

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING **SUMMIT**

# SPEAKERS



**Miguel E. Rendón**

Deputy CEO  
Corpus Christi Regional Transportation  
Authority (CCRTA)

**Biography:**

Miguel (Mike) Ephrem Rendón has over forty years of experience in public transportation, safety & security, and legislation.

Rendón serves as Deputy CEO and Chief Safety Officer. He oversees the Safety & Security Department. Mr. Rendón previously served on the CCRTA Board of Directors for eight years, including four years as Board Chair.

He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Southwest Texas State University. Mr. Rendón is a Veteran of the U.S. Army, and served in the Military Police.



**Derrick Majchszak**

Deputy CEO  
Corpus Christi Regional Transportation  
Authority (CCRTA)

**Biography:**

Mr. Majchszak leads CCRTA with more than 25 years of leadership experience and 18 years of Public Transportation experience.

Mr. Majchszak began his professional career with the US Navy. After being honorably discharged, Mr. Majchszak spent 11 years working for the Fort Worth Transportation Authority. He began his career in transit as a Bus Mechanic before advancing to Supervisor, and later to Operations Manager.

Mr. Majchszak joined the CCRTA team in 2017 and received his BBA from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi in 2018. He earned a Master's in Public Administration from Tarleton State University in 2023.

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**Roland Barrera**

Corpus Christi City  
Councilmember At-Large

## **Biography:**

Roland Barrera provides consulting and risk management services to individuals, business owners and public agencies. He has been serving clients with insurance, financial services and employee benefits for over 25 years. His agency has been recognized by the National Association of Business and Insurance Professionals as a Distinguished Member of the Leading Producers Round Table.

Roland has been actively involved in Texas politics for many years and has been a strong advocate for small business, insurance issues, children's issues, public transportation and immigration reform. He was elected to the Corpus Christi City Council serving District 3 in 2018 and was elected At Large in 2024.

Roland serves as a board member of Texas Bridge Credit Union. In his career, Roland has served as Chair of several committees, including the Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority (CCRTA), the Insurance and Financial Advisors Political Action Committee for Texas, the National Association of Insurance and Benefits Professionals Political Action Committee and the Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce. He was also President of the Coastal Bend Children's Advocacy Center and President of the Corpus Christi Kiwanis Club. Roland is a graduate of the Leadership Corpus Christi Program (Class XL).

Born and raised in Corpus Christi, Roland is a Moody High School Alumnus and a Del Mar College Alumnus. He is the proud parent of three grown children, Richard, Amber, Zach and grandfather to Ella Rae and Atlas James Rosales. He is a parishioner of Most Precious Blood Catholic Church where he sings in the choir.



**Adrian Garcia**

Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner

## **Biography:**

Born and raised in Houston's Northside neighborhood, Commissioner Adrian Garcia has always called Harris County Precinct 2 home. He was first elected as Commissioner of Precinct 2 in 2018 and is now serving in his second term. Garcia has dedicated his entire career to public service and safety - first, as a Houston Police Officer for more than two decades, later as a Councilmember for the City of Houston, and as the first Latino elected as Harris County Sheriff. As County Commissioner, Garcia advocates for the needs of the 1.3 million residents living in the eastern portion of Harris County with a focus on his Revive2Thrive initiative. Revive2Thrive focuses on revitalizing the precinct through strategic investments in infrastructure and economic opportunity while reducing the risk of gentrification. Under Commissioner Garcia's leadership, Precinct 2 has garnered multiple local and national awards for its innovative and community-focused approach to solving some of the precinct's most pressing challenges, including health disparities, workforce and small business concerns, flooding, and public safety. One of Garcia's most proud accomplishments is James Driver Park which is the first fully inclusive park for people of all ages and all abilities to play in all of Harris County.

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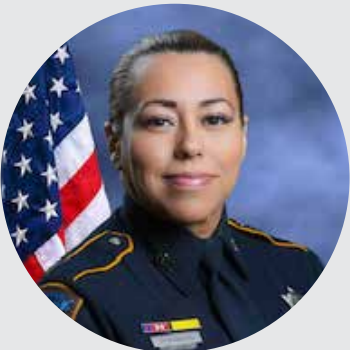
**Sgt. Yuri Saenz**

Harris County Sheriff's Office  
Human Trafficking Unit, Covert Investigations  
Division / Special Investigations Division

## **Biography:**

I have been a Police officer for 17 years. I started my LE career at HISD PD where I worked for 5 years. I then transitioned to the Harris County Sheriff's Office where I have been for the past 12 years. I have worked in several division starting with patrol. I later moved to the Narcotics Unit where I worked as an undercover investigating narcotic related cases. I eventually transitioned to the Human Trafficking Unit and was assigned to HTRA- Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance Task Force and P180- HCDAO Human Trafficking Task Force. I investigated Human Trafficking cases and our primary focus was to recover adult/juvenile victims and arrest their traffickers.

