

38TH ANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS
**CONFERENCE
 & TRADE SHOW**
 2021

SEPT. 12-17



2021 Law Enforcement Operations Conference and Trade Show – Kansas City, MO

BY BUCK ROGERS

The NTOA returned to Kansas City this September for its 38th Annual Law Enforcement Operations Conference and Trade Show. More than 840 attendees representing 296 agencies from 46 states and Canada, joined us at the Kansas City Marriott Downtown for a full week of seminars, incident debriefs and networking with leaders and innovators in the law enforcement community. It is safe to say that most of us entered 2020 without knowing that the new year would usher in the first global pandemic in more than a century. Now, even as the coronavirus pandemic in the United States continues, coming together at the annual conference and networking with others was one step toward normalcy.

More than 185 companies showcased the latest technologies and products during our two-day trade show at the Kansas City Convention Center. Twenty-four companies were first-time exhibitors at our event. Attendees had an opportunity to see for themselves many of the products featured in our Member Tested Program throughout the

year. They also enjoyed food, drinks and networking, as well as the opportunity to attend debriefs of an armed mobile hostage situation and an officer hostage rescue from the Orange County, Florida, jail.

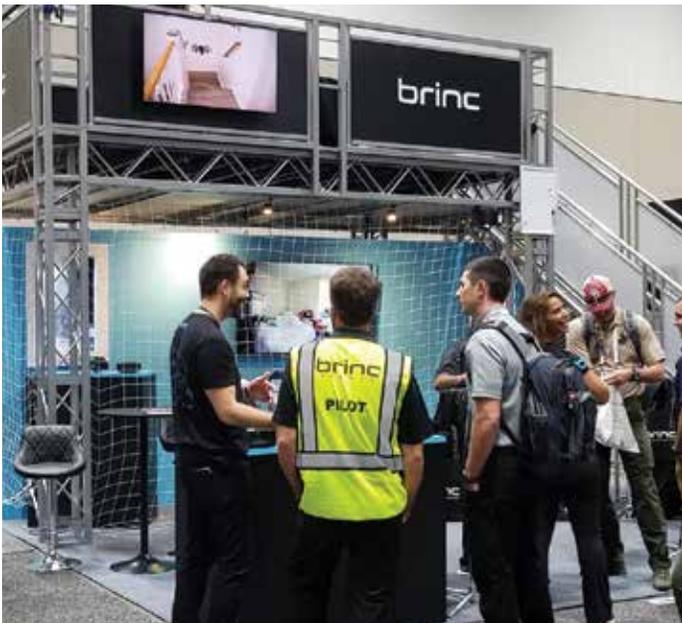
A warm welcome from Executive Director Thor Eells opened the conference on Monday morning. He introduced Deputy Chief Joe Mabin of the Kansas City (MO) Police Department and thanked him for all the support in making the conference a success. Also recognized from our co-host, the Heartland Tactical Officers Association, were Fred Farris, Matt Payne, Chris Winger, John Williams and Jeff Self. Their dedication to this conference spanned over two years due to the pandemic. Their endless hours of preparation and organization of the event were key reasons the conference was safe, secure, and a success.

Keynote speaker Dan Schilling spent more than 30 years in the military, primarily as a combat controller and special tactics officer. Schilling deployed in numerous combat and



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FEATURE

clandestine operations including Operation Gothic Serpent (Black Hawk Down), saving the lives of a Ranger and SEAL Team Six member while under fire. He also served as Joint Special Operations Command weapons of mass destruction U.S. interagency and intelligence community director. He holds the Guinness World Record for most BASE jumps in 24 hours (201), a feat he conducted to benefit children who have lost a parent in special operations through the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. He is a New York Times and Amazon international bestselling author for his book "Alone at Dawn." The release of his new book, "The Power of Awareness," coincided with his founding of the Power of Awareness Institute with Dr. Mitch Javidi and retired Col. Randy Watt.

