



**2022 Conference Agenda**

**July 17-20, 2022**

**WI-FI Network Name: @Hyatt\_Meeting**

**Access Code: WAVES**

**Sunday, July 17, 2022**

- 1:00-5:00 PM**      **Conference Registration**  
Multnomah Room (Level One)
- 5:00-9:00 PM**      **Complimentary Shuttle Service**  
Downtown or Pearl District or Nob Hill  
Pick-up Front Lobby
- 6:00-8:00 PM**      **Welcome Reception**  
Restaurant (Level One)

**Monday, July 18, 2022**

- 7:00-8:30 AM**      **Breakfast**  
Deschutes Ballroom (Level One)
- 7:00-8:30 AM**      **Conference Registration**  
Multnomah Room (Level One)  
Registration will be open during breaks
- 8:30-10:30 AM**      **New Certifying Official (2 years or less)**  
Training for new school certifying officials  
Presenter: Marit Solem National Training Team  
**Regency Ballroom AB (Level Two)**

**Advanced Certifying Official Training**

Training for experienced school certifying officials

Presenters: Traveon Ward Sr., National Training Team and Sharon Seidl, National Training Team

**Regency Ballroom CD (Level Two)**

**(Approved SCO Training Credit)**

10:30-11:00 AM

Break

11:00-12:00 PM

**Breakout Session 1:**

**Work-study**

**(Approved SCO Training Credit)**

Presenter: Kevin White, Muskogee RPO

**Regency Ballroom AB (Level Two)**

**Breakout Session 2:**

**VRRAP**

**(Approved SCO Training Credit)**

Presenter: Marit Solem

**Regency Ballroom CD (Level Two)**

12:00-1:30 PM

**Lunch Provided**

Deschutes Ballroom (Level One)

1:30-2:00 PM

**General Session – Welcome**

Tracy Copeland, President

Regency Ballroom (Level Two)

2:00-3:00 PM

**Student Veterans of America**

Presenter: Jared Lyon,

President and CEO

Regency Ballroom (Level Two)

3:00-3:30 PM

Break (Refreshments Served)

3:30-4:00 PM

**Muskogee RPO Updates**

Presenter: Kendra Stewart

Assistant Education Officer

Regency Ballroom (Level Two)

4:00-5:00 PM

**State Approving Agency Updates**

Presenter: Laura Bach, Washington State

Regency Ballroom (Level Two)

5:00-9:00 PM

**Complimentary Shuttle Service**

Downtown or Pearl District or Nob Hill  
Pick-up Front Lobby

6:00-9:00 PM      **Hospitality Suite**  
Columbia, Rooms One and Two (Level Three)

**Tuesday, July 19, 2022**

7:00-8:30 AM      **Breakfast**  
Deschutes Ballroom (Level One)

8:30-9:30 AM      **General Session - VA Central Office Updates**  
Presenters:  
Mary L. Glenn,  
Deputy Executive Director  
Contract Medical Disability Examination  
and  
James Ruhlman,  
Deputy Director of Program Management  
Veterans Benefit Administration – Education Service  
Regency Ballroom (Level Two)

9:30-10:00 AM      **Break**

10:00-11:00 AM      **VA Central Office Updates  
Question and Answer Session**  
Presenter:  
James Ruhlman,  
Deputy Director of Program Management  
Veterans Benefit Administration – Education Service  
Regency Ballroom (Level Two)

11:00-12:00 PM      **85/15 Updates  
(Approved SCO Training Credit)**  
Presenter: Katharine Caruso, National Training Team  
Regency Ballroom (Level Two)

12:00-1:30 PM      **Lunch on Your Own**

1:30-2:30 PM      **Isakson & Roe Updates  
(Approved SCO Training Credit)**  
Presenter: Thomas Alphonso, National Training Team  
Regency Ballroom (Level Two)

2:30-3:30 PM

**Digital GI Bill – Modernization at VA: Chatbot**

Presenter: Joseph Preisser, National Training Team  
Regency Ballroom (Level Two)  
**(Approved SCO Training Credit)**

3:30-4:00 PM

**Break** (Refreshments Provided)

4:00-5:00 PM

**State Breakout Sessions – Roundtable discussions**

**Texas**

Columbia 1 (Level 3)

Moderator: Tracy Copeland, Toni and Guy

**Arizona and Oklahoma**

Columbia 2 (Level 3)

Moderators: Jeff Escobar, SAA, Arizona

**Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Wyoming**

Columbia 3 (Level 3)

Moderator: Curtis Washburn, Hawaii

**Washington State and Oregon**

Willamette 1 (Level 2)

Moderators:

Laura Bach and Derek Richert, SAA's, Washington State

Eboni Fredrick, Oregon SAA

**Alaska, Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, and New**

**York**

Willamette 3 (Level 2)

Moderator: To be determined

**Idaho and Utah**

Willamette 5 (Level 2)

Moderator: Shannon Lambert, SAA, Idaho

**New Mexico and Nevada**

Willamette 7 (Level 2)

Moderator: Kathy Snyder, SAA, New Mexico

**California**

**Download 1    Download 2**

Deschutes (Level 1)

Moderators:

Chery Iannello, Shane Ferree, Keith Boylan, Yolanda Norris, SAA's

California

6:30-9:00 PM

**President's Reception**

Regency Ballroom (Level Two)

**Wednesday, July 20, 2022**

7:00-8:00 AM

**Breakfast**

Deschutes Ballroom (Level One)

8:00-9:00 AM

**Introduction to Enrollment Manager (formerly VA-ONCE)  
(Approved SCO Training Credit)**

Presenter: Shay Norton, National Training Team

Regency Ballroom (Level Two)

9:00-9:45 AM

**WAVES Business Meeting and Awards**

Presenter: Tracy Copeland, President

(Elections will be held for Executive Board)

Regency Ballroom (Level Two)

9:45-10:00 AM

Break

10:00 – 11:00 AM

**Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E) Updates**

Presenter: Cheyenna Irwin, Deputy Director

Regency Ballroom (Level Two)

11:00-12:00 PM

**Tungsten Updates**

Presenters:

Mark Hart, Global Client Director, Division Manager

Geoff Line, Global Client Director, VA Account Director

Regency Ballroom (Level Two)

12:00-1:30 PM

**Lunch provided**

Deschutes Ballroom (Level One)

1:30-2:30 PM

**Compliance Surveys**

(Approved SCO Training Credit)

*Presenter: Malanienne Davis, National Training Team  
Regency Ballroom (Level Two)*

*2:30-3:30 PM*

***Debt Management  
(Approved SCO Training Credit)***

*Presenter: Julie Lawrence, Chief of Operations  
VA Debt Management  
Regency Ballroom (Level Two)*

*5:00-9:00 PM*

***Complimentary Shuttle Service***

*Downtown or Pearl District or Nob Hill  
Pick-up Front Lobby*

***Thank you for attending!!!***

***GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (VA).***

***SAA: State Approving Agency***

***VACO: Veterans Administration Central Office***

***VR&E: Veteran Readiness & Employment***

**WAVES Website: [www.uswaves.org](http://www.uswaves.org)**