

# JOHN BENNETT WELLS



## **EDUCATION:**

Duquesne University School of Law, Pittsburgh Pa. J. D. conferred June, 1994,  
Activities: *Duquesne Law Review*, *Duquesne Business Law Journal*, *Juris Magazine*.

Prospective Commanding Officer's School, Commander Naval Reserve Force, New Orleans, LA,  
December 1989.

Prospective Executive Officer's School, Surface Warfare Officer's School Command, Newport RI,  
October-December 1987.

Navigation School, Fleet Training Center, Norfolk VA September 1987.

Nuclear Weapons Employment, Fleet Training Center, North Island CA, May 1981.

Sealed Authentication System School, Fleet Training Center, North Island CA, May 1981.

Department Head School, Surface Warfare Officer's School Command Newport RI, Sep 1980-April  
1981.

Amphibious Warfare Planning, Amphibious Warfare School, Little Creek VA, October 1976.

Introduction to Amphibious Warfare, Amphibious Warfare School, Little Creek VA, October 1976.

Basic Anti Submarine Warfare, ASW School, Newport RI, August 1976.

Combat Information Center Officer School, Fleet Combat Direction Training Center, Dam Neck  
VA, March 1975.

1200 psi Main Propulsion Assistant School, Navy Destroyer School, Newport RI, April June 1974.

Boiler Feed Water Test and Treatment Certification/Recertification, Navy Destroyer School,  
Newport RI, 1974 and 1976, Fleet Training Center Pearl Harbor HI 1982, Fleet Training Center, Norfolk  
VA 1987.

Navy Officer Candidate School, Newport RI 1972-1973.

Sangamon State University, Springfield, Ill., B. A. Degree conferred March, 1973 Lincoln Land

Community College, Springfield, Ill., No degree 1969-1971.

## **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

**2013 - Present.** Pro bono Executive Director of Military-Veterans Advocacy, Inc., (MVA) (2012-2019) and Chairman of the Board (2019-present) a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to advocating for active duty and military members. This organization provides legal services, education and defense to members of the armed forces, counseling, education and assistance to veterans in obtaining veterans benefits and advocating for legislation on the federal, state and local level to benefit veterans. MVA also defends the religious rights of members of the armed forces. As Executive Director, met with various Congressional staffs on legislation beneficial to service members and veterans. Advocated for the adoption of the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act and the Toxic Exposure Research Act. Drafted herbicide portions of the PACT Act of 2022 and worked with other groups to ensure its enactment, Completed an analysis of the proposed Military Justice Act of 2016 for Congressional committees. Prepared analysis on the Veterans Affairs appellate backlog problem. Initiated additional federal court litigation to protect the rights of those who serve or have served in the armed forces. Litigated in various federal courts resulting in the recognition of benefits for tens of thousands of military veterans. Worked with other veterans groups to promote

awareness of military and veterans issues. Presented Continuing Legal Education seminars on veterans law for attorneys. Assisted with the formation of Toxic Veterans Coalition and Operation Stand Together. Conducted fundraising drives and addressed interested groups on matters concerning the organizations' goals. Frequent interviewee on radio, television and in the print media. Testified before the Veterans Affairs Committee of the United States Senate and the Veterans Affairs Committee of the United States House of Representatives. Conducted seminars for veterans and service organizations and Continuing Legal Education courses for attorneys. Submitted written testimony to both the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. Instrumental in establishing a local Veteran's Treatment Court.

**2010 - 2013.** As pro bono Director of Legal and Legislative Affairs for the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Association, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, reviewed all legal documents on behalf of the Association and recommended appropriate action to the Executive Director. Worked with the corporate board to develop strategies for federal legislation to promote veterans coverage of Agent Orange exposure by Navy veterans during the Vietnam War. Represented the Association in personal contacts with United States Senators, Members of Congress and their staffs in drafting and encouraging the adoption of appropriate legislation. Met with the permanent majority and minority Veterans Affairs Committee staffs in both Houses of Congress to advance legislation. Worked with various staffs to draft and introduce S. 1629 and HR 3612 in the 112th Congress and HR 543 and HR 1494 in the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress. Represented the Association in meetings with the Department of Veterans Affairs and various veterans groups including the American Legion, The Military Coalition and Fleet Reserve Association. Testified before the Institute of Medicine, the House Veterans Affairs Committee and provided presentations on the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Association and other veterans issues to numerous groups including events sponsored by the Louisiana Bar Associations and the John Marshall School of Law.

