



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

J.D. *magna cum laude*, LL.M., MBA, and US Army War College graduate with 20 years of government contracting and fiscal law experience as agency SES General Counsel, litigation counsel, private counsel, government contractor, and instructor; proficiency in the formation, administration, and dispute resolution of government contracts, fiscal law, and government ethics; hands on experience in bid protests and federal contract litigation; served as first-chair legal counsel with the US Department of Justice Commercial Litigation Branch, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the US Army as deployed Chief of Contracts and Fiscal Law for US Forces - Afghanistan, Presidential SES appointment as the General Counsel of the US Office of Personnel Management; with private practice experience as an associate at Mayer Brown and partner at Duane Morris, LLP; published legal decisions and published government contract articles; top-secret security clearance; after mid-career MBA, founded law firm, funeral home, and international consulting company.

Practice areas featured in:

Leavenworth, a six-part docuseries produced by Stephen Soderbergh and Paul Pawlowski featured on the STARZ network involving military justice, courts-martial, appeals, Federal habeas corpus which resulted in a Pardon issued by the President of the United States.

Travesty of Justice, by military and legal author Don Brown, discussing the post-conviction investigatory, legal, media, non-profit, and congressional efforts to vindicate US Army First Lieutenant Clint Lorance.

Invisible Wounds, a documentary series in the making identifying the challenges associated with “breacher’s syndrome” or Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE), a progressive degenerative disease of the brain found in people with a history of repetitive brain trauma which can be caused by exposure to blasts during military training and combat, and offering solutions to those challenges.

INTERNATIONAL RULE OF LAW CONTRACTOR EXPERIENCE

Principal Program Manager with Pacific Architects & Engineers (PAE), Bagram, Afghanistan, (2012 – 2013) implementing the Statement of Work for a team of 100 + US and Afghan personnel for the US Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement’s Rule of Law program at the Justice Center in Parwan; led the attorneys, paralegals, and investigators who trained, mentored, and advised Afghan judges, prosecutors, and investigators to prosecute under Afghan domestic law former Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC) detainees referred for trial for membership in the Taliban and/or terrorism against coalition forces (insurgent fighters), the insurgency having been criminalized; *TS-SCI*.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING & FISCAL LAW EXPERIENCE

Deputy General Counsel – Acquisition, with the Defense Intelligence Agency, Washington, D.C., (2011 – 2012), principal legal counsel to the Agency Acquisition Executive (SES), his Deputy, the HCA and her Deputy, as well as 46 Contracting Officers supporting full spectrum, world-wide intelligence operations, with a portfolio of 1,300 current contracts in administration; DoD TS-SCI.

Chief, Contract & Fiscal Law Attorney, Kabul, Afghanistan, (2009 – 2010), principal contract & fiscal attorney for General McChrystal’s 4-star U.S./NATO Command; counseled general officers and senior personnel to ensure compliance for all construction, personal property, and services acquisitions/contracts/projects in Afghanistan for over \$12 billion; lead counsel for the multi-billion

dollar Commanders Emergency Response Program (CERP), which funded humanitarian assistance for local nationals; counsel to three weekly Executive Boards which validated construction requirements, personal property & services acquisitions, and humanitarian projects; daily counsel to executive principals, to include the CFO, Communications Director, Personnel Director, Chief Logistician, Chief Engineer, and Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting and their staffs; directed and supervised 10 attorneys throughout Afghanistan; drafted legislation for the NDAA of 2010.

The General Counsel of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, Washington, D.C., (2008 – 2009), non-career SES appointment through The Executive Office of The President of the United States, White House Personnel, with *OPM TS-SCI clearance*; led Office of the General Counsel involving 3 divisions, 25 Attorneys, and 10 staff while managing a multi-million dollar budget; supervised 300 concurrent cases across U.S. with issues involving government contracts, labor and employment, security-suitability determinations, and fiscal law; provided legal and policy counsel to the Director, a Senate-confirmed direct report to The President of the United States, on personnel management issues for the federal government; provided daily counsel to 14 SES Associate Directors; served as Designated Agency Ethics Official; legal advisor for the largest single-employer sponsored health insurance program (269 insurance companies), as well as the \$700B federal retirement program; FOIA and Privacy Act appellate official.