In 2023 I promoted to Sergeant and was assigned to create the Human Trafficking Unit in Detentions. Our goal was to identify incarcerated human trafficking victims, inform them that there is a path to a better life other than the one that led them to jail, and provide them with advocate services. We are also committed to arresting those traffickers who facilitate, assist, and/or commit human trafficking offenses within our jails. I'm currently assigned as the Sergeant over the Human Trafficking Unit.



**Norma Hidalgo**

Harris County Sheriff's Office  
Human Trafficking Unit, Covert Investigations  
Division / Special Investigations Division

## **Biography:**

Norma Hidalgo is a dedicated human trafficking Detective with a foundation in law enforcement, having served in the field since 2017. Before transitioning to law enforcement, Norma spent 10 years in education, where she honed her skills in communication, advocacy, and community engagement.

Over the past year, Norma has focused on investigating human trafficking cases, all of which originate within correctional facilities. Collaborating closely with her specialized team, she works to identify victims, uncover trafficking networks, and hold perpetrators accountable. Her diverse background enhances her ability to connect with communities and advocate for vulnerable individuals.

In her workshop, Norma will explore critical aspects of trafficking within correctional facilities. Attendees will learn about who is most at risk of being recruited for trafficking and gain insights into what traffickers look like behind bars. She will provide tools to detect sex trafficking in correctional environments and help participants identify red flags and patterns within these settings.

Norma's experience, passion for justice, and commitment to educating others make her a vital force in the fight against human trafficking. Her work and workshops aim to empower others to recognize and prevent trafficking, ultimately protecting some of society's most vulnerable individuals.

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**Jamie Burro**

Harris County District Attorney's Office  
Division Chief of the Human Trafficking and  
Child Exploitation Division

**Biography:**

I have been a prosecutor for almost 17 years. During that time, I have been assigned to various divisions, including time in Human Trafficking, Child Exploitation, Adult Sex Crimes, and Crimes against Children divisions. I have taught case law updates on Human Trafficking and attended multiple training conferences on trafficking, exploitation, and child abuse. I have handled or supervised hundreds of cases involving human trafficking.



**Kenneth Chapman**

Texas Highway Patrol Trooper  
Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)

**Biography:**

Kenneth Chapman served honorably in the United States Marine Corps from 2010 to 2016. In 2014, he joined the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) as a Texas Highway Patrol Trooper stationed in The Woodlands. Throughout his career, Kenneth demonstrated a commitment to public safety and law enforcement excellence.

In recognition of his skills and dedication, he was promoted to the Criminal Investigations Division (CID) as a Special Agent with the Anti-Gang Unit in Harris County. In this role, Kenneth led investigations into serious criminal activities, including capital murder suspects tied to gang organizations, as well as long-term operations targeting narcotics and weapons trafficking. He also assisted with multiple federal wiretap investigations, coordinated efforts in major organized crime-related auto theft cases, and played a pivotal role in an international investigation involving Lyft scooters.

In July 2024, Kenneth transitioned to the CID Human Trafficking Squad in Houston. Here, he has successfully led numerous victim recovery operations, "john" stings, and Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) operations, contributing significantly to the fight against human trafficking and child exploitation.

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**Sanghee Dobson**

Senior Anti-Human Trafficking Specialist at  
Texas Department of Licensing and  
Regulation (TDLR)

## **Biography:**

Sanghee Dobson is the Senior Anti-Human Trafficking Specialist Anti Human Trafficking Division at the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR), where she supports agency efforts to strengthen collaboration and support the effectiveness of anti-trafficking initiatives across the state.

Previously, she served as Associate Director of the Survivors of Trafficking Empowerment Program (STEP) at Refugee Services of Texas (RST), where she and her team provided critical support to survivors of human trafficking, violent crime, runaway youth, and Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth (CSEY) through Travis County's care coordination model.

She also serves on the advisory boards of the Center to Counter Human Trafficking (CCHT) at Texas A&M International University and the Center for Cybercrime Investigation & Cybersecurity at Boston University. In addition, she is a Steering Committee Member of the Central Texas Human Trafficking Coalition and previously served as Board Member-at-Large for the Garden of Hope Children's Shelter. She holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice.



