



MILITARY VETERANS SPEAKER'S BUREAU

DEVELOPED BY THE
OAKLAND COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION VETERANS COMMITTEE



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1760 S. TELEGRAPH ROAD • SUITE 100 • BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48302.0181 • 248.334.3400 • 248.334.7757 fax • www.ocba.org

Dear Teacher:

The Oakland County Bar Association (OCBA) is a non-profit membership organization for attorneys and judges who practice law in Oakland County. The OCBA is able to provide many programs and services to the community with the help and support of the membership and volunteers.

The OCBA Veterans Committee is pleased to present one of the newest **FREE** services to you – the Military Veterans Speakers Bureau program. The members of this speakers bureau have served in the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines Corps and the National Guard. They have been on active duty during times of peace, the Korean War, in Vietnam and in Iraq and Afghanistan. They have been in combat, stationed state-side and in the reserves. The members of this speakers bureau have diverse military careers and are eager to share their experiences with *your* students.

In this booklet are the completed biographies of our volunteer speakers (listed in alphabetical order). Their biographies include what branch of military they serve(d) in, their position and rank, their duties and specialties, awards and honors, as well as the area of law they practice.

If you are interested in having a member from the Military Veterans Speakers Bureau come to your classroom, reserving a speaker is easy. Simply contact the volunteer directly at the telephone number or e-mail address provided on their form to arrange the details of their visit.

We look forward to working with you and your students!

Sincerely,

Donald V. Orlandoni
Chair
OCBA Veterans Committee

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SPEAKERS BUREAU

VETERAN BIOGRAPHY

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Name: Charles E. Brown

Firm Name: Law Office of Charles E. Brown PLLC

Firm Address: 3417 West York Court, Rochester Hills, MI 48306

Office Phone/Mobile Phone: (248) 891-1331

e-Mail address: cebrownlawyer@gmail.com

Legal Experience

Number of Years in Practice: 35

Area(s) of Practice: Litigation, criminal defense, veterans benefits and commercial disputes among automotive suppliers

Military Experience

Branch/Dates of Service: U.S. Marine Corps. / 1966-1969 and 1975-1978

Position(s) Held: Squad Leader, Marine Judge Advocate (1975-1978)

Combat/Noncombat/Reserve: Combat – Vietnam (1967-1968)

Duties and Specialties: Marine infantryman and interpreter - Vietnamese, served in a Combined Action Platoon in Vietnam - fought and was wounded during the 1968 Tet Offensive

Location(s) Stationed (including combat zones): Camp Pendleton, CA; Camp Lejeune, NC; Quantico, VA; Vietnam with 3rd Marine Division and Combined Action Platoon

Decorations and Honors: Navy Cross, Purple Heart, Presidential Unit Citation, Combat Action Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, Viet Nam Service Medal, Viet Nam Campaign Medal, National Defense Service Medal

Educational Background

Law School: Emory Universtiy (1975)

College/University: Michigan State University (1972)

Undergraduate Major/Minor: History and Political Science

High School: Redford High School, Detroit, MI



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VETERAN BIOGRAPHY

Name: Jeffrey Butler

Firm Name: Jeffrey Butler PC

Firm Address: 540 Long Pointe, Lake Orion, MI 48362

Office Phone/Mobile Phone: (248) 770-3847

e-Mail address: jeffb507@aol.com

Legal Experience

Number of Years in Practice: 35

Area(s) of Practice: Criminal, state and federal

Military Experience

Branch/Dates of Service: U.S. Army / 1966-1971, Michigan Army National Guard / 1983-2005

Position(s) Held: Captain Cobra Pilot, Operations Officer, BN S-4

Combat/Noncombat/Reserve: Combat – Vietnam (1969-1970)

Duties and Specialties: Gunship Platoon Commander, Vietnam; UH-1H (Huey) Pilot in Michigan National Guard for 22 years

Location(s) Stationed (including combat zones): Fort Benning, GA; Fort Wolters, TX;

Hunter AAF, GA; Can Tho, Vietnam; Fort Bragg, NC; Abrams Airfield, Grand Ledge and Grayling AAF

Decorations and Honors: Bronze Star and Air Medal with 29 Oak Leaf Clusters

Educational Background

Law School: University of Michigan (1975)

College/University: North Carolina State University (1972)

Undergraduate Major/Minor: Economics

High School: East Detroit High School; Eastpointe, MI



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Name: James P. Cunningham

Firm Name: Williams, Williams, Rattner & Plunkett, P.C.