**1994 - present.** Sole practitioner in the Law Office of John B. Wells based in Slidell, Louisiana. Represents military clients of all services in courts-martial trials and before administrative bodies including records correction boards and veterans courts. Represented veterans at all levels of the process including the Board of Veterans Appeals and the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. Acted as counsel for military members and veterans in various federal courts and other federal adjudication proceedings including the Merit Systems Protection Board, the EEOC and military tribunals. Defended clients before state courts in St. Tammany, St. Bernard, Washington and Jefferson Parish. Member of the Conflicts Panel for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court Indigent Defender Office pre-Katrina. Operates successful civil and criminal practice in the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit and the Civil District Court as well as federal courts with emphasis on employment law, personal injury and federal tort claims.

**1989-1994.** Commanding Officer of the Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Readiness Center. Pittsburgh PA and during 1992-1993 also the Commanding Officer of the Naval Reserve Center McKeesport, PA. Responsible for the training and administrative support for over 1000 reservists including the development of tactical and propulsion engineering courses. Provided training support to four smaller "feeder" Reserve Centers. Conducted officer training in all aspects of surface warfare. Supervised construction of new Center and consolidation with the McKeesport Center. Special court-martial convening authority for active duty and reserve personnel. Responsible for the manning requirements of the active-duty staff and reserve units. Acted as contracting officer for small purchases and responsible for budget execution. Rank: Commander (O-5).

**1987-1989.** Executive Officer and Navigator of the *USS Puget Sound* (AD-38), a Combat Logistics Force ship responsible for the repair and maintenance of other ships. While onboard, completed shipyard overhaul and refresher training. Deployed to the North Atlantic as part of a NATO exercise. During this two-month

deployment was responsible for interfacing the ship with both United States and allied Navies and providing maintenance support for ships from national and allied Navies. The ship also deployed to the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf. Responsible for ship wide budget execution. Responsible for ship wide manning and the acquisition and training of qualified personnel prior to deployments. Supervised 40 officers and approximately 1150 enlisted personnel. Rank: Commander (O-5).

**1987.** Main Propulsion Assistant and for several months Acting Chief Engineer for the precommissioning crew of *USS Wisconsin*, (BB-64), a reactivated Battleship. Responsible for ship's force training and the monitoring of the engineering rehabilitation of the Battleship. Acted as Chief Engineer until the assignment of the permanent officer. Transferred upon selection to Commander (O-5). Rank: Lieutenant Commander (O-4).

**1984-1987.** Naval Reserve Force Ship Coordinator for Commander Naval Surface Reserve Force. Responsible for the operation and scheduling of nineteen ships of the Naval Reserve Force. Monitored manpower and training requirements and provided support as needed. Rank: Lieutenant Commander (O-4).

**1982-1984.** Chief Engineer of the *USS Worden* (CG-18), a missile cruiser. Responsible for the operation and maintenance of the ship's propulsion system, electrical distribution system, water distribution, damage control and auxiliary equipment (including the ship's distilling system). Provided support to the ship's combat systems. Deployed to the Western Pacific, Indian Ocean and North Arabian Sea. Responsible for departmental budget execution. Supervised five officers and approximately 140 enlisted personnel. Rank: Lieutenant Commander (O-4).

**1982.** Chief Engineer of the *USS Badger* (FF-1071), a frigate. Appointed Chief Engineer when predecessor detached for cause several weeks before the scheduled "Light Off Exam." Responsible for the operation and maintenance of the ship's propulsion system, electrical distribution system, water distribution, damage control and auxiliary equipment (including the ship's distilling system). Guided ship through successful "Light Off Exam" and "Operational Propulsion Plant Examination." Responsible for departmental budget execution and personnel management. Supervised three officers and approximately 80 enlisted personnel. Rank: Lieutenant Commander (O-4).

**1981-1982.** Operations Officer, of the *USS Badger* (FF-1071), a frigate. Prior to the shipyard overhaul coordinated the ship's operations and training schedule including operations and exercises with allied ships as part of the RIMPAC exercises and later with ships of the Royal Australian Navy. During the ship's overhaul acted as the ship's coordinator and responsible for the repair and rehabilitation of all equipment including propulsion engineering, auxiliary and combat systems. Responsible for departmental manning and budget execution. Supervised two officers and 40 enlisted personnel. Rank: Lieutenant (O3)/Lieutenant Commander (O-4).

