What Happens After the Act? - Panel II

Dr. Rachel Kaplan graduated with her Doctorate Degree in Clinical Psychology from Nova Southeastern University. After licensure, Dr. Kaplan worked in the Dependency System with ChildNet from 2007 to 2011, first as a Child Advocate and then as a Child Advocate Supervisor. From 2011 to 2012, she returned to her first passion of forensic psychology and worked at South Florida State Hospital as a psychologist and specialized in working with clients involved in the criminal justice system as incompetent to proceed and not guilty by reason of insanity. She returned to ChildNet in 2013, and is now the Director of Service Coordination, a position she has held since September 2013. ChildNet has been chosen by the Florida Department of Children & Families to serve as the Community Based Care (CBC) lead agency in both Broward and Palm Beach Counties. As such, it is the single private nonprofit entity responsible for managing the local system of services and supports for the communities' most vulnerable children. Field staff and their immediate supervisors are the backbone of Child Net and Child Net staff will support them in pursuing their duties in an assertive and proactive fashion. Child Net recognizes that foster and adoptive parents are an essential and invaluable part of the System of Care, and will provide them with comprehensive support services. The service provider network is essential to the well-being of the children Child Net serves, and Child Net staff members will be fair and honest partners in working with them. Informed public opinion and support is the key to establishing and maintaining a sound child welfare system; Child Net will operate openly and actively to seek public participation and support. http://www.childnet.us/portal/mission-and-vision

# Ms. Aggie Pappas, Executive Director, Pace Center for Girls Broward County –

# Panelist Participant - Why Are These Acts Occurring? - Panel I

Ms. Aggie Pappas, M.S.W. is the founding Executive Director of PACE Center for Girls Broward. Aggie began a journey in 1992 that has taken her from providing gender responsive services to 30 young and adolescent girls in a storefront with patio furniture and little funding to in 2014 providing oversight and management of a \$2.9 million dollar budget on a beautiful campus in Wilton Manors. Under her leadership, PACE Broward now has three very successful program components – the PACE Day Program (academics, counseling, life skills education and transition services) and PACE Reach which includes Reach Counseling and Civil Citation/Diversion Services. Since 1992, 3,200 girls in Broward have had their lives changed. <a href="http://www.pacecenter.org/centers/broward">http://www.pacecenter.org/centers/broward</a>

# Judge Carlos Rebollo, 17th Circuit Court of Florida, Juvenile Division

#### LUNCHEON KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Carlos S. Reroll is a Juvenile Division judge of the 17th Judicial Circuit Court in Florida. He was appointed by former Governor Charlie Crest in November of 2007, effective Dec. 17. He was re-elected on November 2, 2010 to a six-year term that ends on January 2, 2017. Reroll received his B.A. degree (in Political Science) from Rutgers University in 1980 and his J.D. degree from the Drake University Law School in 1984. Reroll began his career in 1984 as a law clerk and associate for the law firm of Summerville, Redding & Campbell in New Jersey. He then served as a law clerk to Hon. John J. Dios of the New Jersey Superior Court, Essex County from 1985 to 1986. In June of 1986, he became an Assistant Essex County Prosecutor. He moved to Florida in September of 1988 and started working as an assistant state attorney for the 17th Judicial Circuit. He held that position until August of 2007, when he started his own law firm. He was then appointed to the circuit court in November of 2007. http://www.17th.flcourts.org/index.php/judges/circuit-criminal

Maria Schneider, Assistant State Attorney in Charge (ASAIC), Juvenile Unit, Office of the State Attorney, 17th Judicial Circuit, Broward County Florida -

