

A National 501(c)(3) Nonprofit
working to reduce deaths and
injuries resulting from unnecessary
police pursuits and response calls.



Media Interviews

Good Morning America
CNN Morning Show
ABC Nightly News
The John Walsh Daytime Show
FOX News
MSNBC
News 10, Sacramento
KHSL-TV News
Women's Radio
USA Today
Atlanta Journal Constitution
Los Angeles Times
San Francisco Chronicle
The Christian Science Monitor
The Cincinnati Enquirer
Philadelphia Daily News
Richmond Times-Dispatch, Virginia

Memberships

Associate Member, International
Association of Chiefs of Police
International Road Federation
Driver Behavior, Education and
Training Committee (D-BET)
of the International Road
Federation (Washington
Program Center) Road Safety
Working Group
Past Member, Association of
Professional Law Enforcement
Emergency Vehicle Response
Trainers (ALERT) International
Driver Safety
Toastmasters International

Education

B.A. in Mass Communications
Valparaiso (Indiana) University

Candy Priano

Public Speaker and Advocate for Public Safety

Candy Priano's presentations and articles address the inherent risk of injury and death of innocent bystanders and police officers resulting from car crashes involving police in pursuit of nonviolent offenders or responding to calls.

Candy founded PursuitSAFETY, a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit public safety organization, in 2007. Over the course of a decade, she has analyzed thousands of pursuit stories and identified how some pursuits could have had safer outcomes not involving the death of an officer or innocent bystander. Her extensive knowledge has benefitted from officers who share their experience and expertise with her.

She has gathered the stories of many victims of police-related car crashes and shares these stories, and her own, with officers and the public.

The fleeing driver does not care about my family's safety or your family's safety. Therefore, the burden falls on the police, by necessity, to keep the public and themselves safe.

Candy has developed three presentations, each tailored to a different audience:

The Other Side of the Windshield provides law enforcement trainers, street officers, recruits, and government safety officers with a new perspective on the need to provide more protection to innocent bystanders.

Pull Over; Have No Regrets, an appeal to teens, should be included in every high school driver education class. Every day, teenagers flee from the police, risking their own lives as well as those of their friends and innocent bystanders. If one teen makes the decision to pull over instead of fleeing from the police, then *Pull Over; Have No Regrets* is a success!

Faith: Before and During Tragedy is for citizens and church groups. Illustrating the fact that tragedy can strike anyone, Candy tells the story of how she continues to live with her daughter's death. Just 15 years old when taken, Kristie Priano reached out to others in need, served many volunteer roles, and spread her joy throughout her home and community. Candy reads entries from Kristie's journals and remembrance notes from others. She talks about her own and Kristie's walk with the Lord.

Candy also works as a panelist, discussing this critical public safety issue with officers, legislators, and concerned citizens. She promotes safer methods of catching fleeing drivers. PursuitSAFETY's annual Safer Way Award sets a standard of professionalism for police officers, recognizing trained officers who use alternative resources and technologies to bring about the capture of known flight risks.

As the founder and victim services director of PursuitSAFETY, Candy says her most important role is one of sharing, so no one has to be alone in their grief. She travels the country to meet with families and welcomes their phone calls and e-mails.

Presentations include the following:

- Florida Public Safety Institute Conference, Closing Ceremony Speaker, Tallahassee, Florida
- Highway Safety Committee, International Association of Chiefs of Police, Chicago
- Southern Illinois Criminal Justice Summit, Mt. Vernon, Illinois
- County Safety Officers Organization of California, Anderson, California
- ALERT International Training Conference, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

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Candy Priano

Curriculum Vitae

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Personal Statement

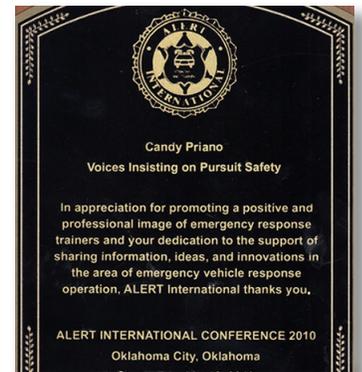
I did what many do after the death of a loved one: work to fix the problem that caused a tragedy so no one else has to endure such pain. I have come a long way since 2002, when I sat in a cemetery and looked at the cold, hard casket that held my daughter, Kristie. My journey to understand vehicular police pursuit so that a positive change could be effected began with me combing the online news. I memorized information from government reports, FBI bulletins, and books by a world-renowned expert who had researched high-risk police tactics for decades. I studied the human cost of vehicular police pursuit crashes. I learned about the people who had been killed and injured in them through no fault of their own.

