

Business Case for Attendance: 2027 LEIU/IALEIA Annual Training Conference

April 26-30, 2027 - Phoenix, Arizona

Dear [Supervisor Name],

I am asking for your support to attend the 2027 LEIU/IALEIA Annual Training Event, April 26–30, 2027, at the Arizona Grand Resort in Phoenix, Arizona. The training directly supports [AGENCY]'s mission to [detect and disrupt organized crime / identify emerging threats / strengthen our intelligence function].

To participate, I would need the following:

Item	Detail	Estimated cost
Time away	April 25–30, 2027 (travel day plus 5 training days); [shift coverage / training leave]	0.00 5 Days Out of Office
Registration	[Member / non-member] rate; [optional 2-day pre-conference course]	\$_[]
Airfare	[Home city] to Phoenix (PHX), round trip	\$_[]
Lodging	5 nights at the host-hotel conference rate (book by April 2, 2027)	\$_[]
Per diem and ground transport	Meals, airport shuttle	\$_[]
Total		\$_[]

Event Overview

The LEIU/IALEIA Annual Training Event is a leading annual training conference for law enforcement intelligence professionals. It brings together local, state, federal, tribal and international analysts, intelligence officers and unit managers. 2027 marks LEIU's 70th annual conference and IALEIA's 45th.

The conference is built to give members practical training on analytical tools, organized crime, gangs, criminal extremist groups, and terrorism. It also covers the effective and legitimate use of the criminal

intelligence process, including intelligence-related legal issues. Workshops span criminal and corrections intelligence, open source and dark web investigations, information sharing and emerging threats.

The event offers five certificate tracks, each earned by completing a set of sessions during the week:

- Fundamentals in Criminal Intelligence
- Fundamentals in Advanced Analytical Skills
- Fundamentals in Intelligence Unit Supervision/Management
- Fundamentals in Cyber Investigative Tools
- Basic Intelligence Officer

Recent conferences have also offered optional pre-conference courses, such as a full day Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) course and a 1-day ArcGIS for Intelligence course.

Alignment With Our Priorities

The conference content maps directly to work our unit does today and to [our strategic plan / annual training goals / unit priorities]:

- **[Priority 1, e.g., violent crime and gangs]:** sessions on gang culture and social media, juvenile gangs and firearms investigations.
- **[Priority 2, e.g., emerging threats]:** sessions on nihilistic violent extremism, swatting and extortion, and online exploitation networks.
- **[Priority 3, e.g., analytic quality]:** sessions on critical thinking, analytic writing and briefing decision-makers.
- **[Priority 4, e.g., technology adoption]:** sessions on responsible use of AI, OSINT tools and geospatial analysis.

Key Themes and Sessions

The 2027 agenda will be posted in late December 2026. Based on the previous programs, I expect sessions in these themes:

1. Emerging Threats and Violent Extremism

- o Nihilistic and ideologically motivated violent extremism targeting youth online, including the Com, 764 and O9A networks.
- o Swatting and extortion investigations; sextortion and child exploitation, including gore groups.
- o Analyzing mass attacks, active shooter prevention and campus threat assessment.
- o Cyber threats to critical infrastructure, such as the power grid.

2. Gangs, Organized Crime, Drugs and Firearms

- o Street and juvenile gangs, drill music and social media; prison gangs and outlaw motorcycle gangs.
- o Transnational organized crime, including Tren de Aragua.
- o Drug poisoning (overdose) investigations and forensic drug intelligence.
- o Gun crime intelligence, ATF eTrace and privately made "ghost" guns.
- o Human trafficking, organized retail crime, scams and financial exploitation.

3. AI, Technology and Open-Source Intelligence

- o Applying AI responsibly while preserving human judgment; deepfakes and their effect on OSINT.
- o OSINT and dark web investigations; Telegram and social media search warrant data.
- o Geospatial analysis, photo geolocation, tower dumps and communications analysis.
- o Cryptocurrency tracing and cyber intelligence as an investigative tool.

4. Analytic Tradecraft and Communication

- o Critical thinking in high-stakes intelligence work.
- o Analytic writing, briefing decision-makers and courtroom testimony.
- o Analytical support to prosecutions; Excel, Analyst's Notebook and social network analysis.