#### Panelist Participant: What Happens After the Act? - Panel II

Maria M. Schneider is the Assistant State Attorney in Charge of the Juvenile Division for the 17th Judicial Circuit of Florida. Ms. Schneider is actively involved a number of organizations that advocate for the wellbeing of children such as the Children's Services Council of Broward County, the Florida Bar Juvenile Rules Committee, the Juvenile Justice Board for the 17th Judicial Circuit, and Partners in Education, a non-profit organization that helps forge partnerships between businesses and public schools to improve the educational experience. Ms. Schneider is also involved with the Diversion Coalition, a group of community stakeholder who provide delinquent youth the opportunity to avoid having cases processed through the formal delinquency system and spearheads quarterly expunction workshops to help the youth prepare the documents necessary to expunge their records. She also teaches as an adjunct professor at Florida Atlantic University, Nova Southeastern University, and lectures for the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, the Florida Prosecuting Attorney's Association, the Florida Association of School Resource Officers, the Office of the Attorney General and the National District Attorney's Association. Ms. Schneider is the recipient of the Broward County Crime Commission's 2012 Prosecutor of the Year Award. http://www.sao17.state.fl.us/

Bridget Schneiderman, Victim Advocate Representative, Miramar Police Department; President, Broward Victims Rights Coalition (BVRC) –

Panelist Participant: Why Are These Acts Occurring? - Panel I

**MODERATOR:** What Happens After the Act? – Panel II

**Ms. Schneiderman** is current president of the Broward Victims Right Coalition (BVRC). She is also the Victim Advocate Representative for the Miramar Police Department. Established by Victim Services Professionals in 1991, the purpose of BVRC is to create awareness and empowerment to victims who have suffered due to a crime. The BVRC conducts this mission through education and training. The Coalition also provides opportunities to network with victim service providers, enhance public awareness about rights and needs of victims, encourage participation of citizens in victim service programs, serve as a source of technical support for victim related educational forums, and advocate on behalf of crime victims. **www.browardvictimsrights.org.** 

Dr. James D. Sewell, Former Assistant Commissioner, Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) -

**Presenting: Why Are These Acts Occurring?** 

Panelist Participant: Why Are These Acts Occurring? - Panel I

James D. Sewell retired as Assistant Commissioner of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement in February 2005, following a 32-year career with university, municipal, and state law enforcement agencies in Florida. Since his retirement from active law enforcement, he has provided training and management consulting services to a number of law enforcement and social services agencies, not-for-profit organizations, and professional associations. From January 2007 through January 2011, he served as an advisor to the Secretary of Florida's Department of Children and Families.

Dr. Sewell received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in Criminology from The Florida State University and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy. He has published two textbooks, one in its third edition, and over fifty journal articles and book chapters, principally on law enforcement management and law enforcement stress. He has served as adjunct faculty in Criminology and Criminal Justice at both The Florida State University and the University of South Florida.

Neva Rainford Smith, Assistant State Attorney in Charge (ASAIC), Sexual Battery Unit, Office of the State Attorney, 17th Judicial Circuit, Broward County Florida -

## Panelist Participant: Why Are These Acts Occurring? - Panel I

Neva Rainford-Smith, is a 12-year veteran of the Broward State Attorney's Office and is the newly appointed Assistant State Attorney-in-Charge of SAO's Sexual Battery Unit. Rainford-Smith is a graduate of Nova University and Nova's Shepard Broad Law Center. She joined the State Attorney's Office in 2001 and has held a series of key positions. Ms. Rainford-Smith worked in the Misdemeanor Trial Unit for a year before beginning a three-year stint in the Felony Trial Unit. In the mid-2000s, she prosecuted cases in the Sexual Battery Unit, then became a supervisor in the Felony Trial Unit handling four felony divisions and specializing in DUI manslaughters and vehicular homicides. In 2011, she worked in the Career Criminal Unit, then spent a year in Homicide before being appointed head of SAO's Sexual Battery Unit this past summer. She also has served on SAO's Office Hiring Committee and has been an Attorney Mentor for both misdemeanor and felony trial attorneys. Ms. Smith is the recipient of the Broward County Crime Commission's 2013 Prosecutor of the Year Award. <a href="http://www.sao17.state.fl.us/">http://www.sao17.state.fl.us/</a>

