

42nd Annual InterCourt Conference



Session 2A: Burners, Gats,
and Straps: Unpacking
Youth Gun Violence

March 12, 2026
Hilton Columbus at
Easton Town Center
Columbus, OH

FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

ANTHONY PRESIDENT is a Master Trainer, International Speaker and author of the book “Invincible Social Worker.” He has empowered and inspired more than 100,000 people to perform, produce and partner better at their places of work. Thousands of companies and organizations have been transformed as a result of Anthony’s work. With over 20 years of facilitation experience, Anthony utilizes a broad range of active learning methodologies to engage and inspire learners to put new ideas into practice creating tangible results for their organizations.

Anthony launched his training career and gained his expertise in social services as the Senior Training Officer for the Cuyahoga County Department of Child and Family Services, the largest Human Services agency in the State of Ohio. Prior to founding Presidential Consultants in 2000, Anthony spent a decade in the corporate arena as a Sales Executive and Sales Manager across two Fortune 500 organizations. An award-winning trainer, Anthony brings high energy and his signature humor to a wide range of topics including diversity and inclusion, leadership, workplace safety and wellbeing. Anthony is an alumnus of John Carroll University in his native Cleveland, Ohio.

Burners, Gats, and Straps: Unpacking Youth Gun Violence

Anthony President

CEO & Founder

Presidential Consultants, LLC





Burners, Gats & Straps **Unpacking Gun Violence**

Anthony President

Phone: 216-810-4810

www.presidentialconsultants.com

© PRESIDENTIAL CONSULTANTS, LLC



A.R.M.S

A= Availability & Accessibility of Guns - Counters

Secure storage as a default

Lock it, unload it, store ammo separately (and use lockboxes/cable locks).

Temporary storage agreements with trusted friend/relatives during youth crises (suicidal ideation, beefs, intense agitation).

Seasonal & Situational Access Awareness

High-risk windows

1. Summer months
2. School transitions
3. Post-release from detention
4. After publicized shootings
5. Late nights / weekends

R=Reverence for the Gun - Counters

Credible messengers/violence interrupters who can challenge street narratives and status

Replace "gun status" with "self- worth status skills"

1. **Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT):** Rewriting the Internal Status Narrative
2. **Mentoring:** Borrowed beliefs that becomes internal beliefs
3. **Workforce Pathways:** Turning capability Into proof



M = Media & Marketing Imperatives – Counters

Media Diet:

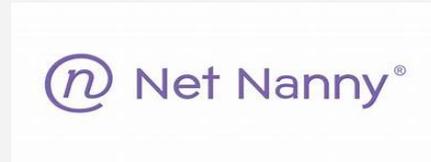
- **Content:** is the content appropriate for my child
- **Character:** what character traits is this media teaching my child
- **Conclusion:** what conclusion is my child likely to learn from this media?

Flip the algorithm: feed prosocial identity

Employ content blocking apps



Bark :<https://www.bark.us/>



Net Nanny: <https://www.netnanny.com/>

S = Social Scripts of Violence as a Means – Counters

CBT-based skill building to disrupt “fast thinking” violence scripts and replace them with “slow thinking” peace scripts.

- Pause & Plan Skills
- Conflict Exit Strategies
- Emotion Regulation Under Stress Methods

Family-based interventions

- **Multisystems Therapy** (family, peers, school, neighborhood, community supports)
- **Functional Family Therapy** (reduces family conflict linked to aggression, peer validation, emotional dysregulation)

Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Programs (HVIPs)

Facilitated by Hospital Social Workers who:

- Engage the youth at bedside
- De-escalate retaliation risk
- Begin safety planning
- Bridge hospital → community supports

Support System Map: Helping Youth Identify Their Circle of Strength

ME (The Child's Name or "Me")

Core Support (Daily/Closest Relationships):

(Check who applies or write names)

Parent / Guardian

Close Friend

Grandparent

Pet

Sibling

Trusted Adult

Favorite Teacher

Spiritual Mentor

Second Ring – Occasional or Situational Support:

(Check who applies or write names)

School Social Worker

Counselor / Therapist

Coach / Activity Leader

Caseworker

Neighbor

Extended Family

Community Leader

Church / Faith Community

Third Ring – Dream Circle (Support They Want to Build):

- Who do they wish they had more access to?
- What kind of person or relationship would help them feel stronger?
- (Example: "A mentor," "Someone to talk to after school," "A calm adult at home")



Group Worksheet / Prompt

A = Availability & Accessibility

Question: What can we do to reduce youth access to guns using existing systems?

Think about:

- Schools
- Courts/CPS
- Hospitals
- Caregiver education
- Supervision and safety planning

Thinking prompt:

- Asking different questions during home visits
- Partnering with hospital social work
- Safety planning during high-risk periods
- Referrals to HVIP or community violence intervention

R = Reverence for the Gun

Question: How can we replace gun-based status with Self-Worth Status using what already exists?



Think about:

- Mentoring programs
- Workforce pathways
- Leadership roles
- Skill-building opportunities

Recognition systems

Thinking Prompt: "Where can youth earn respect without fear?"

M = Media & Marketing Imperatives

Question: How can we interrupt violent media saturation using tools available right now?

Think about:

- Parent education
- Digital supervision tools
- School-based media literacy
- Probation conditions
- Family conversations

Thinking Prompt: "How do we reduce algorithmic violence without becoming the phone police?"



S = Social Scripts of Violence as a Means

Question: How can we interrupt retaliation and violent problem-solving scripts using current supports?

Think about:

- CBT-informed skills
- Crisis response
- Hospital-based intervention
- Conflict mediation
- Trauma-informed de-escalation

Thinking Prompt: “Where can we slow things down before violence happens?”



My Idea Garden

Where I Stand

My Skills Gap: What specific areas do I need to strengthen to better help mitigate gun violence in my community?

What I Will Use

Three or more tools or strategies from this training I plan to implement (e.g., ARMS Counters, Support System Mapping, Increasing Protective Factors, Healthy Coping)

What I'll Do Next

One change I will test or introduce in my system of care in the next 30 days.

What support or follow-up do I need to make that happen?



