



Jay Long's career has focused on tackling wicked problems and unlocking trapped capacity as an Army officer and entrepreneur. Jay served as a Special Operations Innovation Officer with the US Special Operations Command, focusing on digital transformation, embracing emerging technologies, and enabling digital talent. As an entrepreneur, Jay co-founded both Parlay, a fintech startup focused on empowering underbanked small business owners, and Ground Truth Design, which trains public service leaders to use agile methodologies to solve complex problems. Jay also founded the EaGLE program, a nonprofit public sector career accelerator that has empowered over 150 rising leaders. A West Point and Stanford Graduate School of Business Ignite program grad, Jay continues to broaden his knowledge through service in roles including a nonresident fellow at the Modern War Institute, publishing in outlets like War on the Rocks, and advising institutions like the Naval Postgraduate School. He is married to Alex McLeod and lives in Alexandria, VA.



Kirk Proctor Jr. is an active-duty Captain in the United States Army, serving as an Army Congressional Fellow to the U.S. Congress in Washington D.C. Assigned to Capitol Hill, Kirk focuses on policy issues regarding but not limited to Defense, Foreign Affairs, and judicial authorities. Kirk earned his commission as a Medical Service Corps Officer at the University of Hawaii ROTC in 2015. He has served in various tactical, operational, and strategic positions throughout Europe, Asia, and Africa. Kirk is married to his wife, Sabia, and they enjoy sharing their time with their daughter, Amara.



Army Captain Chioma Odocha is an Army Logistician who earned a Bachelor of Science from the United States Military Academy in Engineering Psychology and commissioned as a Quartermaster Officer. With over seven years of experience supporting light Infantry units, she has deployed to Kuwait and Romania in support of Operation Spartan Shield and Operation European Assure, Deter, Reinforce. Her previous assignments include company level positions in forward support companies at Camp Liberty, North Carolina and serving as a sustainment brigade Plans Officer at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Most recently she completed command of a Field Maintenance Company at Fort Campbell. Currently, she is an Associate Professor of Military Science and an Operations Officer at the University of Connecticut. She enjoys CrossFit and culinary tourism.



Kevin Lewis is the CEO of K4 Financial Group. A native of Atlanta, Georgia, Kevin earned an Active-Duty Army commission into the Engineer Regiment in December 2001 from Jackson State University in 2001. He holds a bachelor's degree in computer science and a Master of Science in Engineering Management from Missouri University of Science and Technology. While attending Jackson State University, he met Kendra, and they married shortly after graduation. They have two sons, Kendrick and Kendall.



Leah is a veteran and military spouse. She was in the Air Force for seven years as an Aerospace Medical Technician and EMT. During her time on active duty she specialized in the Family Medicine, Labor and Delivery, and Nephrology departments. She has been married for over ten years to her husband and fellow eMmissary, Derek. Leah now stays home to care for their two boys, Easton, and Crew.



Major Benjamin "Jim" Jimenez is an active-duty officer in the U.S. Army currently assigned as Executive Officer to the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff (G-2) at the Pentagon. He has a B.S. in Management from the United States Military Academy at West Point and has served as a Speechwriter, Brigade and Battalion Executive Officer, Company Commander, and Battalion Intelligence Officer. He has a passion for leadership and in his limited free time enjoys reading books on leadership and history. He was born in Tucson, Arizona, is married, and has two children in elementary school and one toddler.



Jesse Levin is the Founder of Tactivate, an expeditionary entrepreneurial firm that specializes in unconventional capacity building in the social impact venture and international crises response arenas. Jesse is currently serving, in a volunteer capacity, as the Interim Executive Director of the Defense Entrepreneurs Forum and is running ongoing humanitarian and emergency continuity operations in Ukraine.



Joshua A. Miller is a native of Louisville, Kentucky, and serves as an Organizational Change Management Specialist and Human Resources project manager at Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation. Joshua resides in Savannah, GA, with his dog Indigo and is an active member in church worship ministry and community service. Joshua enlisted in the United States Army Reserve in June 2009 as a Heavy Vehicle Operator. Shortly after becoming a Sergeant, Joshua contracted with the Western Kentucky University Reserve Officer Training Corps commissioning as an Adjutant General officer in the Army Reserve in 2014 serving at both Fort Liberty, North Carolina and Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Joshua holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music and a Certificate in Grant Writing. He is pursuing his Master of Business Administration with a focus in Human Resources Management and Data Analytics through the Haile College of Business, Northern Kentucky University.



Kafi Joseph has led sports, military, manufacturing, and strategy teams in four countries; crafted logistics plans to optimize operations, providing timely support to customers in austere locations; and brainstormed with and learned how to create value for clients with some of the best consulting minds. A graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, she holds a Bachelor of Science in Geospatial Information Science. Kafi also holds a Master of Science in Systems Engineering from George Washington University and an MBA from Georgetown University.

Kafi served in the US Army on active duty from 2003 to 2008. Upon leaving active duty in 2008, she served concurrently in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard's 28th Infantry Division while employed in the private sector. Post-military, Kafi's career began at the strategy and technology consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton. As a Lead Associate with Booz Allen, she consulted on strategic planning, organizational strategy, change management, and policy development projects. She currently works as the Strategy & Operations Lead for Accenture's Inclusion, Diversity and Equity practice where she is presently excited about how we go to market to help our clients solve tough and impactful challenges around advancing inclusion, diversity, and equity to achieve their business results.



Matthew L. Manning is an active-duty AH-64 Apache Aviator in the U.S. Army, currently serving as a General Omar N. Bradley (formerly Joint Chiefs of Staff) Fellow in Washington D.C. CPT Manning earned his commission from the University of Hawaii in 2015 while receiving his Master of Arts degree in Intercultural Communications. Matthew is Aviation Branch Ambassador for the United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence (USAACE), entrusted with promoting and encouraging greater Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion throughout the Aviation Branch. Matthew

has led numerous organizations at the tactical, operational, and strategic levels on the home front and abroad in Afghanistan, Europe, and Indo-Pacific area of operations. CPT Manning recently served as the Commander of Bravo Troop “Ghostriders” and Delta Troop “Outlaws” 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment. Matthew and his wife, Priyadarshini are from Washington, D.C and have two amazing children, Major, and Amaira.



Ryan Garner is an accomplished military veteran with over 14 years of service. He started his military career by enlisting in the armed forces and later earned a commission as an officer. Ryan is a proud graduate of the United States Military Academy and holds multiple degrees, including an MBA, a masters in human resources, and a masters in communication. Hailing from St. Charles, Missouri, Ryan now resides in Sarasota, Florida, where he works as a Veterans Career Development Facilitator for Goodwill Manasota. In his role, Ryan helps veterans and their families find meaningful

employment, drawing on his experience and expertise to assist those who have served their country. Ryan is a dedicated community leader who participates in various volunteer work throughout Sarasota. Ryan continues to positively impact the lives of those around him, and his work serves as an inspiration to others.



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