**1978-1980.** Commanding Officer, of Naval Reserve Center, Huntington VA. Responsible for the training and administrative support for over 200 reservists including the development of tactical and propulsion engineering courses. Responsible for the manning requirements of the active-duty staff and reserve units. Acted as contracting officer for small purchases and responsible for budget execution. Rank: Lieutenant (O-3).

**1977-1978.** Assistant Operations Officer, of the *USS Coronado* (LPD-11), an Amphibious Transport Dock. Responsible for assisting the Operations Officer in the support of amphibious operations and the scheduling of ship's exercises. Participated in national and NATO exercises during a Mediterranean deployment. Rank: Lieutenant (O-3).

**1977.** Chief Engineer of the *USS Coronado* (LPD 11) an Amphibious Transport Dock. Appointed Chief Engineer when predecessor asked to be relieved. Responsible for the operation and maintenance of the ship's propulsion system, electrical distribution system, water distribution, damage control and auxiliary equipment (including the ship's distilling system). Guided ship through successful "Operational Propulsion Plant Examination." Responsible for departmental manning and budget execution. Reassigned as Assistant Operations Officer when predecessor's numerical relief reported aboard. Supervised 4 officers and approximately 70 enlisted personnel. Rank: Lieutenant (O-3).

**1976-1977.** Main Propulsion Assistant of the *USS Coronado* (LPD 11) an Amphibious Transport Dock. Responsible for the operation and maintenance of the ship's propulsion system, water distribution and some auxiliary equipment (including the ship's distilling system). Supervised approximately 70 enlisted personnel. Rank: Lieutenant (Junior Grade) (O-2) /Lieutenant (O-3).

**1974-1976.** Main Propulsion Assistant of the *USS Holder* (DD 819) a Destroyer. Responsible for the operation and maintenance of the ship's propulsion system, water distribution and some auxiliary equipment (including the ship's distilling system). Supervised approximately 60 enlisted personnel. Rank: Ensign (O-1) / Lieutenant (Junior Grade) (O-2).

**1973-1974.** Program Assistant at the Navy Safety Center, Norfolk, VA. Co-ordinated traffic accident reports, analyzed data and traveled in support of shore safety programs. Rank: Ensign (O-1).

**1970-1972.** Clerical Employee, for the Illinois State Police District #9. Analyzed traffic accident data and provided information to the sworn officers. Co-ordinated the District's Traffic Information Planning System.

#### **MILITARY QUALIFICATIONS**

Command at Sea (not assigned).  
Navigator.  
Mechanical Engineering Subspecialist (based on significant experience).  
Surface Warfare Officer.  
Tactical Action Officer.  
Engineering Officer of the Watch.  
Officer of the Deck (underway).  
Combat Information Center Watch Officer.  
Command Duty Officer,

#### **SIGNIFICANT PUBLISHED CASES**

*Reyes v. Sazan*, 168 F.3d 158 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1999).  
*Lawrence v. McCarthy*, 344 F.3d 467, (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2003). *Forbes v.*  
  
*United States*, 61 M.J. 354 (C.A.A.F. 2005).  
  
*Strickland v. United States*, 69 Fed.Cl. 684 (2006).  
  
*State of Louisiana v. Captain Robert Malone, JA, Louisiana Army National Guard*. 28 So.3d 1050, 2009-0060 (La.App. 1 Cir. 9/18/09).

*(N G) v. United States*, 94 Fed.Cl. 375 (2010).  
*House v. United States*, 99 Fed.Cl. 342 (2011).  
*Caldbeck v. United States*, 109 Fed.Cl. 519, 2013 WL 867879 (2013).

*Havens v. Mabus*, 759 F.3d 91 (D.C. Cir. 2014).  
*Foster v. Mabus*, 103 F.Supp.3d 95, D.D.C., May 12, 2015.

*Procopio v. Wilkie*, 913 F.3d 1371 (Fed. Cir. 2019).

