

2026 USA-IT NATIONAL SUMMIT AGENDA

DAY 1 | MONDAY MAY 11, 2026

USA-IT

EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON
WASHINGTON DC
CONVENTION CENTER

900 10th St NW,
Washington, DC 20001

Capital Ballroom

TIME	AGENDA	SPEAKERS
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<p>FROM INTELLIGENCE TO PROSECUTION: LEVERAGING PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATION TO COMBAT IP CRIME INDUSTRY-LAW ENFORCEMENT COORDINATION & SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTIONS*</p> <p>*An optional morning session on Day 1 offering a three-hour specialized training course through CTIPS.</p> <p>Examine when suspected IP crime intelligence should be escalated to public authorities, how public-private collaboration works in practice, and how to navigate roles, deconfliction, and common risks.</p>	<p>Taught by: Thomas Dougherty Senior IP Prosecutor</p>
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	<p>LUNCH AND NETWORKING</p>	
1:00 PM - 1:15 PM	<p>KEYNOTE REMARKS</p>	<p>Lisa Mortier Staff Director House Oversight Committee (Majority)</p>
1:15 PM - 1:45 PM	<p>USA-IT POLICY PRIORITIES & UPCOMING INITIATIVES</p>	<p>(Master of Ceremonies) Alysa Erichs Spokesperson USA-IT</p> <p>Jay Kennedy Head of Policy and Engagement Philip Morris International (PMI)</p>
1:45 PM - 2:50 PM	<p>PANEL: INSIDE SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTIONS</p> <p>Building cases that lead to successful prosecutions requires aligning investigative work with prosecutorial standards from the outset. See how prosecutors assess evidence, determine appropriate charges, and coordinate with law enforcement and private-sector partners to close gaps that can limit case viability and courtroom outcomes.</p>	<p>(Moderator) Kendra Ervin VP Global Litigation & Enforcement IP House</p> <p>Dant Folk Assistant State's Attorney Office of the Will County State's Attorney</p> <p>Adrienne Rose Assistant Deputy Chief at Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section US Department of Justice Criminal Division</p> <p>Jason Ruiz Senior Corporate Counsel Amazon Customer Protection and Enforcement (CPE)</p>

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2:50 PM - 3:00 PM	REFRESHMENTS & NETWORKING BREAK	
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	ELECTRONIC STORAGE DETECTION (ESD) K-9 DEMONSTRATION	Led by: Justin Walters Investigator Duke K-9
3:50 PM - 5:00 PM	PANEL: INDUSTRY-LAW ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION SHARING Effective disruption of illegal trade networks depends on timely, actionable intelligence shared between industry and law enforcement. This discussion examines how data is collected, validated, and translated into investigative leads, and what law enforcement requires from private-sector partners to support case development.	(Moderator) Raul Aguilar Senior Director of Law Enforcement Partnerships Auror Brett Kolb Acting Unit Chief National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center David Johnston Vice President of Asset Protection and Retail Operations National Retail Federation (NRF) Howard Mergler President Mid Atlantic Organized Retail Crime Alliance (MAORCA)
5:00 PM - 5:05 PM	CLOSING REMARKS	Jay Kennedy Head of Policy and Engagement Philip Morris International (PMI)

