

Veterans' Health Conference
“The Evolving Health Needs of the Post-9/11 Veteran Community”
May 10, 2018
#veteranshealth2018

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

David Sandman, Ph.D.
President and CEO
New York State Health Foundation

David Sandman, Ph.D., is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the New York State Health Foundation (NYSHealth), a private foundation dedicated to improving the health of all New Yorkers, especially the most vulnerable. Since 2006, NYSHealth has invested more than \$130 million in initiatives to improve health care and the public health system in New York State. Equally important, the Foundation is committed to sharing the results and lessons of its grantmaking; informing policy and practice through timely, credible analysis and commentary; and serving as a convener of health care leaders and stakeholders throughout New York State.

Dr. Sandman was named President and CEO in 2016, after serving as NYSHealth's Senior Vice President. Previously, Dr. Sandman was appointed by the Governor of New York as Executive Director of the Commission on Health Care Facilities in the 21st Century, also known as the “Berger Commission.” Earlier, Dr. Sandman was Managing Director of Manatt Health Solutions, a Vice President at Harris Interactive, and Assistant Vice President at the Commonwealth Fund.

Phillip Carter, J.D.
Senior Policy Researcher
RAND Corporation

Phillip Carter is a Senior Policy Researcher at the RAND Corporation. His research specializations include military personnel policy; military and veterans health policy; veterans employment and benefits policy; acquisition policy; civil-military relations; and national security law.

Prior to joining the RAND Corporation, Mr. Carter was a Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security, where he led that organization's research on military personnel, veterans policy, and civil-military relations. Mr. Carter has a diverse background in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. He began his career as an Army officer, serving for more than 9 years, including an overseas tour in South Korea and a combat tour (2005–06) in Iraq as an embedded adviser with the Iraqi police. Mr. Carter's public sector background also includes service in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for detainee policy. In the private sector, Mr. Carter practiced government contracts and national security law, and

worked at a midsize government contractor as Chief Operating Officer. He has also served on advisory or governance boards for nonprofit organizations serving the veterans and national security community.

Mr. Carter is also an adjunct professor of law at Georgetown University, where he teaches a course on national security business law and a research seminar on military personnel and veterans policy.

Melissa Bryant
Chief Policy Officer
Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA)

Melissa Bryant is the Chief Policy Officer for IAVA. She leads IAVA's policy division, overseeing the legislative, research, and intergovernmental affairs departments. Ms. Bryant spearheads the development of IAVA's annual policy agenda and advocacy campaigns in collaboration with IAVA leadership. She leads IAVA's engagement with the White House; government departments and agencies, particularly the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs; Veteran and Military Service Organizations; and advocacy organizations.

A former Army Captain and Operation Iraqi Freedom combat veteran, Ms. Bryant has an extensive record of public service, having served on both active duty and in the civil service as an intelligence officer prior to joining IAVA. A plans, policy, and operations expert with 15 combined years of experience in the federal government, she has served in key leadership positions with the Defense Intelligence Agency, the Joint Staff, the United States Military Academy, and Army Intelligence. She was successful in building "coalitions of the willing" to advance operational and strategic objectives while developing and implementing plans and policy for the defense and intelligence communities.

Ms. Bryant is an ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science cum laude from Hampton University, is an alumna of Howard University School of Law, and also holds a Master of Arts in Policy Management from Georgetown University. She is a spokesperson for IAVA, and has been featured on *HLN* and *The Washington DC 100*.

Danielle M. Corazza, M.B.A.
National Outreach Coordinator
Center for Women Veterans

Danielle Corazza is the National Outreach Coordinator for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Center for Women Veterans. Prior to joining the federal government, Ms. Corazza was an entrepreneur, operating Applegate Solutions, a service-disabled veteran-owned small business that provided management consulting to an array of clients including the Departments of

Commerce, Defense, and Veterans Affairs, as well as private and non-governmental organizations.

She previously served as the director of veterans' initiatives and outreach at Business and Professional Women's Foundation, where she developed the innovative Joining Forces for Women Veterans program and promoted nationwide collaborative efforts to foster additional access to services for women veterans. Ms. Corazza also executed program management for both the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security.

Ms. Corazza was enlisted in the United States Army and Army National Guard for five years; her service included a tour in Korea. Because of service-connected injuries, she left the service and used Vocational Rehabilitation services and the Montgomery GI Bill to complete a Bachelor's degree in Human Resources and Business Administration, a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Massachusetts, and a certificate from Georgetown University in Nonprofit Executive Management in 2014. She has served on the Advisory Council for Final Salute, the Women Joining Forces Council for Business and Professional Women's Foundation, the American Legion's Small Business Council, and the Camp Lejeune Community Action Panel.

Kathy Roth-Douquet
Founder and CEO
Blue Star Families

Kathy Roth-Douquet is a founder and CEO of Blue Star Families, the nation's largest chapter nonprofit serving military families, reaching more than 1.5 million members of military families annually. She is a public speaker and frequent commentator on public affairs as well as a practicing attorney. She also co-directs the Summit Institute, the nonprofit associated with Summit and Powder Mountain, Utah.

Ms. Roth-Douquet previously served as a political appointee in the White House and Department of Defense. She has been awarded the Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service and the Chief of Staff of the Army medal for Outstanding Civilian Service to the Army.

The author of two critically-recognized books on public affairs, Ms. Roth-Douquet has appeared on the *Today Show*, *Fox and Friends*, *CNN*, and *NPR*, was a frequent contributor for *USA Today*, and speaks regularly at universities and conferences. She has served as an advisor to billionaires, royalty, and U.S. elected officials. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, serves on a number of civic boards, and has received a number of civic awards including President George H.W. Bush's Daily Point of Light Award.

