

Insights for Military and Veteran Law School Students

Panelist Biographies

Charles Pede

Moderator

Lieutenant General Chuck Pede (retired) served as the 40th Judge Advocate General of the United States Army where he served as the senior uniformed lawyer in the Army, leading over 10,000 attorneys, paralegals, and legal administrators. He was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General on July 26, 2017. Lieutenant General Pede graduated from the University of Virginia and received a commission through ROTC. He then attended the University of Virginia Law School. He attended the Judge Advocate Officer Basic and Graduate Courses, the Army Command and General Staff College, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. As a judge advocate, Lieutenant General Pede has deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq, and Mogadishu, Somalia.

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Alexandra Trobe

Alex earned her commission from the U.S. Air Force Academy and served as an Air Force Public Affairs Officer before attending Boston University School of Law. She is currently a law clerk to the Honorable Jane A. Restani in the U.S. Court of International Trade. Alex also serves as a board member to Veterans Legal Services, a nonprofit organization providing free civil legal services to veterans in Massachusetts.

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Ryan Pavel

Ryan is the CEO of Warrior-Scholar Project, a nonprofit focused on equipping enlisted veterans to excel in higher education. Ryan served as an enlisted Marine and earned his BA from University of Michigan and JD from University of Virginia School of Law. Ryan has worked for a variety of legal institutions, including legal aid organizations and a large national law firm, and has provided pro bono legal services to veterans.

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Trinity Hatch

Trinity enlisted in the Air Force after completing high school and served as a Cybersecurity Specialist for five years. After being honorably discharged, Trinity earned her BA from California State University: East Bay and her JD from Lewis and Clark Law School. Currently, Trinity is a Deputy District Attorney at the Washington County District Attorney's Office, Oregon's second most populous county.

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Christopher J. Markham

Chris Markham is an Assistant U.S. Attorney. Chris commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps in 2009 and thereafter graduated from Columbia Law School. After law school, Chris served as a military prosecutor and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney at MCAS Cherry Point, and then as a civil affairs officer in the reserves supporting missions in Latvia, Serbia, and the Republic of Georgia. After active duty, Chris also clerked for two federal judges (Judge William E. Smith, District of Rhode Island, and Judge Juan R. Torruella, First Circuit Court of Appeals) and worked as a litigation associate at Jones Day. Chris now works in the Massachusetts U.S. Attorney's Office in the Securities, Financial & Cyber Fraud Unit.

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Nicholas Hasenfus

Nick Hasenfus is an Associate at Holland & Knight and Co-Chair of the firm's nationwide Veteran's Group. Nick was a sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps where he deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. Nick is passionate about his commitment to legal aid and actively provides pro bono assistance to service members, veterans and their families. Nick was a member of Legal Services Corporation's (LSC) Veterans Task Force and currently serves as (i) a member of the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Legal Assistance for Military Personnel, (ii) a member of LSC's Emerging Leaders Council, and (iii) a board member of Veterans Legal Services.

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