2026 USA-IT NATIONAL SUMMIT AGENDA

DAY 2 | TUESDAY MAY 12, 2026

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TIME	AGENDA	SPEAKERS
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	BREAKFAST & NETWORKING	
9:00 AM - 9:10 AM	OPENING REMARKS	(Master of Ceremonies) Alysa Erichs Spokesperson USA-IT Jay Kennedy Head of Policy and Engagement Philip Morris International (PMI)
9:10 AM - 9:30 AM	KEYNOTE REMARKS	Timothy J. Cruz President National District Attorneys Association
9:30 AM - 10:25 AM	PANEL: LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY DEVELOPMENTS Legislative and policy developments continue to shape how illegal trade is investigated, enforced, and prosecuted. Learn about current proposals and regulatory priorities, and how proposed policies are fighting criminal networks while supporting victims of these crimes.	(Moderator) Jon Gold Vice President of Supply Chain and Customs Policy National Retail Federation (NRF) Julia March Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Charles E. Grassley Peter-Anthony Pappas Director of Intellectual Property Policy Committee on the Judiciary (SJC) Noah Taicher Legislative Assistant Office of Representative Russell W. Fry (SC, 7)
10:25 AM - 10:30 AM	REFRESHMENTS & NETWORKING BREAK	
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	PANEL: STRENGTHENING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS Sustained disruption of illegal trade relies on formalized collaboration across government, industry, and nonprofit partners. Hear how partnerships are structured, how roles and resources are coordinated across jurisdictions, and where breakdowns in alignment continue to limit enforcement outcomes.	(Moderator) Jay Kennedy Head of Policy and Engagement Philip Morris International (PMI) Barb Bergin CEO Crime Stoppers USA Jeff Hardy Director-General Transnational Alliance to Combat Illicit Trade (TRACIT) Craig Healy Head of Security DHL Express USA Jason Kosofsky Intellectual Property Coordinator National Cyber-Forensics and Training Alliance (NCFTA) Zach Toczynski Senior Director of Global Brand Protection Levi Strauss & Co.
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM	PRESENTATION: PORT & MARITIME SECURITY - MTSA SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS/NEXT STEPS	Carl Bentzel President National Association of Waterfront Employees

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TIME	AGENDA	SPEAKERS
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	LUNCH & NETWORKING	
1:00 PM - 2:40 PM	PRESENTATION: GIFT CARD SCHEMES: HSI, BLACKHAWK & INCOMM	Adam Parks Baton Rouge Assistant Special Agent in Charge Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Cara Renfro Senior Vice President of Global Operations & Transformation BlackHawk Robert Hadden Senior Vice President of Fraud Operations InComm
2:40 PM - 2:50 PM	BREAK	
2:50 PM - 3:35 PM	PRESENTATION: USING PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS AND TRAUMA-INFORMED PROCESSES TO DISRUPT HUMAN TRAFFICKING ENTERPRISES	Amy Bruins Vice President of Community Impact OUR Rescue Cara Jones CEO and Co-founder Marinus Analytics
3:35 PM - 3:45 PM	BREAK	
3:45 PM - 4:35 PM	PRESENTATION: CARGO THEFT (RETAIL & TRANSPORTATION)	Dermot Fitzsimons Senior Manager Asset Protection Public Sector Liaison Macy's Dean Hendricks Manager of Supply Chain Investigations The TJX Companies, Inc. Bryan Laurie Chief of Police BNSF Railway Police
4:35 PM - 4:45 PM	CLOSING REMARKS	Jay Kennedy Head of Policy and Engagement Philip Morris International (PMI)
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM	PRIVATE COCKTAIL RECEPTION & DINNER AT RARE STEAKHOUSE 1595 I ST NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20006	

2026 USA-IT NATIONAL SUMMIT AGENDA

DAY 3 | WEDNESDAY MAY 13, 2026

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TIME	AGENDA	SPEAKERS
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	BREAKFAST & NETWORKING	
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	OFFSITE VISIT LAW ENFORCEMENT TRACK: MACY'S RFID TRACKING CAPABILITY AND LOSS PREVENTION DEMONSTRATION. 1000 S HAYES ST ARLINGTON, VA 22202	
TBA	PRIVATE SECTOR TRACK: CONTA INTERNATIONAL: LEVERAGING INTERNATIONAL ILLICIT TRADE RESEARCH	Taught by: Dr. Layla M. Hashemi Director of Programs and Partnerships at Women In International Security (WIIS)
12:00 PM - 12:30 PM	LUNCH & NETWORKING	