



FBI Denver Citizens Academy Alumni Association 2023 Annual Report

INTRODUCTION

The FBI Denver Citizens Academy Alumni Association's **2023 Annual Report** provides a summary of the Chapter's accomplishments toward the goals and objectives established in Exhibit A of the 2023 Memorandum of Agreement with the FBI Denver Field Office. Founded in 2010, our Chapter remains committed to supporting the FBI's mission and outreach priorities as demonstrated by the programs, events, and community service projects that our all-volunteer membership delivers in partnership with the FBI Denver Field Office.

Following are summary highlights of our goals and accomplishments in 2023.

2023 MOA GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:

- Educate communities about the mission and priorities of the FBI Denver Field Office, assisting the Bureau in cultivating and strengthening community collaborations and partnerships.
- Improve public safety through community education and outreach programs in alignment with the mission and priorities of the FBI Denver Field Office.

MOA GOALS AND INITIATIVES:

MOA Goal #1: Build and strengthen relationships in the communities served by the FBI Denver Field Office, including law enforcement, business, nonprofit, and community groups. In 2023, we accomplished the following:

- To assist the FBI Denver Field Office in building and strengthening relationships across Colorado and Wyoming, our Chapter has created a "**Community Connections**" program. The contact categories range from education, healthcare, government and municipalities, business and industry, and the faith-based/nonprofit community. Our

members continue to provide valuable contacts for the FBI. This initiative allows the Chapter to leverage our collective networks to provide introductions and community connections that assist the Bureau in developing partnerships designed to address critical issues and fulfill the mission of the FBI. The Chapter assisted the Denver Field office in several different areas this year using the connections database.

- In 2023, our Chapter supported and assisted the FBI Denver Field Office in hosting an FBI Citizens Academy. We worked with our members to nominate diverse and top-tier applicants for the Citizens Academy while providing continued support for the program. The FBI Citizens Academy took place from March 8 - May 6, 2023 in Denver resulting in 34 new FBI Denver Citizens Academy graduates.

MOA Goal #2: Provide volunteers and support for FBI outreach programs and community service initiatives addressing the needs of citizens and neighborhoods in 2023.

- Throughout the year, our Chapter partnered with the FBI and local organizations to host a variety of community education and awareness events, including an **Elder Fraud** presentation to a large Senior Living Facility, **Cybersecurity** educational events, **Violent Crime Awareness** presentations and **Active Shooter** training and education.
- In December 2023, our Chapter partnered with the Denver Children’s Foundation for the 2023 Christmas for Kids Event. This annual event provides underprivileged Denver-area kids the opportunity to buy gifts for their family members at a Target store. Our Chapter along with several Field Office employees picked up, drove and shopped with the kids to help select personalized gifts for their families. Our volunteers helped wrap the gifts and shared breakfast with the kids afterwards. This year there was a record number of over 200 kids who were able to provide gifts for their families.



MOA Goal #3: Foster diversity and inclusion through programs that help citizens, organizations, and law enforcement work together as members of a diverse society.

- In 2023, our Chapter worked with our COS to identify and engage a more diverse society, working with the tribal communities in Colorado and Wyoming as directed by the Victims Specialist. We are working closely with the Denver FBI in building trust and sharing information that addresses the needs of these important populations.
- To expand partnerships in diverse communities, we assisted the FBI Denver Field Office with refreshments for their FBI Resource Tables at the Casper, Wyoming Kids Fest and the Juneteenth Community Celebration in Denver.

MOA Goal #4: Provide opportunities for youth and young adults interested in law enforcement and public service careers to participate in the FBI Teen and Collegiate Academies and related engagement activities.

- In 2023, our Chapter hosted an FBI Teen Academy in Denver and a Teen and Collegiate Academy in Lander, Wyoming. The Teen and Collegiate academy was held at the Wind River Indian Reservation in an effort to reach and engage with tribal and marginalized populations. The Academy was a great success with over 45 kids attending.
- The new FBI Denver Explorers program in partnership with our FBI Denver Field Office and the Boys Scouts of America took place January through August of 2023 with 17 boys and girls attending. Programs were developed to enhance the Explorer's knowledge of law enforcement and encourage them to consider law enforcement as a career. All of the programs included character building and leadership with the Explorers not only learning, but leading activities. At the conclusion of the program, Explorers graduated and were presented with certificates and an FBI Challenge coin to recognize their achievements.

MOA Goal #5: Continue to work with FBI Denver leadership to identify opportunities to improve FBI Agent & Professional Staff morale.