5. Leading and Sustaining the Intelligence Function

- o Directing the criminal intelligence function and building a skilled, supportive workforce.
- o Real-time crime centers, corrections intelligence and special events information sharing.
- o The analyst's role in critical incidents and mass casualty events.
- o Building analyst-officer relationships; stress management and wellness.

The format includes:

- Keynotes and expert panels (recent examples: a fireside chat with retired CIA Deputy Director, a panel discussion with the bin Laden pursuit team, private sector intelligence teams, intelligence in executive protection, artificial intelligence, advanced technology, intelligence briefings, and many other expert sessions)
- Dozens of case studies and breakout workshops
- Certificate-track training and hands-on technical courses
- Vendor demonstrations and structured networking events

These sessions focus on practical strategies I can bring back to our team as lessons learned.

Benefits of Attendance

Professional development and certification: I can complete one or more certificate tracks, such as [Advanced Analytical Skills / Intelligence Unit Supervision/Management], in a single week. This builds documented skills without separate course fees or travel.

Networking and information sharing: The conference connects me with intelligence counterparts from local, state, federal, tribal and international agencies. Those contacts speed up future record requests, deconfliction and case collaboration.

Knowledge exchange: Case studies and breakout discussions show how other units handle the same problems we face. I can bring back tested approaches instead of building them from scratch.

Access to expertise and tools: I will hear from nationally recognized practitioners and see current analytical and OSINT tools from vendors in one place. This helps us evaluate options before committing budget.

Cost-effective training: One trip covers five days of training across many subject areas. Comparable standalone courses would each require separate registration and travel.

Proven Value: What Past Attendees Report

Attendee evaluations from the last three conferences show overall ratings of 4.4 to 4.5 out of 5, with 90.5%-94% rating the event Excellent or Good every year. In 2026, 99.1% of attendees of this conference reported they would recommend this event to a colleague.

Measure	Orlando 2026	Vancouver 2025	New Orleans 2024
Overall conference rating (out of 5)	4.4	4.5	4.4
Rated the event Excellent/Good	90.5%	94%	94%

Across all three years, attendees most often named networking, case-study presentations and the certificate tracks as the highlights. One 2026 attendee wrote that the Advanced Analytical certificate courses "were well presented and worth the conference cost." A 2025 attendee noted "a decent balance between case studies and skill workshops."

In Their Own Words: 2026 Attendee Feedback

- "It was a game changer for me, opened my eyes to new things, met other agencies, built relationships." (Overall rating)
- "The courses offered for the Advanced Analytical certification were well presented and worth the conference cost." (Highlight of the conference)
- "The networking, breakout sessions and panels is what it is about. It makes for long days, but it really is the best bang for the buck." (Highlight of the conference)

- "This was my first conference, the highlight for me were the sessions. Some were extremely insightful and I feel I learned valuable things to bring back to my office." (Highlight of the conference)
- "I found the speakers well chosen for their breadth of experience and outstanding presentation skills that were engaging." (Overall rating)
- "The leadership and management course was most beneficial to me, as I am planning on attempting to apply for a supervisory position within the next year." (Highlight of the conference)
- "Hearing from others who've been in the game much longer, faced challenges, yet made it work? That was pure gold to me!" (A supervisor, on the opening panels)
- "It has changed my perspective on how to bridge gap with my bosses." (Briefing the Decision-Makers panel)
- "Topic is very relevant to my role so this one was the most interesting of all sessions." (ATF eTrace firearms tracing session)
- "I loved this presentation so much! Learned a lot! ... This is a presentation I would greatly encourage anyone to attend." (The Power of Analytic Writing session)

Bringing It Back to the Team

To make sure the whole unit benefits, I will:

1. Choose sessions in advance that match our priorities, and share my planned schedule with you once the agenda is posted.
2. Submit a written summary of key takeaways, tools and contacts.
3. Present a short briefing to the team at our next [unit meeting / training day].
4. Share course materials, resource lists and new agency contacts in our shared drive.
5. Recommend any tools, practices or training worth adopting, with estimated costs.

Closing

The 2027 conference offers focused, highly rated training at a single cost, and the hotel rate must be booked by April 2, 2027.

More information is available on the [Conference Site](#).

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if I can provide any additional information to support your decision.

Respectfully,

[Your Name] [Title, Unit]