



## **Veterans in Transition: Military Culture, Mental Health, and Readjustment to Civilian Life Symposium**

**Quinnipiac University School of Law  
North Haven, CT  
Friday, November 14, 2014  
7:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

### **PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

- 7:45 a.m.**                    **Registration and Continental Breakfast**
- 8:30 a.m.**                    **Introductions and Welcome**  
**Dean Jennifer Gerarda Brown**, Quinnipiac University School of Law  
**Attorney Peter Arakas**, President, Connecticut Bar Foundation  
**Luke Bronin**, General Counsel to the Office of the Governor  
**Honorable Chase T. Rogers**, Chief Justice, Connecticut Supreme Court
- 8:45 - 9:30 a.m.**        **Keynote Speaker**  
**Attorney Phillip Carter**, Senior Fellow, Counsel and Director of the Military, Veterans, and Society Program, Center for a New American Security
- 9:35 - 10:35 a.m.**    **Military Culture and the Military Experience**  
The program will begin with a panel discussion exploring the basic tenets of military culture and the military experience. We begin by touching upon the experience of an average service member, from induction to discharge, and highlighting the behavioral and social norms that distinguish the military from civilian society. We will then discuss the nature of the military subculture, how it differs from American culture, and how this “civil-military” divide affects civilians’ perception of the military service members and vice versa. The discussion will proceed to examine the norms of the military subculture in relation to the psychology of a service member, as well as the archetypical “traits” one acquires from military service. This phase of the program will provide a knowledge base, in addition to perspective, for the next panel’s

discussion of issues faced by service members as they transition to become both civilians and veterans.

**Moderator:** **Attorney Dennis Carnelli**, Iraq War Veteran (Army)

**Panelists:** **Anthony Dozier**, Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist, Errera Community Care Center; Persian Gulf War Veteran (Army),  
**Rosendo Garza**, UCONN Law Student and Past-President of the Military Law Society, UCONN Law School; Iraq and Afghanistan War Veteran (Marine Corps)  
**Attorney Emily Trudeau** Deputy Assistant State's Attorney, State's Attorney's Office; Iraq War Veteran (Navy)

**10:35 - 10:50 a.m. Break**

**10:55 - 11:55 a.m. Mental Health Consequences, Problems of Transition, Veterans Culture, and Readjustment to Civilian Life**

Following the examination of military culture and experience, this panel will identify and discuss the wide range of personal problems that veterans commonly encounter when they begin their transition and readjustment to civilian society and to the lives they will resume or begin afresh. We first highlight the significant differences between military and civilian culture, then examine problems such as mental health, economic, employment, marriage and family, and legal. The discussion will move to the inter-relationship among these various types of problems along with their consequences, plus relevant features of the veterans' culture of which they will become a part. This phase of the program will lead to the next panel's discussion of the resources and benefits available to assist veterans in their readjustment process.

**Moderator:** **Honorable Barry R. Schaller**, Former Justice, Connecticut Supreme Court, Judge Trial Referee, Visiting Clinical Lecturer, Yale Law School, Visiting Lecturer, Trinity College

**Panelists:** **Dr. Steven Southwick**, Glenn H. Greenberg Professor of Psychiatry, PTSD & Resilience, Yale University School of Medicine & Yale Child Study Center; Adjunct Professor, Mt. Sinai School of Medicine & Medical Director, Clinical Neuroscience Division of National Center for PTSD  
**Dr. Laurie L. Harkness**, Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Yale School of Medicine; Director, VA Connecticut Healthcare System's Errera Community Care Center  
**Michael J. Zacchea**, Program Director, University of Connecticut School of Business, Entrepreneur Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities, Iraq War Veteran (Marine Corps)

**12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Existing Resources and Benefits, Legal Obstacles, Federal and State Law**

After our orientation to military culture and the challenges of transition, the third panel will talk about existing laws and legal resources targeted to help veterans overcome these barriers. Panelists will discuss areas of the law specific to service members and veterans including disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs, records corrections, and medical and

disability boards at the Department of Defense. Panelists will discuss existing service models, volunteer opportunities and gaps in services. A resource book for veterans created by CRT will be provided to attendees.

**Moderator:** **Attorney Margaret M. Middleton**, Executive Director,  
Connecticut Veterans Legal Center

**Panelists:** **Attorney Coco J.M. Culhane**, Director, Veteran Advocacy  
Project, Urban Justice Center

**Attorney Ndidi Moses**, Assistant United States Attorney  
U. S. Attorney's Office

**Attorney Sharon L. Pope**, Elder and Special Needs Trust Law  
Czepiga Daly Pope; Accredited Veteran Affairs Claims Attorney;  
Medicare Set-Aside Certified Consultant

## **Veterans in Transition Symposium Planning Committee**

Attorney Barry F. Armata, Chair

Attorney Robert M. Barrack

Attorney Francis J. Brady

Attorney Dennis Carnelli

Honorable Juliett L. Crawford

Attorney Roger Crossland

Attorney Edward J. Heath

Attorney Robert C. Hinton

Attorney William Logue

Attorney Paul McConnell

Attorney Dwight H. Merriam

Attorney Margaret M. Middleton

Attorney Ndidi Moses

Honorable Barry R. Schaller

## **Connecticut Bar Foundation Staff**

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