**ADMITTED TO PRACTICE BEFORE THE FOLLOWING COURTS**

Supreme Court of the United States.  
Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana.  
Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.  
Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia.  
United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.  
United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.  
United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.  
United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces.  
United States Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals.  
United States Army Court of Criminal Appeals.  
United States Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals.  
United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.  
Department of Veterans Affairs.  
United States Court of Federal Claims.  
United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.  
United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana.  
United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana.  
United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana.  
United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas.  
United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas.  
United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

**PRESENTATIONS**

*Military Commissions*, Slidell Rotary Club, Slidell, LA June 2004.  
*Servicemember's Civil Relief Act*, Slidell Bar Association, Slidell, LA August 4, 2004.

*Veterans Law*, Louisiana State Bar Association, Disability Benefits Seminar, Baton Rouge, LA February 18, 2005.

*Nuclear Weapons 101 (Unclas) Jericho Convention*, Oakley Kansas September 15, 2007.  
*Veterans Law*, Louisiana State Bar Association Disability Law Seminar, Baton Rouge LA March 12, 2008.

*Veterans Rights: The Rights of the Military Veteran*, Telecast by National Business Institute, March 12, 2008.

*Blue Water Navy Issues*. Institute of Medicine (IOM) Committee to Review the Health Effects in Vietnam Veterans of Exposure to Herbicides (Seventh Biennial Update), San Antonio TX June 19, 2008.

*Freedom of Expression, Rights and Remedies*, *Foundation of Christian Military Ministries*, Ft. Benning, Georgia, March 30, 2010.

*Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans and Agent Orange Exposure* Institute of Medicine,

Board on the Health of Select Populations, Washington, D.C., May 3, 2010.

*Health Effects of the Vietnam War - The Aftermath*, United States Congress, House Committee on Veterans Affairs, Washington D.C., May 5, 2010.

*Agent Orange Benefits for Navy Veterans*, Bon Homme Richard Reunion, Baton Rouge, LA, September 10, 2010.

*Fighting for the Veteran: Understanding Service Connected and Non Service-Connected VA Claims* Louisiana State Bar Association, *Navigating the Ocean of Disability Law*, April 1, 2011.

*Blue Water Navy Update*, John Marshall Law School Veterans Legal Support Center & Clinic, *Military Service and the Law: Issues of Justice and Dignity at Home and Abroad*, June 4, 2011.

*The Future of the Blue Water Navy Legislation*, American Legion Legislative Committee, American Legion Convention, Minneapolis, MN, August 27, 2011.

*Veterans Day Celebration*, St. Tammany Parish Veterans Memorial, November 11, 2012.

*Review of VA Responsiveness to Veterans*, Kiwanis Club, Mandeville, LA November 13, 2012.

*VA Claims Backlog*, Interview, Fox and Friends, Fox News Channel, April 2, 2013.

*Are US Vets Dying While Waiting for Benefits*, Fox and Friends, Fox News Channel, April 6, 2013, <http://video.foxnews.com/v/2281927482001/are-us-vets-dying-while-waiting-for-benefits/>

*Soldier punished for political beliefs*, Fox and Friends, Fox News Channel, June 9, 2013, <http://video.foxnews.com/v/2464941001001/soldier-punished-for-politics/>.

*Interview by Sean Hannity*, Hannity Show, Fox News Channel, June 10, 2013, <http://video.foxnews.com/v/2470020153001/fnc-video/>.

*Interview by Mike Huckabee*, Huckabee Radio Show, Media fire.com June 12, 2013, [http://www.mikehuckabee.com/\\_cache/files/cedf51d4-e702-45db-9909-7591992c1477/John%20Wells.mp3](http://www.mikehuckabee.com/_cache/files/cedf51d4-e702-45db-9909-7591992c1477/John%20Wells.mp3).

*Interview by Mike Huckabee*, Huckabee Radio Show, Media fire.com, July 14, 2013 [http://www.mikehuckabee.com/\\_cache/files/862c9e1f-68f0-41ec-be6797df915a7b2c/John%20Wells%207%2014%2013.mp3](http://www.mikehuckabee.com/_cache/files/862c9e1f-68f0-41ec-be6797df915a7b2c/John%20Wells%207%2014%2013.mp3).

*Interview by Mike Huckabee*, Huckabee Radio Show, Media fire.com, August 21, 2013, [http://www.mikehuckabee.com/\\_cache/files/8cb1febfb-931f-4050-931185e964b81c83/John%20Wells%208%2021%2013.mp3](http://www.mikehuckabee.com/_cache/files/8cb1febfb-931f-4050-931185e964b81c83/John%20Wells%208%2021%2013.mp3).

