



WELCOME

Prosecutors' Center for Excellence Pop-Up
Organized Retail Theft: Challenges and Solutions
February 13, 2025

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PCE



Organized Retail Theft: Challenges and Solutions

AGENDA

February 13, 2025

12pm to 2pm ET

Welcome

Kristine Hamann, Executive Director and Bonnie Sard, Senior Attorney—Prosecutors' Center for Excellence

Retail Theft in New York County (Manhattan)

Andrew Warshawer, Deputy Chief—New York County District Attorney's Office, NY

Auror and the Arizona Organized Retail Crime Association (AZORCA) for Law Enforcement

Patrick Patton, District Asset Protection Manager—Lowe's Companies Inc.

Overview of Retail Theft

Khris Hamlin, Vice President Asset Protection—Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA)

Multi-County Program

Eric Zahnd, Prosecuting Attorney—Platte County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, MO

Fast Pass Program

Jeff Reisig, District Attorney—Yolo County District Attorney's Office, CA

Conclusion

Kristine Hamann, Executive Director—Prosecutors' Center for Excellence



Speaker Bios



Kristine Hamann
Executive Director
Prosecutors' Center for Excellence

Kristine Hamann is the Executive Director and founder of Prosecutors' Center for Excellence (PCE). PCE provides consulting, publications, national meetings, and research services for prosecutors to promote best practices, spur innovations and implement solutions. PCE conducts assessments of prosecutor offices of all sizes providing recommendations for improved practices and efficiencies. She is a technical advisor and subject matter expert on many topics including gun crime, witness intimidation, ethics, crime strategy and data collection, community outreach and implicit bias. From 2013 to 2016, Kristine Hamann was a Visiting Fellow at DOJ/ Bureau of Justice Assistance and has worked with prosecutors in over 40 states on best practices. She chairs the National and NY State Best Practices Committee for prosecutors and teaches at Georgetown Law School. She was a member of the American Bar Association (ABA) Criminal Justice Council and is on the ABA Criminal Justice Journal Editorial Board. From 2008 to 2013, Ms. Hamann was the Executive Assistant District Attorney for the Special Narcotics Prosecutor for the City of New York. From 2007 to 2008, Ms. Hamann was the New York State Inspector General. From 1998 to 2007, Ms. Hamann served as the Executive Assistant DA to DA Robert Morgenthau in the Manhattan District Attorney's Office in New York City. Prior to 1998, Ms. Hamann held several other positions in that office including Deputy Chief of the Trial Division and Director of Training. She started her career as a violent crime prosecutor. She has received various awards for her public service, including The Morgenthau Award (NYS District Attorney's Association 2020), The Ethics and Accountability Award (City and State NY, 2018), Outstanding Prosecutor of 2013 (NY State Bar Association), Prosecutor of the Year for Executive Leadership (NYS District Attorney's Association 2010), Excellence in Government Award (Albany Law School, 2008) and Public Service Award for Outstanding Public Service (NY County Bar Association, 2005).



Khris Hamlin
Vice President of Asset Protection
Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA)

Khris Hamlin is an accomplished retail executive with extensive experience leading asset protection, risk mitigation, and operational excellence across top-tier organizations. As Vice President of Asset Protection at RILA, Hamlin oversees the organization's AP Committees, supports content development for the annual Retail AP Conference, and plays a pivotal role in priority initiatives that impact the Retail Asset Protection Communities at large.

Before joining RILA, Hamlin served as Senior Vice President of Asset Protection, Inventory Control, and DC/Logistics Operations at Saks OFF 5TH, where he led corporate and store-level asset protection strategies, risk assessments, and inventory control. He also directed strategic hiring, learning and development, distribution center operations, transportation, and logistics, while serving on the executive leadership team. In this capacity, he helped shape a forward-thinking approach to operational risk management and key performance indicators.

Earlier in his career, Hamlin held regional asset protection, regional operations, and store leadership roles at Nordstrom Inc., Belk Inc., and Macy's Inc. He is also an active member of the International Organization of Black Security Executives (IOBSE) and serves on its board of directors as Director of Early Career Professionals.

Hamlin earned a master's degree in psychology from the University of Baltimore and holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from George Mason University. His commitment to excellence, strategic innovation, and team engagement continues to shape the industry's landscape in asset protection and beyond.



Patrick Patton
District Asset Protection Manager
Lowe's Home Improvement, Metro Phoenix Area, AZ

Patrick Patton is a District Asset Protection Manager with Lowe's Home Improvement in the Metro Phoenix area. Patrick has worked in the Loss Prevention/Asset Protection/Retail Operations industry for over 19 years and holds several professional certifications including Certified Forensic Interviewer from the IAI and Loss Prevention Certified from the LPF. In addition to his LP/AP background Patrick was a non-compensated employee of the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office for over 12 years. Patrick currently serves on the Arizona Attorney General's Office Organized Retail Crime Task Force, the Arizona Retailers Association LP Board and is the President of the Arizona Organized Retail Crime Association.



