



## 2026 Organized Retail Crime Conference Agenda



- 8:00am Check-in & Networking (*light breakfast provided by BJ's*)
- 9:00am Keynote Opening Remarks
  - Assistant Chief George Nichols, *Prince George's County Police Department*
- 9:10am Legislative & Mid Atlantic Organized Retail Crime Alliance (MAORCA) Updates
  - Cailey Locklair, *President, Maryland Retailers Alliance (MRA)*
  - Jeff Meyer, *Vice President, MAORCA; Global Investigator and Senior Manager, Walmart Global Investigations*
- 9:50am: Break
- 10:00am Investigations Across Jurisdictional Lines
  - Sergeant Alicia Wheeler, *Prince George's County Police Department Organized Retail Theft Task Force*
- 11:00am: Break
- 11:15am Maryland State's Attorney Updates
  - Robert Hill, *Assistant State's Attorney, Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office*
  - Morgan L. McLaughlin, *Assistant State's Attorney, Economic Crimes Unit*
  - Moderated by: Cailey Locklair, *MRA*
- 12:00pm Lunch *provided by Harris Teeter*
- 1:00pm Gift Card Fraud Ecosystem
  - Emily Grove, *Homeland Security Investigations (HSI)*
  - Lisa Rufolo, *Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA)*
- 2:00pm: Break
- 2:15pm Criminal Intel - Working with State Fusion Centers
  - Len Taylor, *Intelligence Manager of the Gang Analysis and Tactical Assistance Branches within the Criminal Intelligence Section of the Maryland State Police*
- 3:30pm Open Forum
- 4:00pm End of Program

## Conference Speaker Biographies



**Emily Grove** is a Special Agent with the Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Washington, D.C. Global Trade Fraud Group. In this role, she investigates commercial fraud and intellectual property rights, along with other U.S. Customs violations. So far, she has prosecuted several organized retail crime groups who use fraudulently obtained gift cards to purchase high demand exports at the federal and state level. Emily brings 14 years of law enforcement experience to her group. Prior to her HSI position, she worked as a Police Officer in Henrico County Virginia. She is also a Navy Reserve Senior Chief Petty Officer with 14 years of military service.



**Robert Hill** has been Assistant State's Attorney with the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office for over 30 years. Serves currently as Chief of the Special Prosecutions Division and the Grand Jury Unit. He specializes in the prosecution of financial crimes including complex fraud, theft, embezzlement and financial exploitation matters. He is also a long-time member of the Maryland State's Attorney's Association Legislative Committee and frequently advocates and testifies on legislation of importance to the criminal justice system. Education: American University Law School – LLM, Catholic University Law School – JD and Colorado College – BA.



**Cailey Locklair** is the President of the Maryland Retailers Alliance, Maryland Chain Drug Store Association and Maryland Food Industry Council, and has worked and advocated in Maryland State and local politics for almost twenty years. She attended the University of Delaware where she received her Bachelor of Arts in political science and Towson University where she received her Master of Science degree in integrated homeland security management with a focus on security policy. She also holds a Certificate of Security Assessment and Management from Towson University and attended the United States Chamber of Commerce's Institute for Organizational Management at Villanova. Previously, she worked at the Baltimore Jewish Council as their Deputy Executive Director and was the Assistant House Administrator for the Maryland House of Delegates. In 2014, she was chosen by The Seventh State as an "Annapolis Top Five Young Gun," 2019 by the Daily Record as a "Successful by 40 VIP," 2024 by the Daily Record on their Lobbying and Government Affairs Power List and received the national

## Conference Speaker Biographies

J. Thomas Weyant award by the National Retail Federation. Cailey is a member of the State's Unemployment Insurance Legislative Oversight Committee, is a past Chair of the national Council of State Retailer Associations, Leadership Maryland Class of 2024, sits on the board of Goodwill of the Chesapeake and is on the Executive Directors Council to the Maryland Tourism Development Board. In her free time, she enjoys volunteering with animal organizations, boating, playing softball and is a proud "sponsor" of Naval Academy midshipmen. She resides in Annapolis, MD.



**Jeff Meyer** is a Global Investigator, Senior Manager with Walmart, responsible for leading complex investigations impacting Walmart's business across the Mid-Atlantic. His work centers on Organized Retail Crime, consumer and financial fraud, and other critical threats to enterprise integrity. With over 20 years of leadership experience across multiple retail sectors, including big box, specialty, and mall-based environments, Jeff has developed a reputation for building high-performing teams and delivering results in complex environments.