- The Executive committee met with the new SAC and are working closely with him to develop an ongoing staff morale program run by our Chapter.
- During the year, we supported the FBI Agents Association Memorial Golf Tournament and placed flags on Fallen Soldiers graves on Veterans Day and Wreaths on graves in December. We also provided a continental breakfast for about 90 FBI employees at a briefing in September.

OTHER CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- In conjunction with Lockheed Martin, our Chapter held an inaugural tactical shooting training which was a huge success. Members had the opportunity to train with firearm specialists on an intense and special course.

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is responsible for governance oversight and operations of the Chapter and meets monthly to plan, organize, and report on progress toward our goals. The Board works closely with the Field Office COS and other FBI personnel to ensure our actions are in alignment with Field Office priorities and continue to build a strong, strategic partnership. The Board of Directors in 2023 included:

Jane Prancan, President	Scott Southworth, Vice President
Michelle Slocum, Treasurer	Kelle Ansel, Secretary
Cindy Kihornay, Membership Coordinator	Sara Mirelez
Keith Marks	Tom Hughes
Tom Gallegos	Scott Meier
David Dameron	Laura Locke
Melody Warren	Laurie Makloski

FBI Community Outreach Specialist (COS) Liaison: Madeline Murray

Membership Development

Our Chapter ended the year with 204 paid members, an increase of 36 from the previous year. Of our paid members, 67 are Lifetime Members, equaling 33%. Several factors contributed to membership growth in 2023 including:

- Alumni and Members of the Board attended each of the FBI Citizens Academy classes held in Denver in 2023, providing refreshments and updates on the Chapter's outreach partnership with the FBI Field Office. Board members were able to do a 15-minute presentation on the Alumni Association one evening as part of our recruitment efforts.
- In November, the Board along with our President's Council initiated a call campaign to members who have not renewed their memberships in the last several years. The personal phone calls were a way to highlight upcoming events and volunteer opportunities, and to reconnect. It was a very successful campaign and has helped clean up the database and reengage with many of our members.
- In December, paid members were invited to a personal night out of dinner and a comedy club with the SAC. This was an opportunity for members to have more specialized time with the SAC as he provided an overview of the Field Office's priorities for the coming year and answered questions from our members.

Volunteer Hours

In 2023 Chapter members volunteered **1,985** hours to plan, organize, implement, and staff outreach programs. Additionally, Board members contributed **2,045.5** volunteer hours to manage Chapter operations for a grand total of **4,030.5** hours.

Chapter Recognitions

The Chapter received the *Excellence in Chapter Operations* and *Excellence in Innovation Awards* at the 2023 National Leadership Conference in Boston, Massachusetts. Three members of our Board and FBI COS Madeline Murray were in attendance to accept the awards.

Chapter Operations Improvements

In 2023, we began using the Wild Apricot association management platform to its fullest extent taking advantage of the web, database, event registration, communications, and payment functions. The Board voted to buy QuickBooks and will be integrating all of our accounting systems into the Wild Apricot system as well.

With the addition of a new board member who has taken over our Marketing and Communications team, we have revamped and improved our website and all social media platforms. The marketing team has also implemented a Communications Request Form to make it easier for teams to request marketing and event notifications.

Fundraising

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, 27,200 of our income came from the successful procurement of donations and grants during the 2023 fiscal year. Monies received are used to support programming expenses such as event venue rentals, contributions to organizations that support victim recovery and at-risk populations, and miscellaneous operational expenses. In 2023, we received \$2,200 in monetary donations and \$12,400 in Membership Dues. In-kind contributions were also received for printing services, refreshments, and other related expenses in support of our mission.

SUMMARY

Our achievements in 2023 can be attributed to a solid strategic plan developed in partnership with the FBI Denver Field Office, dedicated and hard-working Board leadership, engaged members committed to the mission and community partners who support our goals.

Our three main Chapter goals for 2023 were to have 200 active members, raise \$25,000, and to log 4,000 volunteer hours. We are pleased to report that we were able to exceed our goals in all three areas.

We believe our plan provided a thoughtful roadmap to set direction, define priorities, and focus limited resources on programs to make that happen.

As the future unfolds, new needs and opportunities will no doubt emerge, and we are prepared to embrace change while staying on course in our goals to support the mission and priorities of the FBI.

SUBMITTED BY

Name: Kelle Ansel

Board Position: Board Secretary

Chapter: FBI Denver CAAA

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