



Arkansas - Arizona - New Mexico - Oklahoma – Texas

**Call for Papers, Presentations, and Panels Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice
Annual Conference "Educating, Recruiting, and Retaining the Next Generation of
Criminal Justice Professionals"**

October 8-10, 2025

AC Hotel Fort Worth Downtown

The Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice (SWACJ) invites submissions for the 2025 Annual Conference, focusing on the theme "Educating, Recruiting, and Retaining the Next Generation of Criminal Justice Professionals." This conference will bring together criminal justice professionals, faculty, students, and practitioners to engage in dynamic discussions and share innovative research, best practices, and strategies for developing future leaders in the criminal justice field.

We welcome submissions in the following areas:

1. Research Presentations

- Original research addressing any aspect of criminal justice, including but not limited to policing, corrections, law enforcement, courts, juvenile justice, and community engagement.
- Papers exploring new methodologies, theoretical perspectives, and practical applications in criminal justice research.
- Undergraduate and graduate student research presentations.

2. Poster Presentations

- Submissions for poster presentations are invited from students, faculty, and professionals showcasing research, innovative ideas, or best practices in the criminal justice field.
- This is a great opportunity for visual presentations that allow for direct interaction and feedback from attendees.

3. Panel Discussions

- Proposals for panels of scholars, practitioners, and experts to discuss pressing issues in criminal justice education, recruitment, and retention.
- Panels focusing on career development, workforce diversity, law enforcement training, and building effective partnerships between academia and the criminal justice system.

4. Workshops and Special Sessions

- Interactive sessions offering practical strategies for recruiting and retaining diverse professionals in the criminal justice field.
 - Workshops focused on innovative educational models, effective mentoring strategies, and addressing recruitment challenges.
- 5. Student Competitions**
- **Student CSI Competition:** Students are invited to participate in a CSI Competition that will challenge their crime scene investigation skills.
 - Teams will work through a simulated crime scene, applying forensic techniques, evidence collection, and investigative analysis.
 - Cash Prizes will be awarded to the winning team(s).
 - **Student Quiz Bowl:** A fun and educational Quiz Bowl competition where teams of students will face off on criminal justice-related topics.
 - Teams will compete for cash prizes while demonstrating their knowledge and quick thinking in the criminal justice field.
 - Undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to participate in both competitions.
- 6. Featured Speakers**
- Distinguished professionals, researchers, and thought leaders will provide keynote addresses and special presentations on current trends and future challenges in the criminal justice field.
- 7. Networking**
- The organization will hold two socials.
 - A night of Whiskey Tasting & History of Hell’s Half Acre - cowboy storytelling.
 - Country line dancing & music to follow.
 - Tour of the Police Department

Submission Guidelines:

- **Deadline for Submissions:** September 14, 2025
- Submissions must be submitted on the SWACJ website through eventify.
- Include the following in your submission:
 - Title of paper, presentation, panel, poster, or competition entry
 - Abstract (250 words)
 - Brief biography of each presenter or panelist.
 - Contact information for the lead author or panel organizer.
 - For student competitions, indicate undergraduate or graduate level, and team members – either CSI or Quiz Bowl.
 - Student Paper Competition

Important Dates:

- **Submission Deadline:** September 14, 2025
- **Notification of Acceptance:** September 21, 2025
- **Conference Dates:** October 8-10, 2025

Conference Registration:

Details on conference registration will be provided upon acceptance of paper/presentation/panel proposals. Early bird registration is encouraged for discounted rates.

We look forward to your submissions and to seeing you at the **2025 SWACJ Annual Conference** in Fort Worth, Texas!

For further inquiries, please contact:

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President, Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice

Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice

Website: <https://www.swacj.org/>