Jeff Reisig
District Attorney
Yolo County District Attorney's Office, CA

Jeff Reisig is the District Attorney of Yolo County, which is one of California's fifty-eight counties, located in Northern California, between the San Francisco Bay Area and Sacramento. Reisig has served as a prosecutor for over 26 years and has been the county's chief elected law enforcement official since 2007, making him one of California's longest serving district attorneys.

During his tenure as DA, Reisig has focused intently on advocating for victims of crime and pursuing a balanced approach to public safety through methods designed to enhance accountability while also embracing programs to reduce recidivism and the criminal justice footprint. Reisig has also developed multiple highly successful diversion programs to help those suffering from serious addiction and mental illness.

Reisig was the first prosecutor in the nation to launch a third-party hosted data-transparency portal in collaboration with the national reform organization Measures for Justice. The portal provides the public nearly unrestricted access to criminal justice data from his office, while also giving community members a platform to directly share their findings and engage policy makers and the media on the data.

District Attorney Reisig is a member of the National District Attorneys Association and a member of the board of directors for The Karpel Foundation. He served as the President of the California District Attorneys Association in 2021-2022.

Education:

B.S. – UC Davis –Agricultural and Managerial Economics

J.D. – University of the Pacific



Bonnie Sard
Senior Attorney
Prosecutors' Center for Excellence

Bonnie Sard served as an Assistant District Attorney at the New York County District Attorney's Office for over 25 years as a trial lawyer, Deputy Bureau Chief, Bureau Chief, Chief of the Conviction Integrity Program, and Chief of Administration and Director of Legal Hiring.

In 2013, Ms. Sard became the Chief of Administration and Director of Legal Hiring. As a member of the District Attorney's executive staff, she managed the internal operations of the Office, including human resources, office support and facilities operation and management. She designed and delivered training to legal and support staff on Office policies, including the ethical responsibilities of prosecutors. Ms. Sard oversaw the vetting and hiring of approximately 75 ADAs a year from over 1000 applicants. In 2020 Ms. Sard was also named the Agency Chief Restart Officer, the position created to manage the Office's response to the Covid-19 crisis.

In 2010 Ms. Sard served as the inaugural Chief of the Office's Conviction Integrity Program (CIP), which was created to prevent wrongful convictions and address claims of actual innocence made on behalf of convicted individuals. As Chief, Ms. Sard conducted and supervised the reinvestigation of decades-old homicide, robbery, and sexual assault convictions. She was responsible for establishing and implementing best practices to prevent wrongful convictions, focusing on identification cases, investigative and interview protocols, disclosure obligations and discovery procedures.

As an ADA, Ms. Sard handled and tried a wide variety of cases including complex homicides, sex crimes and stalking cases. She supervised over 40 ADAs on pre- and post-grand jury investigations and trials of felony and misdemeanor cases.

Ms. Sard has lectured at various law schools and conferences on prosecutorial ethics, best practices, trial advocacy, criminal procedure, and evidence. She was awarded the Outstanding Public Service Award by the New York County Lawyers Association in 2013.



Andrew Warshawer
Deputy Chief of the Trial Division
New York County District Attorney's Office, NY

Andrew Warshawer is the Deputy Chief of the Trial Division in the New York County District Attorney's Office and also serves as Counsel for Emerging Technologies. In those roles, Andrew supervises felony prosecutions and related litigation in New York County and advises on Office policies including those surrounding the impact of new technologies on cases and investigations. Andrew joined the Office as a line prosecutor in 2006, and, prior to his appointment as Deputy Chief of the Trial Division, served as Chief of the Crime Strategies Unit from March of 2018 to September of 2020, and as an Assistant District Attorney in the Violent Criminal Enterprises Unit from 2013 to 2018. During that time, Andrew was the lead Assistant on the largest gang prosecution in the history of the New York County District Attorney's Office, which spanned four years of gang violence, and resulted in the prosecution of 103 members of three street gangs in West Harlem for conspiracy to commit murder, and other charges. Andrew's work has focused on privacy issues, digital investigations, and information management, and has extensively litigated the seizure, search, and use of electronic evidence. He has also spoken around the country about the importance and use of criminal intelligence in bringing targeted prosecutions, as well as in maximizing public safety while minimizing the use of prosecution and incarceration.



Eric Zahnd
Prosecuting Attorney
Platte County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, MO

Eric Zahnd is the Prosecuting Attorney of Platte County, Missouri, which is part of the Kansas City metropolitan area. First elected in 2002, he is the longest-serving prosecutor in Platte County history. He also has the longest tenure of any elected prosecutor currently serving the Kansas City metro. He leads an office of 25, including thirteen attorneys. The office handles thousands of cases each year, ranging from traffic offenses to first degree murder.