*Comments on the Navy Yard Shooter*, Fox and Friends, September 18, 2013.

*Admissibility of Polygraphs in State and Federal Courts of Louisiana*, Slidell Bar Association, January 2, 2014.

*Veterans Benefits Lag Behind Welfare*, Fox and Friends Weekend, February 8, 2014, <http://video.foxnews.com/v/3170986100001/veterans-benefits-lag-behind-welfarepayments/#sp=show-clips>.

*Will vets and their families ever get justice?* Fox & Friends Weekend, May 18, 2014,

<http://video.foxnews.com/v/3574118312001/will-vets-and-their-families-ever-get-justice/?#sp=s how-clips>

Interview with J. D. Hayworth, America's Forum, on *Gray v. McDonald*, April 27, 2015, <http://www.newsmaxtv.com/live/show/AmericasForum/archive/?ooid=ppMDIydDpYOUcVFg9QBut1m34srRO5jr>.

*Blue Water Navy Update*, USS Ponchatula Reunion, Ponchatula LA, May 15, 2015.

*Status of Blue Water Navy Legislation*, United States Navy Memorial, Washington, DC, May 23, 2015.

Interview with J. D. Hayworth, Newsmax Prime, *Blue Water Navy*, June 24, 2015, <http://www.newsmaxtv.com/shows/newsmax-prime/archive/?ooid=dkbWt1dTq1hCI96Waw7zqbZjev1mWDwt>.

Webinar sponsored by Hill and Pontoon, *Will the VA Now Admit that You Were in Brown Water?* September 10, 2015, <http://www.hillandpontoon.com/blue-water-and-agent-orange/>.

Testimony before the United States Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, *Examining the Impact of Exposure to Toxic Chemicals on Veterans and the VA's Response*, September 29, 2015, <http://www.veterans.senate.gov/hearings/exposures09292015>.

Webinar sponsored by the Federal Bar Association, *Veterans Law Update*, November 12, 2015.

Interview by Ed Berliner, *Problems with VA*, The Hard Line, Newsmax TV, June 8, 2016, <http://www.newsmaxtv.com/shows/the-hard-line/archive/vid/BmeTUwNDE6D2bqFc5wJo5yvOMswgm4up/>.

Testimony before the United States House of Representatives Disability and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee *Legislative Hearing*, April 5, 2017. <https://veterans.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=1667>

Presentation: *Fighting for the Veteran, How to Navigate the Minefield of VA Law*, Federal Practice Group, Washington DC, September 7, 2017.

Interview *Navy Veteran Declines Award at Saints Game Over Protest*, Fox and Friends, Fox News Channel, November 4, 2017. [http://video.foxnews.com/v/5635216649001/?playlist\\_id=930909787001#sp=show-clips](http://video.foxnews.com/v/5635216649001/?playlist_id=930909787001#sp=show-clips).

Presentation: *Fighting for the Veteran, How to Navigate the Minefield of VA Law*, 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court Bar Association, November 10, 2017.

Presentation: Memorial Day keynote Speaker to various veterans groups, Bogulusa, LA, May 28, 2018.

Presentation: *The Blue Water Navy Saga*, Federal Bar Association Veterans and Military Law Section, University of Montana Law School, March 20, 2019.

Presentation: *How to Navigate the Minefield of VA Law: Introduction to Discharge Upgrades and*

*VA Benefits*, Southeast Louisiana Legal Services, April 12, 2019.

Presentation: *Blue Water and Burn Pits*, Secretary of the Navy Retiree Advisory Council, Washington, DC August 14, 2019.

Presentation: *Blue Water Navy and the VA*, Military-Veterans Advocacy sponsored Continuing Legal Education, Tampa Florida, February 1, 2020.

Presentation: *Blue Water Navy and the VA - Agent Orange Benefits in the Wake of Procopio v. Wilkie and the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019*, New York State Division of Veterans' Services, Virtual Presentation, April 28, 2020.

Presentation: *Herbicide Exposure and the VA*, Military-Veterans Advocacy sponsored Continuing Legal Education, Alexandria VA, June 30, 2020.

Presentation: *Military Toxic Exposure - Self Inflicted Wounds*, Virtual Presentation, Federal Bar Association, December 16, 2020.