# Shari Thomas, Director of Youth and Family at Henderson Behavioral Health -

#### Panelist Participant: Why Are These Acts Occurring? - Panel I

Established in 1953, Henderson Behavioral Health (HBH or Henderson) provides healthcare, housing, and hope for over 30,000 persons of all ages with behavioral health conditions in Florida each year. Through care, supported employment, advocacy, and housing, Henderson assists and inspires people with mental illnesses and substance use disorders to reclaim their lives. It is the mission of Henderson to be the premier provider of accessible, cost effective, and quality behavioral healthcare services to the people of South Florida, in order to promote their mental health and well-being. <a href="https://www.hendersonbh.org/">http://www.hendersonbh.org/</a>

## Special Agent Terry Thomas, Statewide Coordinator of the Crimes Against Children Unit of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) –

#### Panelist Participant: What Happens After the Act? – Panel II

Special Agent Terry Thomas has served in law enforcement for the past 37 years and is assigned to the Division of Criminal Investigation with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. More than 26 years of Special Agent Thomas's career has been exclusively dedicated to crimes against children. Agent Thomas was invited and participated (1984) as a panelist for the U.S. Department of Justice Hearings on Child Molestation held in Washington, D.C. With his skills, knowledge, and experience, and as FDLE's Statewide Coordinator of Crimes Against Children Program, Agent Thomas facilitated the development of the nation's forefront Rapid Response Team. Florida's statewide RRT investigates child abuse cases having multiple victims and Agent Thomas's innovative mobile interview room has been the prototype for program design in other States. Terry Thomas serves on the

Florida Child Death Review Team and has been called upon as the consultant to law enforcement agencies throughout the United States. Terry Thomas is a consultant for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, the Florida Network of Victim Services, NOVA, and the National Victim's Center. In addition, as an expert in crimes against children and the investigation of those crimes, he lectures extensively throughout the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. <a href="https://www.fdle.state.fl.us">www.fdle.state.fl.us</a>

## Dawn Thompson, Assistant Executive Director, Kristi House -

#### Panelist Participant: Why Are These Acts Occurring? - Panel I

Ms. Thompson has been an educator with special needs populations and has worked for Kristi House, the Children's Advocacy Center of Miami Dade County for 16 years. She is currently the Assistant Executive Director. She has designed programs and develops presentations on topics of Sexual Abuse, Reporting, Boundary Safety, Teen Dating Violence, Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC), Children with Problem Sexual Behavior and more recently Children and Traumatic Stress. Under her direction, Kristi House provides presentations to thousands of Miami Dade students, parents and community agencies annually. In addition to her Education and Outreach work she has guided the agency through accreditation, expansion of therapeutic and case management services, quality assurance and supervises staff training and the Volunteer Program. <a href="http://www.kristihouse.org">http://www.kristihouse.org</a>.

# Patricia Vazquez, Southeast Region Criminal Justice Coordinator at Florida Department of Children and Families -

#### Panelist Participant: What Happens After the Act? – Panel II

Patricia Vazquez is the Regional Criminal Justice Coordinator and the Anti-Human Trafficking Coordinator for the Department of Children and Families Southeast Region. The Southeast Region includes Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Okeechobee, and Indian River Counties. Patricia is the lead for the Safe Harbor Act implementation in the Southeast Region. She chairs the STARS (Stop Trafficking and Rescue survivors) in all the Southeast Region counties except Broward County. Patricia has been a police officer for twenty two years. She has held many positions within her twenty year tenure in law enforcement. She can be contacted at PatriciaVazquez@dcf.state.fl.us;

http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/general-information/quick-facts/

Mr. James Walker, Assistant Program Administrator, Child Protective Investigative Services (CPIS), Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) -

**Presenting: What Happens After the Act?**;

#### Panelist Participant: What Happens After the Act - Panel II

BSO CPIS incorporates on-site multi-agency assistance to immediately address specific frequently encountered detrimental family issues such as substance abuse, mental health and domestic violence that may be an underlying factor in resolving the harm, neglect or abuse.

