

**Biography of Christopher Neiweem  
Legislative Associate, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America**

As Legislative Associate, Christopher maintains Congressional relationships and supports advocacy programs. Chris spent 6 years in the U.S. Army Reserve as a military police NCO and served an honorable tour of duty in Operation Iraqi Freedom detaining Enemy Prisoners of War (EPWs) and performing base security and customs in 2003 during the Iraq war. He completed a Bachelors Degree in political science from Northern Illinois University in 2007 and served as a congressional intern for Congressman Donald Manzullo who previously represented Illinois' 16th congressional district. He completed a Masters Degree in 2011 from the University of Illinois at Springfield in political affairs; during this period he completed an internship with the lobby firm Cook Witter Inc. His work at Cook Witter ranged from tax policy, agriculture issues, healthcare, and legislative engagement with lawmakers. He routinely represents IAVA in the state, local, and national media and comments on policy matters.