



AUDITOR & INVESTIGATOR CONFERENCE

2023 Indiana Auditor and Investigator Conference - Presenter Bios

David Cook was appointed to serve as Inspector General by Governor Eric Holcomb in 2021. Cook previously served as the chairman of the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission. He was appointed by then-Gov. Pence in 2015 and reappointed by Gov. Holcomb in 2017. The Commission is responsible for regulating and licensing the alcohol and tobacco industries. The ATC also directs the Indiana State Excise Police. During his tenure as chairman, Cook built an enforcement strategy focused on compliance through education and assistance and partnered with local law enforcement to address problem establishments and decrease criminal activity. He also created industry roundtables to improve communication between the commissioners and industry members.

Prior to his time at ATC, Cook served as judge of Marion Superior Criminal Division 7, a high-volume misdemeanor court. From 1995-2008, he served as the chief public defender for Marion County. Additionally, he served as a judicial officer on civil and family law cases in the Marion County Circuit Court. From 1979-1989, he worked in the Marion County Prosecutor's Office as chief trial deputy. Cook also spent time in private practice.

Cook earned an undergraduate degree from Ball State University and a law degree from the Indiana University McKinney School of Law.

Jake Hardesty is a Special Agent with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Inspector General (OIG) covering 6 states in the Midwest, to include Indiana. Jake investigates fraud, waste, and abuse impacting EPA programs and operations. Prior to joining EPA-OIG, he was an Active-Duty Special Agent with the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division (CID). Jake was stationed at Fort Campbell, KY where he worked a large variety of cases that included narcotics, sexual assaults, homicides, and fraud. Jake is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a degree in Criminal Justice.

Thomas Earnhart is a Special Agent with EPA-OIG. Thomas started his federal service in the U.S. Army as an Intelligence professional back in 2008 and was discharged in 2020 as a staff sergeant. During that time, he deployed to Iraq multiple times. Thomas has also spent time between Kabul, AFG and Tampa, FL supporting the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) Transnational Threats Branch as a Counter Threat Finance Analyst, providing support to Federal Law Enforcement agencies and their investigations. Thomas has a degree in Intelligence Analysis-Criminal Intelligence from Indiana State University along with a degree in Intelligence Operations.

Kristina Srica is an Assistant Chief in the Chicago Office of the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, where her work focuses on a range of criminal antitrust matters. She has served in a number of other positions since joining the Division, including as Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General and a Special Assistant United States Attorney in two districts. Kristina has investigated and prosecuted a variety of cartel cases in a broad span of industries, including financial markets and generic drugs.

Lizzy Noonan-Pomada is a Trial Attorney in the Chicago Office of the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, where her work focuses on a range of criminal antitrust matters. Prior to joining the Division, Lizzy was a litigation associate at a global law firm, where her practice included corporate investigations and compliance risk mitigation.

Barbara Trathen currently serves as Chief Deputy Prosecutor in the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office and has been a prosecutor for over thirty years. An honors graduate of Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law, she has prosecuted several high-profile cases, including several homicide cases involving the death penalty as well as the Mike Tyson rape trial. Mrs. Trathen was named the 1992 Indianapolis Woman of the Year and is a frequent guest lecturer at many training sessions and schools. She previously served as the supervisor of the Criminal Charging division and previously served as the Director of Training for the Marion County Prosecutor's Office. In this role, Mrs. Trathen provided legal and trial advocacy training to the 200 attorneys at the Marion County Prosecutor's Office and the 1700 officers in the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department.

Tera K. Klutz is the 57th Indiana Auditor of State and the first CPA to serve as the state's Chief Financial Officer. She was appointed in 2017, elected in 2018 and re-elected in 2022. As Auditor, Klutz is focused on providing accurate information, maintaining and enhancing government transparency, and delivering great customer service to ALL Hoosiers.

Prior to becoming the Auditor of State, she was elected as the County Auditor in Allen County in 2010 and 2014. She was named Auditor of the Year in 2016 by the Indiana Auditor's Association. Before serving in the public sector, Klutz was as a Senior Accountant at Crowe and PwC in Ft. Wayne.

Klutz holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Indiana University- Purdue University Fort Wayne, and is a member of the Indiana CPA Society, the American Institute of CPAs, and Cornerstone Lutheran Church.

Michael Lepper is a Special Agent for the Indiana Office of Inspector General (OIG). Michael is a graduate of Indiana Wesleyan University and the FBI National Academy. He began his career in law enforcement as a Police Officer for the Tulsa Police Department in Oklahoma. Prior to his role at OIG, Michael served in various roles at the Indiana State Police for 33 years. He continues to serve as an adjunct professor at Indiana Wesleyan University.

Mark Mitchell is a Special Agent and the Director of Investigations for the Indiana Office of Inspector General (OIG). Mark is a graduate of Indiana Wesleyan University, the Southern Police Institute, and the FBI National Academy. He served in various roles at Indiana State Police for 27 years. Prior to coming to the OIG in 2007, he served as Director of the Indiana Department of Revenue's Criminal Investigation Section and Director of the Indiana Gaming Commission's Charity Gaming Division.

Charles "Chuck" Coffin is a Special Agent for the Indiana Office of Inspector General (OIG). Chuck is a graduate of Indiana University and Marion College. Prior to beginning his role at the OIG in 2006, Chuck served in Indiana State Government as an Administrative Law Judge, a Law Enforcement Information Technology Consultant, and an Investigator. For the majority of Chuck's extensive law enforcement career, he served in various roles at the Indiana State Police for 26 years, including in Internal Affairs as a Civil Liability Investigator and as Commander of ISP's Special Investigations Section. Chuck is also a veteran of the United States Air Force.