The annual presentation of the NTOA Awards recognized outstanding individuals and significant achievements that have occurred throughout the law enforcement special operations community over the past year. Such accomplished and dedicated members contribute to our field in so many ways, and the NTOA was gratified to acknowledge and award some of these exceptional individuals. (See award winners on page 22).

The National World War I Museum and Memorial, the only World War I memorial in the U.S. and the largest in the world, was an honorable and fitting location for our Welcome Reception. Many attendees were able to tour the museum after an excellent meal catered by Jack Stack Barbecue. We also thank Boulevard Brewing Co. for donating beer and serving staff. The event was generously co-hosted by Point Blank Enterprises.

Beginning Tuesday, attendees had their pick of more than 100 seminars and incident debriefs, including the Oregon District active shooter incident in Dayton, Ohio; a 30-hour barricaded suspect in Austin, Texas; and the response to protests and civil unrest in Louisville, among many others. We thank our presenters for sharing the harrowing stories about incidents that will affect their lives forever.

Our outstanding seminars featured topics such as Excellence in Training, Jedi Mindset, Tactical Mission Planning, Applying the NTOA TROS to your Team, Tactical Mission Planning, Critical Thinking and Condensed Time Decision-Making for your Tactical Team, and leadership classes for the team leader and commander. We brought in over 100 instructors to lecture on various topics to sharpen attendees' skills and educate members on legal updates, trends in policing and significant incidents across the nation.

The NTOA would like to thank all attendees, instructors and vendors for their participation in and contributions to our 2021 conference.

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS CONFERENCE SPONSORS



RAFFLE PRIZES

Thank you to the many companies who donated prizes to be raffled off at our conference to help raise funds for various scholarships offered by the NTOA.

We are excited to announce
next year's conference will take place in

**MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN
SEPT. 25 – 30, 2022**

Watch our website for updates on the
conference and online registration.

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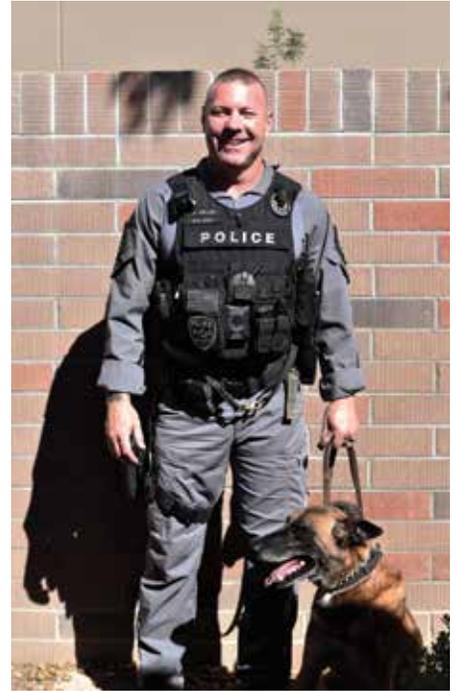
Spirit of NTOA Award

Len Light, President and CEO of Lenco Armored Vehicles, for his continued efforts to support the mission and standards of the NTOA.



TEMS Award

Dr. Michael Kremkau, Saint Patrick Hospital, Missoula County Sheriff's Office, and Missoula County SRT, for his dedication and commitment to the advancement of the TEMS concept to the community he serves.



K9 SWAT Deployment Award

Officer Michael Miller, Goodyear (AZ) Police Department, for his ability to deploy with another agency's SWAT team, apprehend an armed attempted homicide suspect, and ensure that no law enforcement personnel were injured. (Officer Miller was unable to attend the conference.)



Unit Citation for Valor

Jersey City Police Department Emergency Services Unit, for their response, training, actions and professionalism. (l-r) Lt. Anibal Rosario and Lt. John Friend



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THANK YOU

Co-hosts

(l-r) John Williams, Jeff Self, Fred Farris, Matt Payne and Chris Winger of the Heartland Tactical Officers Association



Deputy Chief Joe Mabin
Kansas City (MO) Police Department
(Left)

Chaplain Lenny LaGuardia
(Right)



Keynote Speaker
Dan Schilling



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