Additionally, BSO CPIS uses the Broward County Sexual Assault Treatment Center / Child Advocacy Center for medical exams and other related enhanced evaluative and investigative assistance. The Broward Sheriff's Office has full responsibility for all county child protective investigations and operates under a multi-year Grant agreement with the Florida Department of Children and Families since 1999. You can contact the Child Protective Investigations Section at (954) 797-5299.

https://www.sheriff.org/about bso/dle/units/child.cfm

# Attorney James K. Weick, Jr., Law Offices of James K. Weick, Jr. -

#### Panelist Participant: Trends in Narcotic Criminal Activity - Panel II

Attorney James Weick began his career in 1993 as a prosecutor in Ohio after graduating from John Carroll University, and the Ohio Northern University School of Law. In 1998 Mr. Weick worked for the Broward State Attorney's office for 7 years in the sex crimes unit. In 2004, Mr. Weick entered private practice to defending people that have been charged with a crime. Mr. Weick has handled thousands of cases in every area of criminal law. He is a member of the Ohio Bar, Florida Bar, Federal Bar, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Florida Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys, Broward Bar Association, and Broward Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. <a href="http://www.weicklaw.com/james-weick">http://www.weicklaw.com/james-weick</a>

# Dr. John E. Wright, Medical Director, Broward County Child Protection Team, Holy Cross Medical Group -

#### Panelist Participant: Why Are These Acts Occurring? - Panel I

Dr. Wright is a graduate of the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital, and has been a mainstay staple in the Broward County Medical Community for quite some time. He possesses many credits to his name, including but not limited to: Medical Director Broward County Child Protection Team; Florida Child Protection Team Quality Assurance Medical Review; Child Maltreatment Research Committee, Florida CPT. Dr. Wright maintains board certifications with the: American Board of Pediatrics; American Board of Pediatrics - Child Abuse Pediatrics; American Board of Quality Assurance and Utilization Review. Dr. Wright conducted his residency at Residency University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital, with an Internship and Residency in Pediatrics. His profession associations include: District VII Representative to the Florida Pediatric Society-Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics Board of Directors: Broward County Pediatric Society; Advisory Board of the Broward County Medical Association Political Action Committee; Co-Chairman of the Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Committee of the Broward County Healthy Mother's Healthy Babies Coalition; Member of the Pediatric Autopsy Death Review Program, Broward County. https://www.holy-cross.com/john-wright-md/

# **ABOUT THE CRIME COMMISSION:**

#### **Purpose:**

The Broward County Crime Commission is a 36 year old state chartered office, acting judiciously on behalf of law – abiding citizens in maintaining an unwavering vigilance against crime and corruption in the community.

#### **Role:**

The Crime Commission evaluates crime in Broward County and south Florida and assists the Criminal Justice System with solutions against crime. Founded in 1976 as an independent, fact – finding agency, the Crime Commission has distinguished itself as a laureate governing body, which works diligently to improve the Criminal Justice System, as well as strengthen and preserve the key components of Public Safety in Broward County.

#### **Mission:**

The mission of the Broward County Crime Commission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, resources, effectiveness, efficiency and productivity of the Criminal Justice System, so that citizens can live, work and raise families without the fear of crime.

# **Operations:**

The Crime Commission executes its operations through a cadre of meritorious program's involving perspective, research, education, technology, analytics, investigation, advocacy, and facilitation of findings to both the Criminal Justice System and the Broward County community.

#### **Functions:**

The Crime Commission functions as a strategic planning body involved in formulating criminal justice protocols. In so doing, the Crime Commission fosters community involvement with criminal justice representatives, corporations, businesses, colleges and universities, citizen organizations, government officials, law makers, public safety entities, and schools through the following initiatives:

- 1. White Paper Research Studies
- 2. Impact Estimates of Crime-Related Legislation
- 3. Editorial Writings
- 4. Expert Panel Discussions
- 5. Prominent Speaker Workshops and Seminars
- 6. Forums, Events, Summits, and Conferences
- 7. Agency Exchange of Information & Training Meetings
- 8. Think Tank Symposiums
- 9. Threat Assessment Training
- 10. Spiritual Encouragement Community Outreach



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# BROWARD COUNTY CRIME COMMISSION

Acting on Behalf of Law Abiding Citizens
Assisting the Criminal Justice System with Solutions Against Crime

www.BrowardCrime.org

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NOTES:

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