

Breakout Session 1 - Session 4: Women's Safety
Voices for Safety: Ending Violence Against Women



Joyce Roldan King

Joyce Roldan King is Deputy State's Attorney at the Frederick County State's Attorney's Office, where she manages the operations, finance, communications, and policy of the office. As Chief Prosecutor of the Frederick County Cybercrimes Taskforce, she leads both state and federal investigations focused on online child exploitation, working closely with national and international law enforcement agencies. She is also cross designated as a Special Assistant United States Attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice Project Safe Childhood, prosecuting high-profile felony cases of internet child sexual exploitation.

In addition to her role in prosecuting complex criminal cases, Ms. King plays a critical role in shaping Maryland's legislative framework to protect vulnerable populations. She co-chairs the Maryland State's Attorney Association's Special Victims Committee and the Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force Legislative Committee. In these positions, she advocates for legislative reforms aimed at strengthening protections for survivors of human trafficking and child exploitation.

Ms. King is a dedicated Board Member of the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA), where her work includes providing training and resources for prosecutors, and helping shape national legislation to promote public safety and best practices in law enforcement, criminal investigation, and prosecution.

Ms. King also serves on the Law Enforcement Advisory Board of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), where she works with national experts to enhance the effectiveness of child exploitation investigations and ensure that law enforcement agencies are equipped with the latest tools and strategies to combat child trafficking and online exploitation.

Ms. King earned her Juris Doctor from the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law, where she was Editor in Chief of the UDC Law Review. She is an alumna of George Washington University, American University's Women & Politics Institute, and Emerge Maryland.

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Laure Ruth

Laure Ruth has been an attorney for over 30 years. She is the Public Policy Director at the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence. For over 15 years at her prior position she advocated for and represented survivors of intimate partner violence and

supervised a staff of attorneys, as well as serving on a broad variety of committees and commissions engaged in the work of improving the lives of women and children in Maryland. In addition, she worked on policy issues in the state as a registered lobbyist, helping to develop proposed new laws, reviewing and offering testimony for and against laws that impact the members of the Network's coalition members and others. Laure is past recipient of the Network's Leadership Award, the University of Maryland School of Law's Benjamin Cardin Public Service Award, and the Maryland Bar Foundation's Advancement of Advocacy for Justice Award. Her proudest achievement is raising her three thoughtful and kind sons alongside her husband of 30 years.

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Lisae Jordan

Lisae C. Jordan currently serves as Executive Director & Counsel for the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA). MCASA works to end sexual violence across the lifespan by advocating for survivors and the programs and professionals who help survivors. This includes work for survivors of child sexual abuse, older

adult abuse, sex trafficking, sexual exploitation, intimate partner SA, and non-intimate partner SA. MCASA is the federally recognized state sexual assault coalition and provides training, expert advice, certification of rape crisis programs, and public policy advocacy throughout the state of Maryland.

Ms. Jordan is also the founder and director of the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault's Sexual Assault Legal Institute (SALI), a nationally recognized project providing legal services to survivors of sexual assault, and legal training and technical assistance for professionals working with survivors. Other MCASA programs Ms. Jordan helped establish to provide direct services to survivors including the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) (in partnership with the Attorney General's Office and Maryland State Police), and Office Hours and Representation for Survivors in Educational Settings.

Ms. Jordan has helped create and pass many statutes to help prevent violence against women and children and bring abusers to justice. Successful legislative advocacy efforts include legislation mandating funding for sexual assault programs, bills defining consent in rape law, establishing child abuse and domestic violence as grounds for divorce, legislation permitting rape survivors to petition to terminate the rapist's parental rights when her child was conceived through rape, repealing marriage as a defense to sex crimes, major reforms of Maryland's workplace harassment laws, laws mandating lawyers in college sexual assault proceedings, and legislation requiring that rape survivors have access to medicine to prevent HIV infection.

Her recognitions include the Maryland Legal Services Cardin Award, the Women's Law Center Dorothy Beatty Award, the Maryland Children's Alliance Justice for Children Award, MCASA's Visionary Award, and being named an Influential Marylander by the Daily Record. Ms. Jordan graduated with honors from Harvard Law School and was a law clerk for the Honorable André M. Davis.