

2025 CONFERENCE RECAP

National Missing and Unidentified Persons Conference

Register NOW for 2026!



And that's a wrap on MUPC 2025!

Our 16th Annual National Missing and Unidentified Persons Conference brought together hundreds of dedicated professionals, families, and advocates - united by one mission: *to bring the missing home*.

We want to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who helped make **#MUPC2025** a success. We're grateful to the attendees, presenters, and subject matter experts who shared their time and insights. We also recognize the families and survivors who participated, along with our NCJTC team, conference committee, sponsors, exhibitors, and partners.

Here's a look at what we accomplished *together*:



300+

Attendees from **42** U.S. states (plus, international participants!)



40+

Presenters who are leading experts in identification, search, investigation, recovery and response.



34

Interactive break-out sessions and workshops on critical topics.



05

Expert-led plenaries



02

Live Q&A panels with speakers

COUNTLESS

- Connections Made.
- Strategies Learned.
- Cases Impacted.



Right Place, Right Time

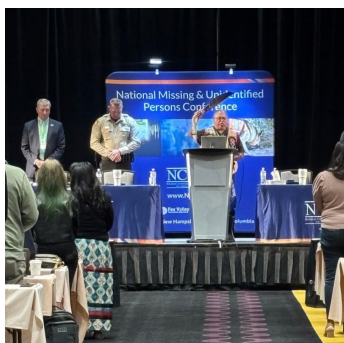
Two participants, who attended the breakout session titled *Missing and Endangered Children in Indian Country: A Case Study of an Interstate Recovery and Return to Gila River Indian Community*, approached a NCJTC staff member with an urgent need to speak to the presenters from that session. They had just been informed that they had an active missing person case that required immediate assistance.

Recognizing that the session presenter's knowledge and expertise were exactly what they needed at that moment, NCJTC connected them to each other. One of the presenters was NCJTC Program Manager, Tyesha Woods, who leveraged Tribal and Federal resources to help with the case. Based upon this quick response, the missing person was on her way back home within hours. This is a true and powerful testament to the training, networking and relationship-building opportunities afforded through the MUPC that have a real-world impact!



Members of the NCJTC team at MUPC 2025!

From left: Katie Koleske (Project Specialist), Sharon Williams (NCJTC Associate), Jason Sterling (Program Manager), Helen Connelly (NCJTC Associate), Jessica Heimann (Project Coordinator) and Brad Russ (NCJTC Executive Director).




Opening Ceremony and Land Acknowledgment
Vice Chairman Chris Spotted Eagle of the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe

Key Partner Recognition:

- **Conference Sponsors:** Bode Technology (*Gold Sponsor*), GED Match and HiDow (*Bronze Sponsors*)
- **Event partner:** The National Search and Rescue Association (NASAR)
- **All Exhibitors:** we proudly hosted over 14 exhibitors at this year's event ([full list](#))!
- **NCJTC team and MUPC Conference Committee:** this team works year round to ensure this premier event is impactful for attendees and continues to positively impact missing persons cases all over the world!

Thank you to our sponsors, exhibitors, partners, planning committee, and the NCJTC team for their contributions to this year's Missing Persons Conference. Their support directly strengthens our efforts to deliver high-quality training, share best practices, and promote collaboration across agencies. We encourage you to learn more about and support these organizations as they play an important role in advancing public safety initiatives.



2025 MUPC Service Award

We were honored to posthumously award Todd Matthews with the *2025 National Missing and Unidentified Persons Conference (MUPC) Service Award* for his outstanding contributions in the field. NCJTC Program Manager, Jason Sterling and Todd's longtime friend and colleague, Chuck Heurich (MUPC Committee Member) presented the award to Todd's wife, Lori and son, Devin.

[See Todd's Impact](#)

Did You Know?

- 2025 marked **16 years of MUPC** and has drawn attendees from all 50 states (+ international participation) since inception
- We began small with just 100 attendees but have since grown significantly over the past several years - **having quadrupled in attendance!**
- This is the **ONLY** national conference on missing and unidentified that brings together **all the players who are involved** in the search, investigation, recovery, prevention, identification and reunification of missing and unidentified persons - as well as academia, researchers, medical community, and more!
- Many participants **attend year-over-year** as they learn new skills, strategies as new challenges emerge.



Let’s Keep the Momentum Going

Stay engaged through upcoming training events, webinars, and initiatives focused on missing persons cases. [Learn more](#) about these key related training opportunities:

Investigation and Prosecution of Cold Case Homicides
[November 19 - 20 | Gilbert, AZ](#)

Child Homicide Investigations
[November 17 - 18 | Gilbert, AZ](#)

Investigating and Prosecuting No Body Homicides
[July 21-22 | Mandan, ID](#)
[October 20-23 | Live Online](#)


AND...

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!
2026 National Missing and Unidentified Persons Conference
[April 21 - 23 | Las Vegas, NV](#)

On behalf of the entire NCJTC team, we hope to see you at next year's conference! We look forward to continuing our work together to strengthen response efforts and support those impacted by missing persons cases.

See All Training

Register for MUPC 2026!



Hear From an Expert in SAR

If your work involves responding to missing or unidentified persons, [this short clip](#) offers a preview of what to expect—and why it matters. With 35 years of experience, Jamie Stirling shares key learnings, case-based insights, and highlights the need for multidisciplinary collaboration and offers reflections from this year's #MUPC conference.