

AGENDA

- 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. **Continental Breakfast and Registration**
- 8:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. **Presentation of the Colors**
- 8:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. **Welcoming Remarks** by Carol Wild Scott (Deputy Director, The Veteran Consortium Pro Bono Program) and A.J. Hensel (Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP)
- 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. ***Mental Health Issues – TBI/PTSD***
Stephen N. Xenakis, MD, Brigadier General (ret.), USA
Center for Translational Medicine
Dietrich W. Schelzig, MD, MPH
Cleveland VA Medical Center
MHACC/Polytrauma
- 10:15 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. **Break**
- 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. ***How Does the VA Work and How to Navigate the System***
Tammy Kudialis, Esq.
University of Detroit Mercy
School of Law
- 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. ***Advocating for Veterans After Discharge: “Bad Paper” and Other Problems***
James S. Richardson, Sr., Esq.
Past President of the Federal Bar Association and
Chairman of the Board, Veterans and Military Law
Section of the FBA
- 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. **Lunch**
Lunchtime speaker will be Michael Dewey, a Cadet Company Commander and 2008 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, a Bronze Star recipient for combat operations in Afghanistan, and currently a student at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.
- 1:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. ***Getting Lawyers and Our Courts Involved to Help Our Veterans***
MODERATOR: Justice Evelyn Lundberg Stratton (ret.)
Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP
Magistrate Judge Paul Warner
United States District Court for the District of Utah
Judge Michael E. Jackson
Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court
Judge Charles L. Patton, Jr.
Cleveland Municipal Court
Michael J. Renner, Director
Ohio Military Veterans Legal Assistance Project

2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

***Advocating for Veterans in the Criminal Justice System:
Mitigation and Sentencing Challenges***

James T. Skuthan, Esq.

*First Assistant Federal Public Defender, Office of
the Federal Public Defender for the Middle District
of Florida*

Joseph Wilhelm

*Assistant Federal Public Defender, Office of the
Federal Public Defender for the Northern District
of Ohio*

3:45 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Break

4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

***Where Help Can Be Found – Taking Assessment of Our
VA Programs and Future Planning and Programs***

Carol Wild Scott, Deputy Director

The Veteran Consortium Pro Bono Program

Fred Stratmann

*Chief Legal Counsel, Ohio Department of Veteran
Services*

5:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Closing Remarks by James S. Richardson, Sr., Esq.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM

This program continues the tradition established several years ago by the Federal Bar Association to offer a program addressing the special legal problems facing our returning combat veterans. The need is greater than ever, and the problems are more complex than ever. From traumatic brain injury to post-traumatic stress syndrome to sentencing complications in the courtroom, our veterans and their lawyers are facing unprecedented hurdles in their efforts to solve legal problems, both civil and criminal. This program provides some insights into those problems, and proposes some ways to address them. With this program, we continue the dialogue with our veterans and their lawyers with the anticipation that this will become an annual event in the Northern District of Ohio.

PARTICIPANTS

Michael Dewey, J.D. Candidate, The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law

Michael Dewey is a 2008 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point where he served as a Cadet Company Commander, which was a position held by only 32 senior class cadets from the over 4000 students at the Academy. He is also a graduate of the U.S. Army's Ranger School, Airborne School, and Air Assault School. For his service in several tours of duty in Afghanistan, he has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Expert Infantryman Badge. Among the position he held in the U.S. Army were Infantry Rifle Platoon Leader, Anti-Armor Platoon Leader, Squadron Assistant Operations officer, and Battalion Logistics Officer. At the Moritz College of Law as a JD candidate, he is the recipient of the Vogel International Fellowship for Oxford Summer Program and the annual Leadership Award, and is a member of the Law and Leadership Program and the Moritz Ambassador Program.

A.J. Hensel, Hahn Loeser & Parks, LLP

A.J. Hensel is a military veteran and business attorney at Hahn Loeser & Parks, LLP. A.J. focuses his practice in business litigation, with an emphasis on complex commercial transactions and business torts. A.J. prides himself on the basic tenets of service. He has been recognized for adhering to the highest standards of legal ethics and professional responsibility with his inclusion in the 2013-2015 lists of "Ohio Rising Stars" by *Ohio Super Lawyers*.

A graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point in 2001, A.J. served for five years as an officer in the United States Army. He achieved the rank of Captain and was recognized for exemplary leadership as a reconnaissance officer during Operation Iraqi Freedom II (Iraq), including the Bronze Star and Meritorious Service Medal. A.J. is an officer of the West Point Society of Central Ohio and a member of Senator Rob Portman's U.S. Military Service Academy Nominations Review Board.

Hon. Michael E. Jackson, Cuyahoga County, Ohio Court of Common Pleas

Michael E. Jackson was elected to the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas in Cleveland, Ohio in 2013 to a six-year term. In May 2015, he was the first judge of the newly established Cuyahoga County Veterans Treatment Court. Prior to his work as a judge, Judge Jackson worked as an assistant prosecuting attorney in Cuyahoga County, was a partner in the law firms of Schwarzwald McNair & Fusco, LLP: and Arter & Hadden nka Tucker Ellis, LLP, served as Vice President of Administration and General Counsel of Towner Petroleum in Ohio, and worked as an attorney for East Ohio Gas Co. nka Dominion East Ohio. He has previously taught as an adjunct professor at Case Western Reserve University School of Law, Cleveland State University Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, and the University of Akron School of Law. He also previously served as the chairman of the Veterans Memorial Project on Memorial Plaza in Cleveland, Ohio, and is a trustee of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in that same city. He formerly served in the U.S. Marine Corps as a combat officer during the Vietnam War where he earned two Bronze Stars, a Navy Commendation Award, two Vietnamese Crosses of Gallantry, and a Purple Heart. Judge Jackson is married to JoAnne Urban Jackson who teaches wills and trusts and family law at Case Western Reserve University School of Law. They have two adult daughters.

Tammy M. Kudialis, Esq. LL.M., University of Detroit Mercy School of Law

Tammy Kudialis is the director of Clinical Program Administration and the Center for Solo and Small Firm Practice at University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. Professor Kudialis founded the Veterans Appellate Clinic, an upper-level live client clinic, representing Veterans and their survivors before the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. She was also instrumental in establishing Project SALUTE, a nationally traveling Veterans Law Clinic program. Under the direction of Professor Kudialis, Project SALUTE was recognized by the ABA Standing Committee on the Delivery of Legal Services for outstanding dedication to the advancement of innovation and the ABA Young Lawyers Division for the creation and implementation of the divisions' national public legal service initiative, Project Salute: Young Lawyers Serving Veterans.

A member of the State Bar of Michigan, Professor Kudialis is admitted to practice before the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and the Department of Veterans Affairs. She regularly lectures on Veterans law, mentors volunteer attorneys assisting Veterans, and actively participates in the formation and implementation of Veterans Treatment Courts throughout Michigan. Professor Kudialis earned an LL.M. in Elder Law from Stetson University College of Law, a Juris Doctor from University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, and a Bachelor of Arts from Concordia University, Magna Cum Laude.

Michael J. Renner, Director, Ohio Military Veterans Legal Assistance Project

Michael J. Renner was an attorney at Bricker & Eckler for 22 years where he focused his practice primarily on civil defense litigation. He previously worked as Chief Counsel to then Ohio Attorney General Getty Montgomery where he worked with the First Assistant in managing the lawyers of that office. Prior to that position, Mr. Renner worked with the Ohio Tobacco Prevention Foundation as its Executive Director. He has served as a Volunteer and co-founder of the Volunteer Resource Center at Columbus Legal Aid, a program to recruit volunteer pro bono attorneys to represent the poor in matters that would otherwise have been turned away by Legal Aid for lack of resources. Mr. Renner presently serves as

the Executive Director of the Ohio Military/Veterans Legal Assistance Project, dba Operation Legal Help Ohio. The mission of this Project is to provide low-income veterans and active duty personnel with pro bono legal representation across Ohio.