Government Contracts Attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Division, Commercial Litigation Branch in Washington, D.C. (2001 – 2004); as first-chair, managed a portfolio of 25 concurrent cases before three courts through lifecycles in government contract lawsuits, bid-protests, international trade, and federal employment law; worked hand-in-glove with counsel from each agency to master claims and defenses and understand each agency's business model; successfully defended GSA, DOD (Army and Navy), USAID, and DVA before the U.S. Court of Federal Claims and the Federal Circuit; presented oral arguments before each court; represented Commerce and Labor before the U.S. Court of International Trade in New York on international law matters; settlement authority; various trial and appellate court published decisions.

PRIVATE PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Maher Legal Services, P.C., (2015 – Present), www.lawyersdefendingwarriors.com, defend military personnel accused of crime in combat and defend Federal employees facing discipline from the Federal government employer, Federal habeas corpus, USERRA, security clearances, government contracts.

Misbah Maher Consultancy, LLC (2015 – Present), represent international prime and sub-contractors seeking payment from the United States Government, largely from rule of law and development projects for "operations and maintenance," construction, supplies, transportation, equipment, and lease disputes. Strategic partnership with Duane Morris, LLC.

Maher Funeral Home, LLC, (2015 – Present), corporate promoted, designed, and renovated former municipal public library into profitable small business, www.maherfuneralservices.com.

Partner with Duane Morris, LLP, in Chicago, Illinois (2008 – 2011), an international general practice law firm of 700 Attorneys.

Associate with Mayer Brown, LLP in Chicago, Illinois (2004 – 2006), as a senior action-attorney, managed litigation for Fortune 500 companies through case lifecycles; led team of attorneys in complex contract dispute against *Sprint-Nextel*; supervised the team defending *Oracle* in major securities fraud case; lead counsel against the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) concerning the transportation of hazardous materials; conducted successful bid protest before the Government Accountability Office (GAO) in Washington, D.C.; evidentiary hearings and TROs in Federal Court.



Associate with Steptoe & Johnson, LLP in Washington, D.C. (2004), represented Defense Contractors in government contracts and defense procurement; drafted several value engineering change proposals (“VECP”); presented to the Inspector General of General Services Administration (GSA) regarding contracting for interrogators with operations in Iraq.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Faculty, Northern Illinois University College of Law, DeKalb, Illinois (2018 – present), teach Federal administrative law and federal courts to students pursuing Juris Doctor.

Adjunct Faculty, Northern Illinois University College of Business, Naperville, Illinois (2014 – Present) teach business law to MBA students.

Adjunct Professor of Law, The John Marshall Law School in Chicago, (2008 – 2012) taught federal commercial litigation.

Assistant Professor, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Germany, Andrews Air Force Base, and Patuxent River Naval Air Station, (1998 – 2008), taught undergraduate aviation law, insurance, and legislation; developed one course for online instruction for the Department of Distance Learning.

EDUCATION

Masters of Strategic Studies, 2014
US Army War College

MBA, 2014
Northern Illinois University

LL.M., 2011
DePaul University College of Law

JD, *Magna Cum Laude*, 1996
Northern Illinois University

Bachelor of Science, *Cum Laude*, 1992
Bradley University, Peoria, Illinois

ACTIVE DUTY & RESERVE MILITARY LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Active Duty Legal Officer, United States Army Judge Advocate Generals Corps, (1997 – 2001), as an attorney, served on active duty for four years directly after law school in Germany (1st Infantry Division) as a criminal prosecutor coordinating 200 investigations and prosecuting 42 trials as first-chair, advising military leaders on international matters while deployed to the Balkans on a United Nations peacekeeping mission to prevent ethnic cleansing, and drafting 30 appellate briefs and presenting oral argument.

Reserve Legal Officer, United States Army Reserve, (2001 – present), Lieutenant Colonel, veteran of *Operation Enduring Freedom*.

