



FBI Dallas Citizens Academy Alumni Association 2024 Annual Report

Introduction

The 2024 Annual Report of the FBI Dallas Citizens Academy Alumni Association highlights the Chapter's achievements in alignment with the goals and objectives outlined in Exhibit A of the 2024 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the FBI Dallas field office. Since its founding in 2000, our Chapter has remained steadfast in its commitment to supporting the FBI's mission and community outreach efforts. This is evident through the various programs, events, and community service initiatives led by our dedicated, all-volunteer membership, in close collaboration with the FBI Dallas field office. Below are the key highlights of our goals and accomplishments for 2024.

2024 MOA Goals and Accomplishments

MOA Goal #1: Community Outreach Events

- The FBI Dallas CAAA organized its third quarterly meeting in conjunction with National Night Out, featuring a distinguished panel that included FBI Dallas SAC Chad Yarbrough, DEA Dallas SAC Eduardo Chavez, and the Chiefs of Police from Frisco, Fort Worth, and Irving. This event served to promote the collaborative efforts of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. Over 90 attendees participated in this event.
- The FBI Dallas CAAA held its second quarterly meeting focusing on Elder Abuse Awareness. Led by Brandi Schiflet, Chief Operating Officer of North Dallas Bank and Trust, the event took place at the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum and included a private viewing of the *Dimensions in Testimony* exhibit, offering attendees a deeply educational experience as well as a tour of the museum.
- The FBI Dallas CAAA supported the 2024 Human and Child Sex Trafficking event, hosted at the Grand Prairie Uptown Theater in Grand Prairie, TX. The event brought together numerous organizations, including the FBI, ATF, Grand Prairie ISD, Grand Prairie Police Department, Harvest Christian University, and the NAACP, to address and raise awareness about human trafficking in our community.
- On a monthly basis, the FBI Dallas CAAA continued to support Bring the Light Ministries, a local non-profit organization that provides food, shelter, and training opportunities to

reenter the workforce for the homeless community in Dallas. The FBI Dallas CAAA provides opportunities for its general membership to volunteer their hours to help serve this cause.

MOA Goal #2: FBI related Community Outreach Events

- The FBI Dallas CAAA spearheaded the FBI Day initiative, which welcomed approximately 200 students from the following school districts: Mesquite, Forney, Rockwall, Richardson, and Garland. This event provided students with valuable insights into the work of the FBI and its impact on the community.
- The FBI Dallas CAAA awarded two \$1,200 Criminal Justice Scholarships to Irene Katsanis and Brayden Sanford. One of the recipients, Irene Katsanis, attended our second quarterly meeting with her family furthering her connection to the Chapter and the important work we do.
- The FBI Dallas CAAA continued our long time support of the FBI Dallas Teen Academy by providing snacks for the event.

MOA Goal #3: Additional Initiatives

- The FBI Dallas CAAA launched its first quarterly meeting, centered around the theme of *Cyber Ransomware – Cyber Threats and Security: Personal, Business, National & International*. This event aimed to raise awareness about the ongoing risks of cyberattacks and the importance of cybersecurity. The meeting saw a strong turnout of more than 90 attendees, during which new Board Members were introduced, as well as the new Special Agent in Charge, Chad Yarbrough.
- The FBI Dallas CAAA organized a special event at the National Medal of Honor Museum, set to open in March 2025. The Medal of Honor represents the highest military distinction in the United States, awarded to those who have demonstrated exceptional courage and sacrifice in service to our country. The National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation is dedicated to preserving and sharing the stories of these heroes. In advance of the museum's opening, the FBI Dallas CAAA has arranged an exclusive preview for our members to honor the legacy of these extraordinary individuals.
- The FBI Dallas CAAA organized two separate events to promote connections and friendships between members of the Chapter, family and friends. The first event was a *Meet-n-Greet* held at a local restaurant with approximately 40 attendees. The second event was a *Holiday Social* with approximately 25 attendees and a special invitation to the recent 2024 Dallas CA graduates.