Dietrich W. Schelzig, MD, MPH, Cleveland VA Medical Center

Dr. Schelzig earned his medical degree from Case Western Reserve University and a Master's Degree in Public Health from the George Washington University. He is a board certified psychiatrist who is in his fourth year at the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center. He divides time between the general outpatient clinic and the Polytrauma/Traumatic Brain Injury clinic. In the latter capacity, he manages the mental health needs of veterans with mild concussions to severe brain and body trauma. In addition, Dr. Schelzig is a senior clinical instructor in psychiatry at the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

Dr. Schelzig is a former Lieutenant Commander in the US Navy who was stationed in Virginia, Guam, and California. Dr. Schelzig served as a combat stress control psychiatrist for Army forces in Iraq for six months in 2008. He served as the chief medical officer of the Pacific Fleet Seabee Force between 2009 and 2011. In that role, he deployed to Afghanistan for six months in 2009/2010. On deployment, he led medical operations for a 3,000-man joint service engineering taskforce. He resigned his commission in 2011 after eight years of service. In addition to numerous unit and campaign medals he is the recipient of an Army Commendation Medal and two Navy Commendation Medals.

Carol Wild Scott, Deputy Director, The Veteran Consortium Pro Bono Program

Carol Wild Scott has been the Deputy Director of the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program since 1996. The Consortium is congressionally chartered and funded. She practices Veterans Law and oversees the placement of appeals before the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims with pro bono counsel trained and mentored by the Consortium. She entered the practice of law in Gainesville, Florida in 1970 as a sole practitioner of Military, Selective Service, Criminal and Domestic Relations Law. Over the years she has served as Civilian Counsel at the Ford Clemency Program, General Counsel of the Southern Center for Military & Veterans Rights, Southern Regional Vice-president of The National Lawyers Guild, Vice-chair of the ABA General Practice Section Military Law Committee, Central Staff Attorney at the Court of Military Appeals, member of the Joint Services Committee as a co-author of the Military Rules of Evidence and Supervisory Attorney setting up the Central Legal Staff of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

Ms. Scott is currently the Chair of the Veterans & Military Law Committee of the Federal Bar Association. She is a member of the National Organization of Veterans Advocates. She has been honored with the award of the President's Award of the Federal Bar Association in 2010 for her advocacy on behalf of veterans, particularly Native American veterans and with the Ken Carpenter Award from the National Organization of Veterans Advocates in 2012. Ms. Scott has been an FBA member since 1999 but served even before then as one of the founders of the FBA's Veterans Law Section, which began as a series of brown bag luncheons and an occasional visit to a hospital to meet with injured veterans. She is both the brain and the brawn behind this annual FBA program directed to veterans' lawyers.

James T. Skuthan, First Assistant Federal Public Defender, Middle District of Florida

James T. Skuthan graduated with honors from Florida State University College of Law in 1985. He has worked as an Assistant Federal Defender, Middle District of Florida, from 1990 to 2000; and as First Assistant Federal Defender from 2000 to present. Prior to joining the Federal Defender's Office, Mr. Skuthan worked as an Assistant State Public Defender in Florida. He is board certified by The Florida Bar in the area of Criminal Trial Law and Criminal Appellate Practice. He is the immediate past president of the Central Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (CFACDL). Currently, he serves on the FACDL Board of Directors. He is past president of the Federal Bar Association, Orlando Chapter, and previously served on The Florida Bar Judicial Nominating Committee for the 18th Judicial Circuit, as well as The Florida Bar Grievance Committee for the 9th Judicial Circuit. Mr. Skuthan organizes the Federal Practice Seminar every year for the Middle District of Florida Criminal Justice Act (CJA) Panel.

Fred Stratmann, Chief Legal Counsel, Ohio Department of Veteran Services

Fred Stratmann serves as Chief Legal Counsel for the Ohio Department of Veteran Services. In this capacity, he oversees a wide variety of veteran-justice related initiatives. Fred has been a proponent of expanding Veterans Treatment Courts in more counties in Ohio, and has worked with existing courts on important issues like developing performance metrics and finding sustainable funding sources. In addition to the treatment courts, Fred has worked with Ohio Ex-Offender Re-entry Coalition and Project VETS to address issues like recidivism and ensuring proper treatment for veterans with lingering health and mental health concerns. He has also developed and presented CLE programs on Veterans Treatment Courts and the representation of Veterans in criminal courts. In January 2014, Fred was named Interim Superintendent of the Ohio Veterans Homes. In addition to his regular duties as Chief Legal Counsel, he oversaw an 800-bed long-term care network that providing services to Ohio's wartime veterans. He was responsible for two facilities with more than eight hundred employees and an annual budget exceeding \$100 million.

