



THE ROUND

VETS2INDUSTRY NEWSLETTER

VETS2INDUSTRY FAMILY,

During the month of February we honor the enormous achievements and sacrifices of Black Americans throughout time. I am proud to be mixed, and that my father taught me a great deal about Black history, the culture, and events he was part of and witnessed since the 1940's.

My father passed away a year before I retired from the service (death May 2018; retirement July 2019). Sometimes I feel a loss of identity, a hole or gap of knowledge that I can not readily obtain with his passing. He never got to see me retire, or start VETS2INDUSTRY to help thousands, but what he did get to see was me join the National Black MBA Association Atlanta Chapter, and through that I have the ability to feel connected to the Black community, just like many find the v2i events enable them to stay connected to the brotherhood and sisterhood of the military community.

February is an important month. As a Black American, ensure you maintain or find a way to celebrate your history every month, just as other ethnic and common groups should do. I've found that in the NBMBA. If you still have elders in your family, listen to their stories again and record them for your children one day. We hope February brought you tons of joy, and some needed shedded tears. For all ethnicities, thank you for your collaborated efforts in supporting the rich history of the Black Americans.

After all, we are one race...The Human Race!

1. WELCOME LETTER
2. OUR FOUNDATION
3. SPONSORS/PARTNERS
4. UPCOMING EVENTS
5. NEW ARTICLES
6. RESOURCES



#HOW_CAN_I_HELP
#PAY_IT_FORWARD

WWW.VETS2INDUSTRY.COM

BRIAN ARRINGTON M.S.
FOUNDER | PRESIDENT
US AIR FORCE (RET.)



OUR STORY | THE FOUNDATION



VETS2INDUSTRY was born to fulfill a pressing need for a single-site repository of information providing:

- Access to the vast number of Veteran Service Organizations.
- Countless Military resources and benefits.

The V2I all-volunteer team banded together and made it their mission to develop a living library of free resources, organizations, veteran supportive companies and benefits for Service Members, Veterans and their Families.



MISSION

To match people with resources when they need them the most, by creating a single site repository of information providing access to the extensive number of Veteran Service Organizations (VSO) and other available military resources. We help establish connections, identify opportunities and most importantly, we give HOPE! At V2I, it is all about

“People First, Veterans Always.”



VISION

To become the premier and most comprehensive information library of free resources for the military and veteran communities and their families.



CORE VALUES

Our core values are the foundation of how we will operate as an organization. Living those values will have a direct correlation to our success, as well as to how we are regarded by our clients, partners and supporters. Our Core Values are:

Honesty, Selfless Service, Discipline, Integrity

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THURSDAY MARCH 25 NOON-5PM / ET

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FOR TRANSITIONING ACTIVE & RESERVE SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, THEIR SPOUSES AND CARE GIVERS

IN COLLABORATION WITH VETS2INDUSTRY



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WEDNESDAY MARCH 24 9AM-4PM / ET

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- WORLD-WIDE OPPORTUNITIES
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- INTERACTIVE HIRING ROOMS

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UPCOMING EVENTS



VETS2INDUSTRY

17TH VIRTUAL NETWORKING CIRCUIT
SATURDAY MARCH 13, 2021 2PM-7PM

NETWORK EVENT TIMELINE

- 2:00 - 2:07 PM WELCOME
- 2:07 - 2:23 PM KEYNOTE
- 2:23 - 2:50 PM Q&A / RULES
- 2:50 - 6:15 PM CIRCUITS
- 6:15 - 7:00 PM Q&A WITH V2I

SPONSORED BY:



DANELLE BARRETT

REAR ADMIRAL, US NAVY (RETIRED)

AUTHOR, INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR FEDERAL HOME LOAN, BANK OF NEW YORK

"WOMEN: VALUE IN THE WORKPLACE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF DIVERSITY"



REGISTER AT:
WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM
KEYWORD: VETS2INDUSTRY





“TRANSITION”

by: Dr. Luke McClees, Ed.D

*a: a passage from one state, stage, subject, or place to another.
b: a movement, development, or evolution from one form, stage, or style to another. -Merriam Webster Dictionary*

TRANSITION is a word that gets much attention in the military and veteran spaces. Often, it is used in an uncertain or hostile context. The reality is twofold for military-connected people. The first reality is that many of us chose to undergo a radical lifestyle transition when joining the military. The second reality is that humans are taking part in transitions all the time. The very nature of life requires evolution all around us and with us both externally and internally. Framing our idea of post-military life change around the inevitable can help us all move forward.