Since the time I appeared on nationally televised talk shows and my state senator announced that he was sponsoring a safer pursuit law for California—named after my daughter—victims' families continue to send me their stories. Each message is a cry of pain from a parent, spouse, sibling, or another whose loved one(s) unknowingly crossed the path of a deadly quest that occurs on American roads and highways on a daily basis to this day. Our country has taken this crime-fighting tactic for granted as unavoidable and necessary; but to the families of its innocent victims, the risks of the practice have become suddenly, shockingly exposed and called into question. Each message I receive begs for recognition of the questions the general public does not ask: Is there no safer way to locate nonviolent offenders and hold them accountable? No safer method to apprehend known suspects whose offenses are insufficient to land them in jail?

The proposed "Kristie's Law" did not pass because of strong opposition from law enforcement unions and associations. Yet, I have continued my campaign for education and positive change, speaking to law enforcement officers and civic groups, focusing on the injuries and deaths of innocent bystanders resulting from police pursuits. I present my research to these groups, attempting to clearly show how the pursuit of nonviolent suspects in the name of safer roads frequently risks exactly the opposite, hastening rather than preventing tragedy.

In 2007, with assistance from others, I founded PursuitSAFETY. It is the first and only national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of its kind. We at PursuitSAFETY are committed to reducing the number of unnecessary vehicular police pursuits and responses calls. We collaborate with law enforcement to work toward our common goal: to prevent this tragedy from happening to others.

I serve the organization as victim services director, offering support to grieving families, where my heart lies. Our grassroots teams serve in cities and towns across the country. Our executive director resides in Austin, Texas; while governing board and professional advisory board members reach out from six different states. Our professional advisory board comprises four career law enforcement leaders, a recognized expert on deadly force issues, and a distinguished attorney. Together, they counsel PursuitSAFETY on the complex issues of police pursuits and police response, conduct research, write policies, and train officers.



Candy Priano

Curriculum Vitae

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PursuitSAFETY Team Achievements

- In 2011, developed and established the annual Safer Way Award, which recognizes law enforcement departments and officers who apprehend suspects without a pursuit.
- Implemented an educational program titled, *Pull Over, Have No Regrets*. It benefits all drivers but targets teens and younger drivers by showing them the inherent dangers to themselves and others if they choose to flee from the police.
- Ongoing Legislative Efforts:
 - Campaigned on Capitol Hill, asking legislators to support funding for pursuit reduction technology.
 - Support legislative actions on an ongoing basis in support of safer pursuit initiatives, stricter penalties to those who flee, and requirements for mandatory reporting of pursuit-related injuries to and deaths of innocent bystanders.
 - Coordinated the development of a series of Public Service Announcements (PSAs) featuring our spokesman and character actor Glenn Morshower.
 - With help from members of our law enforcement community and Glenn Morshower, created a series of officer training and safety tip videos. These short video clips are available at pursuitsafety.org.
- Established Family and Friends Connection meetings in support of families impacted by tragedy resulting from police pursuit and response calls crashes.

Publications

“Compassion: Reference Guide for Peace Officers,” PursuitSAFETY, endorsed by Commissioner Joseph A. Farrow of the California Highway Patrol. Illustrates how officers, with sensitivity and compassion, need to reach out to families of innocent victims of pursuit crashes. Provides nine guidelines, taking officers from the crash site to court hearings/trials. June 2015; revised October 2015.

Candy Priano and Rhett Dunlap, “Tactical Team Earns Safer Way Award,” PursuitSAFETY, August 24, 2015.

Nora Profit and Candy Priano, “The Unwritten Policy,” PursuitSAFETY.org., November 23, 2009.

Candy Priano, “How Many Deaths Before It’s Not Okay,” *The Conservative Voice* (now, Townhall.com), September 19, 2007. Written in response to Thomas Sowell’s column “High-speed Car Chases by the Police,” *Capitalism Magazine*, September 12, 2007.

Candy Priano, “Police Pursuit Bill Requires Teeth,” Opinion, *San Francisco Chronicle* and *Los Angeles Daily News*, July 2005.

PursuitSAFETY Honors

- Silver Rating by Great Nonprofits.
- Recognized by ALERT International for promoting a positive and professional image of emergency response trainers and for the organization’s dedication to the support of sharing information, ideas and innovations in the area of EVOC operations.