Prior to coming to Veterans Services, Fred worked as a litigation attorney in several firms in Columbus. He has handled large-scale collection cases, domestic relations matters appellate work and commercial litigation. In addition to those fields, he developed a specialty practice representing professional athletes in child support and divorce matters. Before entering private practice, Fred had a 20-year career in state government. He worked as a communications professional and speechwriter in executive and legislative branch offices in Ohio and his home state of New York. He is a graduate of Siena College in Loudonville, NY and Capital University Law School. Fred served in the United States Coast Guard from 1984-1990 and earned an honorable discharge.

Fred serves as a board member for the Ohio Military/Veterans Legal Assistance Project, which provides free legal services to active duty military members and veterans. He serves as Co-Chair of the Ohio State Bar Association's Military and Veterans Law Committee, was a member of the 2014 Ohio State Bar Association Leadership Academy, and has been nominated to be a Fellow of the Ohio State Bar Foundation. He and his wife Sandy are the parents of four children from age 24 to 18. They have one grandchild.

Hon. Evelyn Lundberg Stratton, Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP

Evelyn Lundberg Stratton retired from the Supreme Court of Ohio after 23 years in the judiciary to pursue criminal justice reforms, particularly as they relate to mental health, juveniles, and veterans. She came to the bench by a very different route. Born to missionary parents in Bangkok, Thailand, Stratton spent her childhood in Southeast Asia. She attended boarding school in South Vietnam at the height of the Vietnam War and later in Malaysia, visiting America on occasion with her parents. At age 18, she returned to America alone with only a few hundred dollars in her pocket. Working her way through school, she earned a Juris Doctor degree from The Ohio State University College of Law. She began her legal career as a trial lawyer in the courtrooms of Central Ohio. In 1989, she was the first woman to be elected Judge of the Franklin County Common Pleas Court, where she became known as "The Velvet Hammer" for her approach to sentencing in serious felony cases. Her success on the trial bench led to an appointment in 1996 to the Supreme Court of Ohio, where she was elected to a third term in 2008. Stratton believes that the courts, in partnership with the mental health system, can affect positive change in the lives of many defendants whose mental illness has led to criminal activity. To that end, she formed the Supreme Court of Ohio Advisory Committee on Mental Illness & the Courts, which was composed of mental health, law enforcement and criminal justice professionals who were dedicated to mental health initiatives in the court system. That committee has now merged into the Attorney General Task Force on Mental Illness and Criminal Justice, and she still serves as co-chair along with Attorney General Mike DeWine. Nationally, Stratton is a co-founder and former co-chair of the Judges' Leadership Initiative, a professional association that supports cooperative mental health programs in the criminal justice system. Her latest focus in Ohio and nationally is on establishing veterans courts to help those returning veterans with Post Traumatic Stress, Traumatic Brain Injury and other issues, whose problems may lead to involvement in the criminal justice system.

Since retiring from the bench, she works through EStratton Consulting, LLC on criminal justice reforms, particularly focusing on engaging the judges in different states in these reform efforts. She is also Of Counsel to a major Ohio law firm, Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP, where she provides trial and appellate guidance to lawyers using her years of experience on the trial court and Supreme Court of Ohio to assist attorneys and their clients in their litigation matters. Among her many honors are the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Angels Award, as well as the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services' Adoption Excellence Award. Additionally, in May 2008, Stratton received an Ellis Island Medal of Honor at a ceremony in New York City. Established in 1986 by the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations, the Ellis Island Medals of Honor pay tribute to American citizens of diverse origins for their outstanding contributions to their communities, their nation and the world. Ranking among the nation's most prestigious awards, recipients are listed in the Congressional Record. Stratton is the wife of John A. Lundberg III, and the mother of two adult sons. She enjoys painting, Thai cooking, and fly fishing with her husband. But surely her most interesting accomplishment was her first-place finish in a college Stampede Girls Goat Tying Competition — a talent she later put to good use as a trial lawyer

Hon. Paul Warner, Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Utah

Paul Michael Warner is a United States Magistrate Judge for the District of Utah. He was appointed on February 19, 2006. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Brigham Young University in 1973. He graduated in the Charter Class of the J. Reuben Clark Law School at BYU in 1976. In 1984, he received a Master's degree in Public Administration from the Marriott School of Management at BYU. Judge Warner served six years as a trial lawyer in the Judge Advocate General Corps of the United States Navy in San Diego, California, following graduation from law school. In 1982, he returned to Utah, working in the Utah Attorney General's office for seven years where he served as Chief of the Litigation Division, and later as Associate Chief Deputy to the Attorney General. In 1989, he joined the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Utah where he worked for 17 years. He served as First Assistant United States Attorney, interim United States Attorney, and Chief of the Criminal Division prior to his Presidential appointment as the United States Attorney.

