

## Major Irick Geary

Major Irick (T.J.) Geary serves as the Operations Bureau Commander at the University of South Carolina (USC) Division of Law Enforcement and Safety, where he oversees critical operational functions, including uniformed patrol, special operations, training and professional development, and specialized investigative functions. With a career spanning over two decades, Major Geary has risen through the ranks in various supervisory, mid-level leadership, and command roles. Before returning to USC in 2006, he served with the Lexington County Sheriff's Department in various operational, investigative, and training capacities.

Major Geary is a graduate of the 251st Session of the FBI National Academy and holds a graduate certificate in criminal justice education from the University of Virginia. He earned a Master of Criminal Justice degree from USC in 2002 and is currently pursuing a PhD in criminology and criminal justice, further enhancing his expertise in evidence-based policing and public safety strategies.

Major Geary is an active leader in the law enforcement community. He currently serves as president of the South Carolina Chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates and represents Section III—covering 11 southeastern states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, and Latin America—on the Board of Directors for the FBINAA Charitable Foundation. He also served as the 2021–2022 president of the 7,000-member South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Association and helped lead efforts to pass significant law enforcement legislation during his presidency.

In addition to his leadership, Major Geary is an accomplished educator and researcher. Major Geary has presented at national conferences, authored peer-reviewed articles, and pursued significant research questions in various areas of policing. He serves as adjunct faculty in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice and is a senior instructor in the Excellence in Policing and Public Safety Program at USC's Joseph F. Rice School of Law. He is a senior instructor and subject matter expert for the Bureau of Justice Assistance VALOR, NLERSP, and SAFLEO programs. As a co-principal investigator on a multi-year National Institute of Justice-funded study, Major Geary and his research partners are exploring the impact of mental health on law enforcement retention and academy success. He holds a variety of instructor certifications in defensive tactics, firearms, and active shooter response. He is a Department of Homeland Security Certified Master Trainer in Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management. His

specialties include police practices, use of force, leadership, and critical incident response. He serves as the principal and owner of Evidence-Based Insights, LLC.

With a blend of operational experience, academic achievement, and a commitment to advancing law enforcement through research and training, Major Geary is a respected leader and advocate for the profession's future. His contributions continue to shape the field of policing and public safety at both the local and national levels.