Presentation: *Navigating the Rising Tide of VA Law*, Military-Veterans Advocacy sponsored Continuing Legal Education, Virtual Presentation August 21, 2021.

Presentation: *Military-Veterans Advocacy*, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs 2021 Annual Training Conference, Reno Nevada September 13, 2021.

Presentation: *Legislative/Litigation Update 2021*, Central Florida Veterans Rally, The Villages, October 22, 2021.

Presentation: *Introduction to Practice Before the VA*, Duquesne University Alumni Spotlight Virtual Presentation, March 17, 2022.

Presentation: *Veterans Law Update*, Slidell Bar Association August 4, 2022.

Presentation: *Toxic Exposure in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, New York State Department of Veterans Affairs, September 19, 2022.

Presentation: *Military-Veterans Advocacy®*, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, February 21, 2023.

Interview by WBRZ TV Baton Rouge Louisiana on *Veterans Get Outside Day*, June 10, 2023

Presentation: *Presentation to the Military Order of the Purple Heart*, Military Order of the Purple Heart Convention, August 17-18 2023.

Presentation: *Blue Water Submarine Update*, United States Submarine Veterans Inc, Convention, Tucson Arizona August 30, 2023.

## **PUBLICATIONS:**

*A Safety Valve for the Court-Martial System*, The Virginian Pilot, May 19, 2013.



*To solve the VA appeals problem, get rid of the hamster wheel, [The Hill](#), Jan 5, 2017.*

*The Perils and Pitfalls of Privatization of the VA, [The Hill](#), January 10, 2017.*

*VA leaving Navy veterans adrift in a sea of agent orange, [The Hill](#), January 22, 2017.*

*VA Appeals Bill strips due process from veterans , [The Hill](#), June 5, 2017.*

*It's Time for Congress and the VA to address victims of military toxic exposure, [The Hill](#),  
June 14, 2017.*

*In North Korea we must pray for peace but prepare for war, [The Hill](#), July 6, 2017.*

*Here Is Why I Turned down the NFL People's Health Choice Award, [The Hill](#), November  
8, 2017.*

*We have a duty to take care of our veterans, but we're letting them die. [The Hill](#),  
November 16, 2017.*

*In defense of Secretary Shulkin - a great leader and problem solver. [The Hill](#), March 27, 2018.*

*On paper, Wilkie is the perfect candidate for VA secretary, but his qualifications go further, [The Hill](#). July 15, 2018.*

*It's time to provide benefits to Vietnam Navy veterans, [The Hill](#). July 30, 2018.*

*Veterans Have Been Deprived of Their Benefits for Two Decades, [The Hill](#). November 28, 2018.*

*As It Applies to Veterans, It is Time for PAYGO to Go, [The Hill](#). January 24, 2019.*

*Trump's Intervention on Military Justice System Was Lawful and Proper, [The Hill](#). December 11,  
2019.*

### **ORGANIZATIONS**

St. Tammany Republican Party Executive Committee (2016-2020).

Military Officers Association of America (Life Member).

Judge Advocate's Association (Life Member).

American Legion Post 374, Slidell LA (Life Member).

Fleet Reserve Association (Life member).

Veterans of Foreign Wars Ozone Post 5735, Slidell, LA (Life Member).

United States Naval Institute (Life Member).

Vietnam Veterans of America (Life Member).

Association of the United States Navy (Life Member) (Board of Directors 2019-present).

Military-Veterans Advocacy (Life Member) (Executive Director 2012-2019, Chairman 2019-present).

St. Tammany Parish Government, New Direction 2025, Chairperson of the Implementation Committee. 1999-2001.

St. Tammany Parish Chapter Alliance for Good Government 1999-2013. Chapter Vice President 2001, Chapter President 2007-2011.

St. Tammany Parish Right to Life 2005-present. V-P 2008-2011. President 2011-2015.  
East St. Tammany Parish Chamber of Commerce Public Policy Committee 1997-2019.  
Commissioner, Louisiana Naval War Memorial Commission. 2016-Present.  
American Bar Association 1994-2009.  
Louisiana State Bar Association 1995-present.  
Federal Bar Association 1996-present. (Veterans Military Law Section Board 2018-2022).  
St. Tammany Parish Government, St. Tammany Veterans and Military Advisory Council, 2012-  
Present, (Legal Advisor 2012-2016). 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court, Veterans Treatment Court, Mentor  
Coordinator 2017.