Judge Warner was appointed United States Attorney for the District of Utah on July 29, 1998, by President Bill Clinton. He was retained and reappointed by President George W. Bush, and again confirmed by the U.S. Senate for a second term 4-year term on August 1, 2003. He served two years as Chairman of the Attorney General's Advisory Committee of United States Attorneys from 2001 to 2003, under Attorney General John Ashcroft, and also previously chaired the Advisory

Committee's subcommittee on Terrorism under Attorney General Janet Reno. After almost eight years of service, Judge Warner resigned as United States Attorney in February 2006 when he was appointed to the federal bench in Utah. In 2010, he created the first federal veteran's treatment court in the nation. Judge Warner served as a Colonel in the Judge Advocate General Branch of the Utah Army National Guard. He is a past president of the Utah National Guard Association. He retired in September 2006 as the State Staff Judge Advocate, after 31 years of commissioned service. He is also an adjunct professor at the J. Reuben Clark Law School at BYU, where he teaches criminal trial practice, criminal trial advocacy, and white collar crime. Additionally, he lectures at the National Advocacy Center for the Department of Justice in Columbia, South Carolina.

Judge Warner has been involved in numerous professional organizations including the Federal Bar Association, serving as a Master of the Bench in the American Inns of Court, and was Chairman of the Board of Visitors for the J. Reuben Clark Law School at BYU. He is a frequent speaker and presenter at bar and community events. He is a member of both the Utah and California Bars. Judge Warner is the recipient of numerous military and civilian professional awards. He received the NAACP Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Award for Civil Rights in 2008. He received the Utah National Guard Bronze Minuteman Award in 2007 for outstanding service to the state and nation. He was awarded the United States Army's Legion of Merit in 2006 for his distinguished 31-year career of military service. He also has received the Army's Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters. He was inducted as a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers in 2005. He was the 2004 Honored Alumni of the Year for the J. Reuben Clark Law School at BYU. He also has received the Utah State Bar's 2004 Dorothy Merrill Brothers Award for the Advancement of Women in the Legal Profession, the Federal Bar Association's Distinguished Career Service Award for 2003, and the NAACP's 2002 Community Relations Award for Civil Rights. Judge Warner is married and has four children and thirteen grandchildren.

Joseph Wilhelm, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Northern District of Ohio

Joseph Wilhelm served as a commissioned officer in the United States Naval Reserve between 1981 and 1988, qualifying as a Surface Warfare Officer on the USS Independence (CV-62). He has worked exclusively as a capital litigator during his legal career. He has represented capital clients on direct appeal, state post-conviction, federal habeas, and petitions for executive clemency. Since 2009, Mr. Wilhelm has worked as an Assistant Federal Public Defender in the Capital Habeas Unit for the Northern District of Ohio. Previously, he worked as an Assistant Ohio Public Defender. He is certified as Appellate Counsel under Ohio Superintendence Rule 20. Mr. Wilhelm received his Juris Doctor from the University of Cincinnati, and a Bachelor of Science from Ohio University.

Stephen N. Xenakis, MD, Brigadier General (ret.) USA

Dr. Xenakis is a psychiatrist with an active clinical and consulting practice. He is the Founder of the Center for Translational Medicine that develops treatments and conducts tests on brain related conditions affecting soldiers and veterans. He has been a senior adviser to the Department of Defense on wide range of issues concerning the care and support to service members and their families. Retiring at the rank of brigadier general, he served 28 years in the United States Army as a medical corps officer. Dr. Xenakis has been written widely on medical ethics, military medicine, and treatment of detainees, including book chapters and legal reviews and appears regularly on national radio and television. He is currently working on the clinical applications of quantitative electroencephalography (QEEG) to brain injury and neurobehavioral conditions and promoting integrative care programs for veterans. Dr. Xenakis is an Adjunct Professor at the Uniformed Services of Health Sciences of the military medical department. He is a graduate of Princeton University and the University of Maryland School of Medicine.