Mr. Zahnd has personally convicted dozens of criminals in Platte County for murder, rape, robbery, assault, and other violent felonies, including the only quadruple murder in modern Platte County history. He has also served as special prosecutor in a northwest Missouri murder-for-hire scheme, convicting all four men involved. The Kansas City Star says Mr. Zahnd's office has brandished a protect-the-citizens-first attitude that local lawbreakers have grown to fear. The Platte County Landmark has commented that Mr. Zahnd passionately presents an extremely impressive case to a jury. At the same time, Mr. Zahnd is a strong supporter of diversion programs and treatment courts for nonviolent offenders. His office operates Platte CARES (Community Alternative with Restorative and Educational Services) and drug, DWI, mental health, and veterans' courts programs.

Mr. Zahnd has made it a priority to vigorously prosecute crimes against children. Under Mr. Zahnd's and the Platte County Sheriff's leadership, Platte County's Cyber Crimes Unit became one of the first in Missouri to hunt down and prosecute Internet predators. Mr. Zahnd has been recognized on national television for his work to protect children on the Web, and a local TV station has called him "a leader in the fight against Internet predators." In 2005, Mr. Zahnd's work with the community to combat teen drinking was recognized in the White House's National Drug Control Strategy Annual Report.

Mr. Zahnd has also worked to improve Missouri's criminal laws. In 2006, he successfully pushed the legislature to pass Jessica's Law to put child rapists in prison for life and enact mandatory sentences for Internet predators. At the bill signing ceremony, Missouri's Governor called Mr. Zahnd "a leader in law enforcement." Mr. Zahnd wrote a Missouri constitutional amendment to allow juries to know about prior criminal acts of repeat child sex offenders, and he chaired the successful effort to pass that amendment in 2014. In 2005 and again in 2010, he helped write laws to increase penalties against repeat drunk drivers. And in 2009, he wrote



the law requiring police to record interrogations of people suspected of committing dangerous felonies.

Mr. Zahnd was recognized as Missouri's Prosecutor of the Year in 2014 for his efforts to establish best practices for Missouri prosecutors, and he has led national discussions on that topic. He is one of only two Missouri prosecutors selected in the inaugural class of "Super Lawyers," an honor given to the top attorneys in Missouri and Kansas. In 2007, he was selected as an "Up and Coming Lawyer" by Missouri Lawyers Weekly. He was also named one of Ingram's magazine's "40 Under 40" in 2004, recognizing him as one of the most influential business, government, and community leaders in Kansas City.

Mr. Zahnd is a board member and past President of the Missouri Association of Prosecuting Attorneys. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the National District Attorneys Association, where he serves as a member of the executive committee, investment committee, and co-chaired the association's work on marijuana policy. He has also served as chair of the Missouri Humanities Council and as a member of the executive committee of the William Jewell College Alumni Board of Governors. Prior to his election as prosecuting attorney, he was a member of the Tri-County Domestic Violence Board, and he has chaired an annual fundraising dinner for a local domestic violence and child protection center. He was a delegate to the 2012 Republican National Convention and is a past President of the Missouri Association of Republicans.

Mr. Zahnd practiced at Bryan Cave LLP, Missouri's largest law firm, prior to becoming prosecuting attorney. He also worked in the Missouri Attorney General's office and served as a staff assistant to the Missouri Governor's Commission on Crime.

Mr. Zahnd graduated with honors from Duke Law School. While at Duke, he was editor of a law journal and earned a master's degree in philosophy. He is the author of an article on Aristotle's legal philosophy originally published in the journal *Law and Contemporary Problems*; the article was republished in the book *Aristotle and Modern Law*.

Mr. Zahnd graduated summa cum laude from William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, where he studied political science, economics, and philosophy as part of the Oxbridge Honors Program. He was elected president of the college's student body his senior year, and he studied at Cambridge University in England his entire junior year.

Mr. Zahnd and his wife Tracy have been married for 30 years. The Zahnds have two college-aged sons. Mrs. Zahnd has a master's degree in education. She teaches at a church-run preschool and previously taught third, fourth, and fifth grades in two public school districts. She has also served as a PTA president, on the executive committee of Northland Habitat for Humanity, on the board of Tri-County Mental Health Services, and as chairwoman of the Platte County Republican Central Committee. The family attends a Baptist church, where Mr. Zahnd is a deacon, taught a youth Bible study class, and served as chair of the Church Council. Mr. Zahnd is a sixth-generation Missourian. He was raised in Andrew County, where he was valedictorian of his high school class.

