



The Alabama Association  
of  
School Resource Officers

*"United for Alabama's Youth"*

# TAASRO 2023

## 24th Annual "Safe Schools" Training Conference

June 5-19, 2023, Orange Beach Event Center, 4671 Wharf Parkway, AL 36561

**Theme:** "Cultivating Consistent Collaboration & Communication"

As societal trends evolve, external cultural influences may seep into the hallways and classrooms of our schools. The safety of the school environment depends on awareness, prevention, and proactive measures. This year, TAASRO brings you the "hot" cultural topics that can have a negative influence on the safe school environment-- if left undetected, unaddressed, and unresolved.

- Professor Bernie James, Pepperdine University, is the national and international authority on school law. Learn all the new case laws and trends pertaining to SROs and the safe school environment.
- Jermaine Galloway also known as "Tall Cop" will bring the latest in youth trends with his presentation "High in Plain Sight."
- Join Don Hough a representative from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security School Safety Task Force to explore the complex set of evolving security risks that K-12 schools face. The presentation will discuss how schools and school resource officers can prepare for potential acts of violence by improving their campuses' physical security. The presenter will share research-informed strategies and recommendations that enhance safe and supportive learning environments through collaborative and actionable approaches to reducing violence.
- On September 28, 2016, Molly Hudgens, a school counselor in Pleasant View, Tennessee, averted a school shooting when a fourteen-year-old eighth grader, armed with a semi-automatic handgun and an additional magazine of ammunition, came to her in the counseling department at Sycamore Middle School with a plan to harm people on their campus. He told her, "I think you're the only one who can talk me out of this." After ninety minutes of talking and ultimately praying with the young man on her knees beside him, Hudgens was able to convince the student to relinquish the weapon to her with no shots fired and no lives lost.
- This workshop by Safer Schools Together (SST) will provide information on Current Online Behavioral Trends and complements SST's Digital Threat Assessment® (DTA) training. The purpose is to enhance School Safety/Threat Assessment teams' understanding of the ever-changing digital landscape.





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- Former Special Agent (SA) Jonathan Grusing: "Prevention & The Pathway of Violence" will discuss the basic principles set forth from the FBI's Behavioral Analysis Unit (BAU) of how to identify, assess and manage persons who are considering or engaging in violent behavior. Former SA Grusing will provide case examples of mass attacks and serial killers from his investigations and training to allow attendees to see how these individuals planned and prepared for attacks. The interactive session will also discuss how their behaviors follow similar patterns and may be prevented through proactive steps of identifying stressors and concerning behaviors and effectively managing those persons.

Finally, former SA Grusing will discuss how he and his team of law enforcement officers and educators are today addressing the many safety and security challenges a large school district poses.

- Patrick Roush ATF Special Agent: *Explosives Familiarization and Bomb Threat planning*  
1.) Explosives and explosive effects 2.) Destructive Devices and IED's 3.) Homemade Explosives HME 4.) Responding to Bomb Threats -Bomb Squad / K-9 response. This session will also include: Trends – Pipe, powder, and fuse. #1 device used for the past 10-20 years, Shelter in Place or Evacuation, Identifying Bomb making material / components – SRO Home safety visits

For more information about the conference and speakers visit our website [www.taasro.org](http://www.taasro.org) and follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/taasro>.

I welcome you to join TAASRO in sunny Gulf Shores and Orange Beach, Alabama, for a week of some of the best training and education in the Southeast.

