

THE PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON 21ST CENTURY POLICING

Lauri Stevens

Lauri Stevens is the principal consultant and founder of LAW S Communications. Lauri is also the creator and producer of the SMILE Conference® and the creator of the award winning ConnectedCOPS™ blog and social media awards program. She is an interactive media professional with over 25 years of media experience, including 12 years in higher education as a Department Chair of Interactive Media.

She is most well known for having worked with the Toronto Police Department in 2010 in the development of a service-wide social media strategy integrating every operational unit. Clients also include the Dallas Police, the USDOJ COPS Office and the Massachusetts State Police. A combined total of nearly 3,000 U.S., Canadian and European police officers have attended her training events.

Lauri serves as an advisor to Project Athena, a three-year project funded under the European Commission 7th Framework Programme. The mission of Project Athena is to develop a set of best practice guideline for first responder and citizens for the use of new media, supporting tools and technologies in crisis situations. Athena is a global multi-disciplinary consortium and advisory board representing 18 countries and is led by the West Yorkshire Police.

She is a social media columnist for PoliceOne.Com and LawOfficer.com. She has also been published in Police Chief, FBINAA magazine, the NSA's Sheriffs Magazine, California Peace Officer, American Police Beat, Police and Security News and has been quoted in dozens of main stream publications including the Boston Globe, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, CNN, Al Jazeera English, CBC and NPR.

Lauri is passionate about the Internet, the web, social media and helping law enforcement leverage these technologies to help them do their jobs, connect with their communities, promote their departments and investigate and solve crime.

She holds an MBA in eBusiness from Bentley University, an MS in Mass Communication/Communication Technology from Boston University, and a BA in Political Science from Clemson University.

Her professional memberships include:

PERF – Police Executive Research Forum

IACP – The International Association of Chiefs of Police

NSA – National Sheriffs Association

PFI – Police Futurists International