Legal Officer, Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland	2001 – 2004
Team Leader, Fort Sheridan, Illinois	2004 – 2007
Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, Darien, Illinois	2007 – 2008
Legal Officer, US Army Court of Criminal Appeals, Arlington, Virginia	2008 – 2009
Chief, Contracts and Fiscal Law, Kabul, Afghanistan	2009 – 2010
Legal Officer, Professional Responsibility, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.	2010 – 2011
Student, US Army War College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania	2012 – 2014
Legal Officer, Cyber Command, Fort Meade, Maryland	2015 – 2016



Individual Ready Reserve

2016 - Present

PUBLICATIONS

“Habeas Corpus Review of Military Convictions in The Federal Judiciary: An Enduring Need To Protect Constitutional Liberties,” 2 J.L. POL’Y & MIL. AFF. 1 (2019).

“The Corporate Profit Motive & Questionable Public Relations Practices During the Lead-Up to The Affordable Care Act,” J.L. & HEALTH, VOL. 25, ISSUE 1, 1-39 (2012).

"Benefits of the Dep’t of Homeland Security’s Safety Act," *Security Technology Executive*, (Nov. 2009).

“Closing the Willful Infringement Floodgates: The Effects of *In re Seagate* Both Inside and Outside the Generic Pharmaceutical Litigation Arena,” 18 DEPAUL J. ART TECH. & INTELL. PROP. L. 255 (2008).

“Employer's Obligations Under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act,” Illinois State Bar Association, *Labor & Employment Newsletter*, Vol. 44, No. 5 (2007).

“The Federal False Claims Act: A Look at *Qui Tam* Actions Aimed at The Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Industry,” Illinois State Bar Association, *The Health Care Lawyer*, Vol. 24, (2007).

“Value Engineering Change Proposals: Who, What, Why, When, Where, & How,” *The Government Contractor*, Vol. 21, Issue 10 (2007).

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Keynote Speaker, The Annual Sue Rose Lecture, Quinism Foundation Annual Meeting, *Mefloquin and Mens Rea for Murder*, via Zoom in White River Junction, Vermont, (April 26, 2020).

Speaker, Quinism Foundation Annual Meeting, *Mefloquin in US v. Bales*, White River Junction, Vermont, (April 29 – 30, 2019).

Speaker, Texas State Bar, Military and Veterans Law Section, *Biometrics in US v. Lorange & Mefloquin in US v. Bales*, Saledo, Texas, (March 29-30, 2019).

Speaker, Wyoming National Guard Leadership Conference, “Ethical Issues Facing Senior Military and Civilian Government Leaders,” Cheyenne, Wyoming, (October 21, 2017).

Speaker, “Implementing the Rule of Law in Afghanistan,” University of Notre Dame Law School, South Bend, Indiana, (April 17, 2014).

Speaker, “Contract & Fiscal Law While Deployed,” Office of The Judge Advocate General, Army Pentagon, Brigade Judge Advocate Mission Primer (September, 2011).

Panelist with Major General Butch Tate, “The Army JAG Corps & Current Operations,” The John Marshall Law School Veteran’s Advocacy Clinic, Chicago, (March, 2011).

Speaker, “Fiscal Law in Afghanistan,” Ministry of the Interior, Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Kabul, Afghanistan (2009).



Speaker, "The Safety Act," Risk Insurance Management Society, Dallas, Texas, (2009).

Speaker, "Executive Branch Constitutional Authority," The United States Military Academy at West Point, (2008).

LICENSES & ADMISSIONS TO PRACTICE

Illinois 1996
District of Columbia 2004
US Supreme Court 2001
Trial Bar, US District Court for the N.D. of Illinois

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Director, *Free Our Warriors, Inc.*, an Ohio 501(c)(3) dedicated to ensuring the constitutional rights of military personnel accused of sexual assault are observed.

Former Director, 2016 – 2019, *United American Patriots, Inc.*, Virginia, 501(c)(3) to defend military personnel accused of crime in combat.

