

# HOUSTON COMPLEX COORDINATED TERRORIST ATTACK PROGRAM



## Family Assistance Centers Seminar

### GUEST SPEAKERS

#### Pulse Nightclub Shooting (2016)

#### **Kathy DeVault**

**Director, Strategic Partnerships  
City of Orlando, Florida**

Kathy DeVault serves as Director of Strategic Partnerships for Mayor Buddy Dyer and the City of Orlando.

As Director of Strategic Partnerships, Kathy oversees the development and implementation of special projects as directed by Mayor Dyer. Kathy develops strategies to enhance the engagement of the community, businesses and residents with City government.



Immediately following the June 12, 2016, Pulse Nightclub tragedy that took the lives of 49 people and injured more than 50, Kathy was tasked with coordinating the Family Assistance Center (FAC) which co-located 35 different agencies to help address the immediate needs and provide information, support and resources to the Pulse victims and family members.

Kathy holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communication and a Master of Public Administration both from the University of Central Florida in Orlando.

## Harvest Music Festival Shootings, Las Vegas, NV (1 October 2017)



### **Misty Richardson**

**Assistant Emergency Manager  
Clark County, Nevada**

Misty Richardson has served as the Assistant Emergency Manager for Clark County, Nevada since February 2018 and at the pleasure of the National Homeland Security Association Board as a member since 2019. She has been with the Clark County since

1999 and with the Office of Emergency Management & Homeland Security since 2009. Misty is a lifelong resident of Las Vegas and descendant of a pioneering family that has been in Nevada for over six generations.

Misty began her career in public service at the age of 18 with the State of Nevada Department of Business and Industry, Division of Agriculture, where she was proudly commissioned at the time as the youngest Deputy Brand Inspector in Nevada. During her tenure with the state, she served the agriculture community as the elected President of Nevada CattleWomen, where she was on several statewide advisory boards and multiple national committees representing the livestock industry, most specifically in animal welfare and agro-terrorism. After leaving the state Misty joined Clark County where she has been consecutively since 1999, first serving her community by working with the most vulnerable population, abused and neglected children.

Having a strong desire after many years to return to public safety, Misty found her way to the County Emergency Management Team where she has been for the past 12 years, working her way up through the division to the seat of Assistant Emergency Manager. Following the shooting at the Route 91 Harvest Music Festival on October 1st, 2017, Misty Richardson served as Deputy Multi Agency Coordination Center (MACC) Manager transitioning as MACC Liaison to the Family Assistance Center (FAC) for which she was logistically responsible for standing up, and the lead project manager for the transition to the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center (VSRC), she continues to serve on the Recovery Steering Committee as well as the VSRC Workgroup.

Misty holds a B.A. in Social Science from Regis University, credentials as a Master Exercise Practitioner (MEP) and is pursuing a master's degree.

## Harvest Music Festival Shootings, Las Vegas, NV (1 October 2017)



**Tennille Pereira, Esq.**  
**Director of VRSC**  
**Vegas Strong Resiliency Center/  
Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada**  
**Las Vegas, Nevada**

Tennille Pereira is a licensed attorney in Las Vegas with the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada. When 1 October happened, Tennille facilitated and provided civil legal services for the bereaved families and survivors of the 1 October shooting at the Family Assistance Center.

Tennille worked as a staff attorney advocating on behalf of all those impacted in the early months of recovery with the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center and was appointed to her current position as the Director of the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center in 2019. She is a member of the Nevada Resilience Advisory Committee and the National Resiliency Center Director's Forum. Tennille was also appointed to the 1 October Memorial Committee by Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak and elected as the Chairwoman of that Committee.

## **El Paso Walmart Shooting** (August 3, 2019)

### **Jorge A. Rodriguez**

**Director, Emergency Management  
El Paso Office of Emergency Management**

Jorge Rodriguez is the Emergency Management Coordinator for the El Paso City & County Office of Emergency Management and serves as the Assistant Chief of Emergency Management and Special Operations for the El Paso Fire Department. Chief Rodriguez is a member of the FEMA Region VI Regional Advisory Committee, and the U.S. Co-Leader for the Texas/New Mexico/Chihuahua Emergency Response Task Force.