MOA Goal #4: Programming Involving FBI Personnel and Executive Management

- The FBI Dallas CAAA Board participated in the 2024 FBI Dallas Citizen Class as ambassadors representing the Chapter in a professional capacity. During the session, members maintained a presence, adhering to the protocol of remaining visible but refraining from speaking unless invited by the COS.

- The Board successfully increased the Chapter's LinkedIn following by 52.25% growing from 178 to 271 followers over the course of the year.

Board of Directors

President – Dr. Bettye Heath

Vice President – Scott Kim

Secretary – Elisa Morales

Treasurer – Lori Dodson

Director of Education – Sherman Burns

Director of Community Outreach – Phil Glauben

Director of Community Outreach – Darryl Loy

Director of Chapter Engagement – Tammy Cotton Hartnett

Director of Chapter Support – Ejike Okpa

Director of Chapter Services – Hannah Francis

Director of Chapter Development – Dave Harben

Interim COS: Ashley Groover - (Permanent COS has been interviewed; will be selected soon.)

Membership Development

Our overall membership grew from 465 to 481 members this year. Of these, 287 are paid members, reflecting a slight decrease of 3 compared to the previous year. Notably, the number of lifetime members increased by 7, bringing the total to 164.

Volunteer Hours

In 2024, Chapter members dedicated over 2,000 volunteer hours to plan, organize, and execute various outreach programs, while also managing Chapter operations. This extraordinary commitment reflects the dedication of our members to supporting both the Chapter and the broader community.

Chapter Recognitions

The Board proudly received the prestigious 2024 Gold Star Chapter designation which is a significant honor that recognizes our exceptional proficiency in operations. This esteemed designation serves as a symbol of our continued excellence in community outreach and is a testament to our unwavering commitment to fostering strong partnerships with the FBI Dallas Field Office. The Gold Star designation highlights our Chapter's leadership, efficiency, and impactful contributions to strengthening community relations and advancing the mission of the FBI.

Chapter Operations Improvements

In 2024, the Chapter made a strategic shift by transitioning our board meetings from a remote format to fully in-person gatherings. This change was aimed at fostering greater engagement, participation, and stronger relationships among board members. Additionally, the Board held its first-ever retreat at the Gaylord Hotel in Grapevine, where we focused on setting initiatives and goals for 2025. This retreat was a significant milestone, led by the President, and provided an opportunity for the Board to collaborate on long-term strategic planning.

While we experienced a few resignations from Board members due to personal health circumstances, we were able to quickly recruit new members to maintain our operational strength. To streamline our efforts, each Board member was assigned specific responsibilities, with regular updates and progress reports to the President and Vice President, ensuring accountability and efficient execution of our objectives.

Fundraising

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, all of our income is derived from donations, either designated for specific events or as general contributions, as well as membership fees. These funds are used to support a variety of programming expenses, including event venue rentals, contributions to organizations that aid in victim recovery and support at-risk populations, and other operational costs. In 2024, we received a total of \$12,800.00 in monetary donations, which directly contributed to the continued success and impact of our initiatives.

Summary

Our achievements in 2024 can be partially attributed to the increase on our Board from 5 to 11 members in Director positions. By expanding our Board, the Dallas FBI CAAA was able to launch new initiatives, define priorities, share diverse ideas and create new opportunities for its' members.

Our future goals are to continue to provide opportunities for our members to be engaged in both the Dallas FBI CAAA and the community. We believe that the positive attitude of our Board of Directors will be a great motivation to increase our member engagement.

The Dallas FBI CAAA will dedicate the year 2025 to seeking out opportunities in North Texas to provide the much needed support for the mental health of first responders and veterans. As one of the main concerns which was brought to our Chapter's attention by area Police Chiefs - we hope to demonstrate to the community that the Dallas FBI CAAA heard the call and are responding with enthusiasm and a deep appreciation for all members of law enforcement.

SUBMITTED BY

Name: Dr. Bettye Heath

Board Position: President

Chapter: Dallas, TX

Contact Email: bheath@fbidallascaaa.org

Written in collaboration with Dallas FBI CAAA Vice President - Scott Kim