Firm Address: 380 N. Old Woodward Ave., Suite 300, Birmingham, MI 48009

Office Phone/Mobile Phone: (248) 642-0333

e-Mail address: jpc@wwrplaw.com

Legal Experience

Number of Years in Practice: 30

Area(s) of Practice: Family law, civil litigation

Military Experience

Branch/Dates of Service: U.S. Navy / 1972-1977

Position(s) Held: 1st Lieutenant/ Weapons Officer USS Grand Canyon (AR-28), Weapons Officer, Ordinance and Security Department Head; U.S. Naval Station Mayport, FL

Combat/Noncombat/Reserve: _____

Duties and Specialties: Line officer, surface warfare designation, command-at-sea qualified, Ship's 1st Lieutenant, gunnery specialty, special weapons security, nuclear weapons courier

Location(s) Stationed (including combat zones): Naval Station in Newport, RI; Naval Station in Mayport, FL

Decorations and Honors: Expert Marksman Award

Educational Background

Law School: Michigan State University – Detroit College of Law

College/University: Brown University, Providence, RI

Undergraduate Major/Minor: American Civilization / 20th Century

High School: St. Raphael Academy, Pawtucket, RI



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VETERAN BIOGRAPHY

Name: Robert Farnette

Firm Name:

Firm Address: 3835 Normanwood, West Bloomfield, MI 48323

Office Phone/Mobile Phone: (248) 884-8402

e-Mail address: Itcrlf@gmail.com

Legal Experience

Number of Years in Practice: 41

Area(s) of Practice: Criminal defense, mental health and bankruptcy

Military Experience

Branch/Dates of Service: U.S. Air Force/1969-1973, Reserve/1974, Air National Guard/1975-1993

Position(s) Held: Staff Judge Advocate

Combat/Noncombat/Reserve: Noncombat (1969-1973) / Reserve (1974-1993)

Duties and Specialties: Legal officer, courts martial, administrative boards, procurement, legal assistance

Location(s) Stationed (including combat zones): Laredo, TX; Selfridge Air National Guard Base, MI; Nashville, TN

Decorations and Honors: Outstanding Unit Awards (3)

Educational Background

Law School: Vanderbilt University

College/University: Miami University (Ohio)

Undergraduate Major/Minor: History, Government

High School: Maderia High School; Cincinnati, OH



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Name: S. Gerald Gorcyca

Firm Name: _____

Firm Address: 30600 Telegraph Rd., Suite 3250, Bingham Farms, MI 48025

Office Phone/Mobile Phone: (248) 644-2833 / (248) 998-6542

e-Mail address: gorcy@comcast.net

Legal Experience

Number of Years in Practice: 41

Area(s) of Practice: Family law (all areas), probate, wills & trusts, real estate and mortgages

Military Experience

Branch/Dates of Service: U.S. Army / 1959-1961

Position(s) Held: Sergeant on orders to Korea - changed

Combat/Noncombat/Reserve: Noncombat

Duties and Specialties: In charge of administrative matters, #2 to commanding officer (Colonel), officers efficiency reports, etc.

Location(s) Stationed (including combat zones): Fort Knox, KY

Decorations and Honors: 3-page Letter of Commendation, all military records were destroyed by fire at the Army Records Warehouse in St. Louis

Educational Background

Law School: University of Detroit School of Law

College/University: University of Detroit

Undergraduate Major/Minor: Political Science

High School: St. Florian, Hamtramck, MI



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Name: David J. Lee

Firm Name: Booth Patterson, P.C.

Firm Address: 1090 West Huron St., Waterford, MI 48328

Office Phone/Mobile Phone: (248) 681-1200

e-Mail address: dlee@boothpatterson.com

Legal Experience

Number of Years in Practice: 36

Area(s) of Practice: Litigation – family and business law

Military Experience

Branch/Dates of Service: U.S. Army / 1965-1969

Position(s) Held: Warrant Officer Helicopter Pilot

Combat/Noncombat/Reserve: 1,427 Combat Hours

Duties and Specialties: Heuy Pilot UH1 Helicopter Pilot; 116th Aviation Company, Cu Chi Vietnam; Instructor Pilot, Fort Rucker, AL

Location(s) Stationed (including combat zones): Fort Walters, Texas; Fort Rucker, AL; Cu Chi, Vietnam; Fort Bliss, TX; Fort Carson, CO