Jeff is the co-founder and current Vice President of the Mid-Atlantic Organized Retail Crime Alliance (MAORCA), a nonprofit coalition of retail investigators and law enforcement professionals. In this role, he has helped expand the organization's digital training resources, led multi-state intelligence-sharing efforts, and organized regional conferences focused on combating ORC. His dedication to advancing investigative practices and fostering collaboration between public and private sectors continues to drive impact across the industry.



**Morgan McLaughlin** is an Assistant State's Attorney in Frederick County in the Economic Crimes Unit. He has worked at the Frederick County State's Attorney's Office since 2023. He primarily focuses on fraud, theft, burglaries, and arson. Morgan is a member of the Maryland Organized Retail Theft Task Force to help combat the proliferation of organized retail theft across Maryland. He previously served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Scott Rolle in the Circuit Court for Frederick County and the Honorable Richard Titus in the Circuit Court for Carroll County. Prior to his career as an attorney, Morgan worked for Walmart for nearly 10 years, holding various hourly and management positions. Morgan received his Juris Doctor from the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law. He attended the University of Texas at

## Conference Speaker Biographies

Austin, where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Government and a Minor in History. In 2024, Morgan received the Stephen Leroux Memorial Young Lawyer Award from the Frederick County Bar Association.



**Assistant Chief George A. Nichols, Jr.** oversees the daily operations for the Prince George's County Police Department (PGPD). An executive-level police officer and US Marine Corps veteran, his career includes over 28 years of law enforcement experience as a PGPD member at various ranks and command posts. He currently serves as second in command of the core managerial team leading more than 1,700 police officers and 300 civilian members serving over 900,000 residents and business owners across a diverse demographic and geographic area directly within the National Capital Region. George holds a B.S. in Criminal Justice from Colorado Technical University, an M.A. in Human Resources Training and Development from Seton Hall University, graduate of the Boston University Senior Management Institute for Police Session 65 (SMIP), and graduate of the Police Executive Leadership Institute Session IV (PELI).

Assistant Chief Nichols' memberships and activities include but are not limited to the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE), Mid-Atlantic Cold Case Homicide Investigators Association (MACCHIA), and Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOC), National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA) Prince George's County Chapter, and the Hyattsville-Landover (MD) Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, among others. As a guest lecturer, he has delivered presentations on various topics to audiences ranging from the local community level to professional international colleagues.



**Lisa Rufolo** leads the RILA Communities Foundation which promotes the vibrancy of communities in which retailers operate by advancing public safety efforts and economic health. Through programs like the Vibrant Communities Initiative (VCI) and Gift Card Fraud Prevention Alliance, Rufolo forges partnerships with government stakeholders, including federal, state and local law enforcement and prosecutors, as well as community and social service organizations, to develop research, educational materials

## *Conference Speaker Biographies*

and evidence needed to create and implement data-backed solutions to addressing retail crime. She has over 30 years of relevant experience in both the public and private sector, including as an assistant county prosecutor (Hudson County, New Jersey) and in-house attorney at The Home Depot.

**Len Taylor** is currently the Intelligence Manager of the Gang Analysis and Tactical Assistance Branches within the Criminal Intelligence Section of the Maryland State Police. His law enforcement career spans more than 44 years, beginning as a Patrolman for the Baltimore County (MD) Police Department in 1982. He has worked as a patrol officer, detective, major case investigator, intelligence officer and a supervisor of both investigative, patrol and civilian analytical personnel. He has worked in various specialized investigative fields including Crimes Against Persons (Robbery and Homicide), Criminal Intelligence, Homeland Security and the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF). He has also served as law enforcement coordinator directly responsible for managing intelligence sharing issues for Delaware, Maryland and Washington, DC. His current assignment has him, along with his teams, embedded at the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC), where basic and advanced investigative case support is provided to any local, state and federal law enforcement agency requesting assistance to further their investigations.



**Sergeant Alicia Wheeler #3498**, a 2009 graduate of Towson University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and Criminal Justice, has served with the Prince George's County Police Department for 17 years. Throughout her career, Sgt. Wheeler has worked in a variety of assignments, including the Special Assignments Team, the Crimes Against Persons Unit, and the Robbery Suppression Team, with experience in violent crime, human trafficking, and robbery investigations. Sgt.

Wheeler is an experienced Computer Voice Stress Analysis Examiner which is utilized in an array of investigations. Promoted to Sergeant in 2021, she supervised investigators at District I – Hyattsville Station before being selected in 2026 to lead the Retail Theft Task Force for Prince George's County.

*With Special Thanks to Our Sponsors*



**Harris Teeter**  
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD MARKET



sam's club



**Giant**

**Walmart** 



**Wholesale Club**