There is no doubt that change can be challenging, but it would be damaging if you could not change. I have spoken with and interviewed thousands of military veterans. A common theme among all veterans of all backgrounds is that they must make up for a lost time while in the military. While it is a phenomenon, it is a self-imposed idea. Under the influence of our thoughts, we create stress that should exist. In place of being a victim of one of life's transitions, embrace a humbled, long-term, and open-minded approach to post-service change.

Not entering the civilian world with an entitled feeling will take you very far. The truth is, civilians do not understand the military. They get a mix of stories, books, and mostly inaccurate movies to create their understanding. You have attributes and skills to bring to work and social spaces, and the public does not know what you bring to the table or why. You will have time to showcase all of this, but you must understand you are in a new environment. Knowing you can still learn even if you have things to contribute will always be welcomed over a know-it-all.

Start by thinking and planning for the long term. A long-term approach will only help you be open to opportunities out there for you to take. There is no magical amount of time in which you have to make up. Life will equal out in the end on its' own. The more you let it unfold, the more you will find things, and people will help move you forward.

The blossom of life happens easiest with the crown jewel of change. That jewel is having an open mind. An open mind will allow you to understand the advice from others about places, jobs, and other opportunities that you would not be afforded if you were closed off. Real growth happens outside of tight control. Remaining open is rarely mentioned with self-labeled transitions experts but is key to success.

We all chose to do something different than the majority of the population for a portion of our lives. A label does not have to define us, but our experiences can help inform who we are as people. Playing victim to a word is entirely erroneous. You have demonstrated the ability for tremendous and rapid transformations before. You now must be mindful and realize your power. Humility, long-term thinking, and openness are tools for greatness that will help you write the following chapters of your life.

DR. LUKE MCCLEES, Ed.D

Dr. Luke McClees is the director of Military Affairs and Services at Saint Leo University. He is responsible for overseeing the success and quality of life for all military, veterans, and their families at Saint Leo University.

He also advises the university on changing legislation, and policies that might impact university stakeholders. Prior to being the director of Military Affairs and Services at Saint Leo University, he taught, presented, and published for nearly a decade for the College of Education and Veteran Studies Program at Eastern Kentucky University.

His work in the field of Veterans Studies helped the field grow and become recognized nationally. He has been involved in every space where academics and military veterans intersect and he is considered a Thought Leader in this area.

Prior to studying and working in academics, Dr. McClees served as a sergeant in the United States Marine Corps with the Third Battalion, Eighth Marine Regiment at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. During his enlistment, Dr. McClees served in both mission-oriented and rotational deployments.

“BLACK AMERICANS IN MILITARY HISTORY”



“Black Americans

have been fighting for the United States since the Revolutionary War. They have sacrificed as much for this country as anyone else who has joined the military or given in other ways. February is Black History month, and here at Vets2Industry, we would like to showcase some of their history and recognize how much the Black community has given to us all.”

Black Americans in Military History: Top 5

1. Benjamin Oliver Davis Sr.

Born in July 1877, Mr. Davis served from 1898 to 1948. Through multiple wars, he rose through the ranks of the 9th Cavalry to eventually become the first Black Brigadier General. He was only allowed a limited amount of responsibilities but it was a small movement forward for the Black community.

2. Harriet Tubman

She was best known for her time as a conductor on the Underground Railroad, but that was not all she did. When the Civil War began to rage, she joined the cause and became a spy and expedition leader for the Union Army.

3. Della H. Raney

Della Raney graduated from Lincoln Hospital School of Nursing in Durham, North Carolina. She was the first nurse commissioned as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps (ANC) during World War II. She went on to be selected as Chief Nurse while at Tuskegee airfield.

4. Eugene Bullard

He may not have flown for his own country but he has been honored as the first Black American pilot. After leaving the United States as a child due to racial discrimination and a near lynching of his father, he stowed aboard a ship headed for Europe. Eventually he joined the French Foreign Legion and became the first Black American pilot.

5. Michelle Howard

Born in April 1960, Michelle Howard became one of only 7 Black women students at the Naval Academy in 1978. She graduated in 1982, and went on to serve as the first Black woman and woman in general to become a four star admiral in the US Navy. In 1999, she also became the first woman and Black woman to captain a US Navy vessel.



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DESCRIPTION TO BE SHOWCASED
BY VETS2INDUSTRY!**

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