He holds both a Master of Public Administration with a focus on Leadership and a BA in Political Science with a focus on Intelligence and National Security from the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). He is also a graduate of Harvard University's National Preparedness Leadership Initiative Executive Education Program.

In 2019, El Paso OEM was designated as the lead coordinating agency for the cross-sector response to the largest migrant influx to impact a community along the entire southwest border. For the August 3rd mass shooting, OEM led the emergency management response with Chief Rodriguez serving as the recovery officer for El Paso's recovery and resiliency framework. For COVID-19 pandemic, he continues to oversee all El Paso City-County emergency operations center missions and coordinating state and federal support.

## Astroworld Festival Concert (Friday, November 5, 2021)



### **Thomas Munoz** **Director, Emergency Management** **El Paso Office of Emergency Management**

Thomas Munoz was named Director for the City of Houston's Office of Emergency Management in August 2021. In his role as the city's Emergency Management Coordinator, Munoz oversees the emergency management program for the nation's fourth-largest city, which includes the coordination of disaster mitigation, planning, response, and recovery. Thomas Munoz joins the City of Houston with over 26 years of first responder and emergency management experience.

Before assuming his current role, Thomas Munoz served as the Emergency Manager and Homeland Security Director for Texas City. He was responsible for all its citizens' safety and establishing a crisis communication plan with local industry. Tom also responded to the Santa Fe ISD shootings, where Munoz served as a Liaison and Logistics Section Chief during this incident. He has testified in front of the Senate Select Committee and the House of Representatives on Violence in Schools and School Security.

Thomas Munoz experience includes a 24-year tenure as a member of the Houston Fire Department, in which he rose to the rank of Assistant Chief of Homeland Security and Planning. His duties included planning for major city events, including the NCAA Finals, Presidential and Dignitary Visits, the Houston Marathon, and the Olympics Marathon Trials. He was also the Human Relations Chairperson for the International Fire Chiefs Association.

Tom retired as Commander from United States Coast Guard (Reserve) after 21 years of service. During his time in the United States Coast Guard, he served as the Deputy Incident Commander for the New Orleans Vessel Removal Projects, the Texas City Y Spill Liaison, and most recently served as the Hurricane Maria Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer in San Juan, PR. In 2007, Munoz received the Captain Edward R. Williams United States Coast Guard Reserve Award for Excellence. He is also the recipient of five USCG Commendation Medals.

Tom is currently working on his Doctorates in Strategic Communication. He also holds a master's degree in Emergency Management and a Master's degree in Homeland Security from American Military University. He received his BA in Political Science from the University of Houston. Tom completed the Executive Leadership and Management Certification from the University of Notre Dame Mendoza School of Business and is a graduate of the Homeland Security Executive Leadership Program from the Naval Postgraduate School. He also successfully completed the Component National Security Course at the National Defense University in Washington, DC.

## Family Reunification Centers

### **Stephanie Brown**

**ALERRT Center  
Texas State University  
San Marcos, Texas**

Stephanie Brown serves as the Conference Coordinator for the ALERRT Center at Texas State University. Ms. Brown has served for a combined ten years of military service in the United States Air Force and the Army with experience ranging from ground medic in a scout unit to a surgical ICU as a medical technician in a level one trauma center.



Stephanie has served as lead Training Noncommissioned Officer (NCO), field operations Noncommissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC), Aid-Station NCOIC, and unit medical database administrator.

During her tenure at ALERRT, Ms. Brown is noted for her work in improving the effectiveness of the Family Reunification Center in Mass Casualty Incidents.

Ms. Brown received a Bachelor of Science degree in Athletic Training at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. She was awarded two master's degrees: in Organizational Development and Leadership from the University of the Incarnate Word and a Master of Arts in Emergency Management and Homeland Security. She is currently working her doctorate in Public Policy and Homeland Security from Liberty University.