Elizabeth Perez
Deputy Secretary for Minority Veterans Affairs
California Department of Veterans Affairs

Elizabeth Perez was appointed on January 9, 2018, by Governor Brown as Deputy Secretary for Minority Veterans at the California Department of Veterans Affairs. Ms. Perez has been President and Founder at GC Green Incorporated since 2010. She was a member of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee Delegation in Israel in 2016 and a 2013 White House Veteran Champion of Change. Ms. Perez was a Director in Business Development at Xenergy from 2007 to 2011 and a Branch Manager at Ferguson Contractors from 2005 to 2007. She was an Aviation Logistics Specialist for the U.S. Navy from 1997 to 2005. Ms. Perez is a Truman National Security Project Fellow and a member of the California Sustainable Energy Entrepreneur Development Initiative Board, Disabled Veterans Business Alliance of California San Diego Chapter Board, American Indian Chamber of Commerce of California San Diego Chapter, American Legion Post 365, and the California Nations Indian Gaming Association.

Derek Coy
Veterans' Health Officer
New York State Health Foundation

As Veterans' Health Officer, Derek Coy focuses on expanding veterans' access to community-based services; leveraging federal and private funds to increase the dollars available to returning veterans in New York State; and serving as a thought leader, convener, and advocate to improve the health of returning veterans and their families.

Prior to joining NYSHealth, Mr. Coy served as the Development Manager at The Doe Fund, an organization dedicated to breaking the cycles of recidivism and homelessness, where he revamped and modernized its fundraising efforts. Before that role, Mr. Coy was the Annual Fund Officer at the American Civil Liberties Union, helping produce STAND, the organization's bi-annual magazine, and its annual appeals. Mr. Coy has considerable experience working in the veteran space, and used his role as senior development associate at Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America to advocate for changes in our nation's capital.

Mr. Coy received a Bachelor of Arts degree, Phi Alpha Theta, from the University of Houston Clear Lake, and a Master of Arts degree in Middle Eastern History from the City College of New York, where he focused on 20th century Iranian history. He is also a former Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps, and served a yearlong deployment to Iraq's Anbar Province in 2005.

Samantha Kubek
Fellow
Equal Justice Works

Samantha Kubek is an Equal Justice Works Fellow sponsored by Greystone & Co., Inc. and Greenberg Traurig, LLP working in the New York Legal Assistance Group's (NYLAG) LegalHealth unit. Ms. Kubek joined NYLAG in September 2016. In January 2017, she established the nation's first legal clinics for women veterans at the Bronx and Manhattan VA hospitals. These clinics provide a safe space in which clients can receive trauma-informed legal assistance. Ms. Kubek serves women veterans on a variety of civil legal issues, including VA and other government benefits; family law matters; discharge upgrades; credit issues; and advanced planning. Ms. Kubek prepared the Third Edition of the New York City Veteran's Legal Guide, which has been distributed to veterans, service providers, and VA staff. Ms. Kubek also created LegalHealth's first DSRIP-focused curricula on domestic violence and family law, which she presents to health care professionals throughout New York City. Ms. Kubek is a graduate of New York University School of Law and Georgetown University.

Clyde J. "Butch" Tate
Chief Counsel
Justice for Vets

Clyde J. "Butch" Tate retired as a Major General from the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps in January 2014. He last served as the Deputy Judge Advocate General, one of the top two military attorneys in the Army.

Most recently the Associate General Counsel, Lockheed Martin Corporation Government Affairs, General Tate is now a consultant and advocate for national, state, and local initiatives addressing the legal needs of military personnel, veterans, families, caregivers, and survivors.

He is the Chief Counsel of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP), a national nonprofit corporation founded in 1994. Today, NADCP is the preeminent source for comprehensive training of and technical assistance to problem-solving courts, including Veterans Treatment Courts.

His 31-year Army career included service as liaison to Congress; Director of Federal Litigation and Procurement Fraud Programs; ethics official; Director of Personnel; nearly a decade as Legal Advisor to special operations and airborne units; Senior Legal Advisor for the Multinational Corps in Iraq; Commandant of the American Bar Association (ABA)-accredited Army Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School; and Chief Judge of the Army's Court of Criminal Appeals.

He is currently Co-Chair of the ABA Coordinating Committee on Veterans Benefit Services. From 2016–2017, he served as the Special Advisor for Military and Veteran Affairs to the President of the ABA.

Because of his proven commitment to diversity and inclusion, he was awarded the prestigious Hispanic National Bar Association’s Presidential Award for leadership, advocacy, and service.

Kristofer Goldsmith
Founder and Chair
High Ground Veterans Advocacy

Kristofer Goldsmith served in the U.S. Army as a forward observer, and deployed with the 3rd Infantry Division in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom-III in 2005. Struggling with undiagnosed post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), he separated in 2007 at the rank of sergeant with a “general” discharge. Mr. Goldsmith currently studies political science at the School of General Studies at Columbia University and is the Assistant Director for Policy and Government Affairs at Vietnam Veterans of America. He is the Founder and President of High Ground Veterans Advocacy, which trains veterans to use their life experiences to drive policy changes. Mr. Goldsmith’s primary focus for the last decade has been to change the narrative on so-called “bad-paper discharges,” and reforming Department of Defense and VA policy to ensure that no veteran is left behind.