**James McEachern**

Anti-Trafficking Inspector  
Texas Department of Licensing and  
Regulation (TDLR)

## **Biography:**

James McEachern has proudly served as an inspector with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) since 2018, where he gained extensive experience in regulatory enforcement and field inspections. In 2020, He began focusing specifically on the inspection of Massage Establishments, a role that deepened his understanding of the massage industry and the complex challenges it faces, including compliance, licensing issues, and public safety concerns.

Recognizing the growing need for specialized enforcement in this area, James transitioned into the role of Anti-Trafficking Inspector in 2024. In this capacity, He focused on identifying and investigating illicit massage businesses that may be involved in or masking human trafficking operations. This work requires a nuanced understanding of trafficking indicators, deceptive business practices, and the vulnerabilities of individuals who may be exploited under the guise of legitimate massage services. In his current role, he also serve as a trainer and mentor to other inspectors across the state, equipping them with the tools and knowledge needed to identify potential signs of human trafficking during their routine inspections. James is committed to building awareness, enhancing investigative techniques, and fostering collaboration with local and state partners to combat exploitation within the industry.



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**Heath Hardwick**

Supervisory Special Agent  
Homeland Security Investigations

## **Biography:**

Special Agent Heath Hardwick began his law enforcement career in 1995 in West Texas as a Police Officer with the Alpine Police Department. SA Hardwick graduated in 1999 from Sul Ross State University in Alpine, Texas, with a BS in Criminal Justice. In 2003, SA Hardwick began his federal law enforcement career and has been stationed in Presidio and Midland, Texas, before moving to Corpus Christi in 2015. SA Hardwick became a Computer Forensics Agent in 2008 and has investigated numerous child exploitation and trafficking cases throughout West Texas and the Coastal Bend. In 2010, SA Hardwick began to conduct public speaking events in schools about Cyber Safety to educate children, parents, teachers, school administrators, and law enforcement about the dangers to children while online as well as teaching children how to protect themselves from online predators. SA Hardwick is currently the Co-Chair of the Coastal Bend Human Trafficking Task Force, a Board Member on the Children's Advocacy Center of the Coastal Bend and the Group Supervisor for the Human Smuggling Unit at HSI Corpus Christi.



**Alicia Escobar**

Corpus Christi Police Department  
Detective/Senior Officer  
Internet Crimes Against Children  
& Human Trafficking

## **Biography:**

Detective Alicia Escobar began her law enforcement career in 1999 with the Corpus Christi Police Department. Since graduation from the Police Academy Det. Escobar has served as a Patrol Officer, Narcotics / Vice Investigator, and Detective. In June of 2011 Det. Escobar was assigned to the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. In April of 2024, Det. Escobar joined the Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Corpus Christi office where she is assigned as a Task Force Officer within the Child Exploitation Group.

Det. Escobar has been conducting public speaking events since 2011 in schools about Cyber Safety to educate children, parents, teachers, school administrators, and law enforcement about the dangers to children while online as well as teaching children how to protect themselves from online predators. Det. Escobar is a TCOLE Certified Instructor for the Corpus Christi Police Department and is the lead instructor for Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking. Det. Escobar is currently a Member of the Coastal Bend Human Trafficking Task Force and the Secretary of the Children's Advocacy Center of the Coastal Bend.

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**Kristina Nelson, Ph.D., LPC-A, NCC**

Compass Counseling & Community  
Outreach, LLC

Professional Counselor/Owner  
Safety Compass: Child Abuse Prevention  
Program Founder/Facilitator

## **Biography:**

Kristina Nelson, PhD, NCC, is a professional counselor who provides counseling services to individuals, couples, and families through her private practice, Compass Counseling & Community Outreach, LLC. She also provides counseling for survivors of human trafficking through New Life Refuge Ministries. Additionally, she is an associate professor in the School of Psychology and Counseling at LeTourneau University, where she educates future counselors and conducts research on child abuse, trauma, and human trafficking. In addition to her publications on such topics, she provides presentations and workshops throughout the state and country.

Dr. Nelson is the Board President for the Children's Advocacy Center of the Coastal Bend, serving nine counties, including Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, McMullen, and San Patricio. Moreover, she is the founder of the Safety Compass Child Abuse Prevention Program, a curriculum-based program designed for children and parents to receive education and skills training to help prevent child abuse and human trafficking.

Dr. Nelson earned a bachelor's degree in psychology, a master's degree in marriage and family therapy, and a doctoral degree in counselor education from the University of Central Florida. She has been working as a professional counselor since 2011, dedicating her career to abuse prevention efforts and helping survivors of child abuse and human trafficking thrive beyond the trauma they have experienced.