Decorations and Honors: Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, Air Metal with 17 Oak Leaf Clusters, Vienman Service Ribbon, Vietman Campaign Ribbon, National Defense Ribbon, 116 Aviation Company Award for Highest Flying Hornet for 1426 hour Combat Flying Hours

Educational Background

Law School: Wayne State University Law School

College/University: Henry Ford Community College, Michigan Tech, Troy State University

Undergraduate Major/Minor: Sociology, Math, Science

High School: Fordson High School, Dearborn, MI



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Name: Brian R. Meyer

Firm Name: Maddin, Hauser, Wartell, Roth & Heller, P.C.

Firm Address: 28400 Northwestern Highway, Third Floor, Southfield, MI 48034

Office Phone/Mobile Phone: (248) 351-7022 / (734) 754-1086

e-Mail address: brm@maddinhauser.com / brmeyer76@gmail.com

Legal Experience

Number of Years in Practice: 7

Area(s) of Practice: Insurance Defense (currently), Litigation - Criminal (previously)

Military Experience

Branch/Dates of Service: U.S. Navy / 2003-2008 (active), 2002-2010 (reserve)

Position(s) Held: Lieutenant – Judge Advocate General’s Corps

Combat/Noncombat/Reserve: Combat – Iraq (2/2006 - 8/2006), Reserve – 2002-2003 & 2008-2010

Duties and Specialties: Military prosecutor, advisor to senior officers, Special Assistant United States Attorney, legal assistance/family law (limited experience)

Location(s) Stationed (including combat zones): Newport, RI; San Diego, CA; Al Asad, Iraq; Kings Bay, GA

Decorations and Honors: Navy/Marine Corps Commendation (2x) and Achievement Medals, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal with Fleet Marine Force Device, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment and Navy Pistol Sharpshooter Ribbons, Fleet Marine Force Qualified Officer Insignia

Educational Background

Law School: Emory University School of Law (03)

College/University: University of Michigan (99)

Undergraduate Major/Minor: English

High School: Ann Arbor Pioneer High School, Ann Arbor, MI



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VETERAN BIOGRAPHY

Name: Donald V. Orlandoni

Firm Name: Butzel Long

Firm Address: 150 West Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, MI 48226

Office Phone/Mobile Phone: (313) 225-7063

e-Mail address: orlandoni@butzel.com

Legal Experience

Number of Years in Practice: 3

Area(s) of Practice: General commercial litigation, probate litigation, real estate litigation

Military Experience

Branch/Dates of Service: U.S. Marine Corps. / 1995-2000, U.S. Naval Academy / 1991-1995

Position(s) Held: Company Commanding Officer

Combat/Noncombat/Reserve: Noncombat

Duties and specialties: Infantry tactics; coordination of combined arms - including aviation, tanks and artillery

Location(s) Stationed (including combat zones): 29 Palms, CA; Quantico, VA; Okinawa, Japan

Educational Background

Law School: Wayne State University Law School

College/University: United States Naval Academy

Undergraduate Major/Minor: History and Spanish

High School: University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy



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Name: Michael D. Schloff

Firm Name: Michael D. Schloff PLLC

Firm Address: 6905 Telegraph Rd., Suite 215, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301

Office Phone/Mobile Phone: (248) 645-5205

e-Mail address: mdschloff@aol.com

Legal Experience

Number of Years in Practice: 35

Area(s) of Practice: Civil and criminal trial practice

Military Experience

Branch/Dates of Service: U.S. Marine Corps. / 1966-1969 (enlisted), 1969-1982 (commissioned officer)

Position(s) Held: Captain

Combat/Noncombat/Reserve: Combat –Vietnam (1970-1971)

Duties and Specialties: Infantry officer; forward observer; 10D team hilltop commander; platoon commander in combat on remote Vietnam hilltop

Location(s) Stationed (including combat zones): Quantico, VA; Fort Sill, OK; Vietnam; Camp Pendleton, CA; Camp Lejeune, NC

Decorations and Honors: Combat Action Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1 battle star, Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Bronze State, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross, Unit Citation, Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Unit Citation, Meritorious Unit Citation, Vietnam Service Medal

Educational Background

Law School: University of Detroit (1975)

College/University: Wayne State University (1969)

Undergraduate Major/Minor: History, Social Studies and Secondary Education

High School: Catholic Central (1965); Detroit, MI



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