Related Materials



Links to Related Materials

[Organized Retail Theft: New Prosecutorial Approaches and Partnerships – Modern Approaches to Crime and Prevention Panel Powerpoint](#)—Jeff Reisig, District Attorney—Yolo County District Attorney’s Office, CA

[Yolo DA Announces the Launch of Fast Pass to Prosecution Combatting Retail Theft Through Retail Initiated Reporting and Rapid Protection](#)—Jeff Reisig, District Attorney—Yolo County District Attorney’s Office, CA

[RILA Website—Legal Affairs and Compliance](#)—RILA

[RILA Website—Retail Litigation Center](#)—RILA

[RILA Website—RILA-NDAA Vibrant Communities Initiative](#)—RILA

[Organized Retail Crime Association/Auror Presentation](#)—Patrick Patton, District Asset Protection Manager—Lowe’s Companies Inc.

[Between the Aisles A Closer Look at Shoplifting Trends – Council on Criminal Justice](#) – Lopez and Kennedy and Council on Criminal Justice Team

[Two New Reports on Shoplifting Trends in American Cities](#) – NCJA

CLE Credit and Survey



Instructions to Receive CLE Credit

Please Read Carefully

The Prosecutors' Center for Excellence has not requested continuing legal education accreditation for this program. Instead, we will supply you with a **Uniform Certificate of Attendance**. This certificate will include Prosecutors' Center for Excellence (PCE) as the sponsor, the title of this conference, the dates of this conference, the location of this conference as well as a calculation of the CLE Credit Hours under both a 60-minute and 50-minute hour system. We believe that these hours accurately reflect the CLE credit you should receive. However, each state has its own rules on the accrediting process which could affect this calculation.

At the end of each session, you will receive a conference evaluation. You will need to fill out the survey in order to receive the **Uniform Certificate of Attendance.**

As part of the meeting materials, PCE will supply you with this meeting's agenda, a description of the various content to be covered throughout this conference, as well as the names and biographies of the speakers.

You will need to apply for CLE credit on your own through your state's specific process. Most jurisdictions have this as an option. Some jurisdictions require members to apply and report within 30 days of the original program date. We hope that the **Uniform Certificate of Attendance** will aid you in this process.

Sign-In Sheets

To obtain CLE credit, most states require attendees to sign in at the time of the meeting. PCE will maintain a copy of the registration list as well as a record of who attended each session (present at start and end of each session) and send copies upon request.

Here are some specific sign-in rules from a variety of states. There will be no physical sign-in sheet, instead PCE will be taking time-stamped log of participants from zoom reports. If you need a copy of our records please contact PCE.

Delaware Attorneys: Delaware Attorneys and speakers seeking CLE credits must **sign in** at each individual session you attend.

Illinois Attorneys: Illinois Attorneys and speakers seeking CLE credits must **sign in** at each individual session you attend. The sign-in documentation is used to verify your total number of CLE hours.

New York Attorneys: New York Attorneys and speakers seeking CLE credits must **sign in** and **sign out** of each individual session you attend.

Pennsylvania Attorneys: Pennsylvania Attorneys must complete the Pennsylvania CLE Credit Request form to report attendance at in-person programs.

Texas Attorneys: Texas Attorneys must complete the Texas CLE Course Attendance Form to report attendance at in-person programs.



UNIFORM CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

SPONSOR: Prosecutors' Center for Excellence

ACTIVITY TITLE: PCE Pop-Up: Organized Retail Theft

DATE: February 13, 2025

LOCATION: Virtual Meeting

THIS PROGRAM OFFERS A TOTAL OF:

_____ Full Program: 2 hours of CLE Credit (not ethics), PENDING STATE APPROVAL. TO BE COMPLETED BY ATTORNEY

Please adhere to your state's requirements.

TO BE COMPLETED BY ATTORNEY (Please note: If you are required to report to more than one state, complete a form for each state.)

By signing below, I certify that I attended the activity described above and am entitled to claim _____ CLE credit hours of which ____ were in ethics.

ATTORNEY'S NAME *(please print)*

SIGNATURE

BAR MEMBERSHIP, REGISTRATION
OR SUPREME COURT NUMBER

DATE

STATE WHERE CREDITS ARE TO BE
REGISTERED

ACKNOWLEDGED BY:

Kristine Hamann

Kristine Hamann
Executive Director / Founder
Prosecutors' Center for Excellence
Phone: 917.885.9065

NOTE: PLEASE DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM TO PCE

Meeting Survey

The February 13, 2025 PCE Pop-Up, Organized Retail Theft: Challenges and Solutions survey will be available at the end of the meeting. If you need proof of your survey for CLE credit please email PCE at

contactpce@pceinc.org.

[Survey Link](#)

Questions about Survey:

Marissa D'Amore– mdamore@pceinc.org

Kristine Hamann- khamann@pceinc.org



Thank you for participating!