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Project RELO Overview

Established in 2016, Project RELO is a not-for-profit organization focused on improving the quality and number of career opportunities being made available to veterans. Our founders recognized that while military veterans have unique skill sets that bring immediate and lasting value to organizations, many fail to effectively translate those military skills into the corporate skills recruiters look for when applying for jobs once their military service concludes. Likewise, few corporate leaders fully understand how to leverage mission and mission support skills to increase productivity, profitability, competitiveness, and desired culture. EIN 30-0934319

Project RELO is committed to helping both veterans and business leaders partner for success. We do this by:

1. Educating corporate leaders on the value veterans can bring to their organization
2. Providing transitioning military members access to our ever expanding business network and the opportunities it presents
3. Connecting companies with the people and teams that can help them find the critical talent they need to be successful during the current 'war for talent'

[Project RELO Overview Video](#)

Task Force Tribute Mission

What is the mission of Task Force Tribute?

Task Force Tribute is a veteran inspired journey of remembrance, honoring the 7,054 military members lost during combat operations since 9/11. One mile will be traveled for each service member lost.

As the joint service team embarks upon a journey that will cross America, it will collect and memorialize the priceless stories so many of our military members, veterans and fellow Americans hold dear – those of loss, success and the many struggles and triumphs that will remind us that Americans have far more in common than we have differences.

While others will lead the noble effort of building a physical monument for the Global War on Terror (GWOT), our ambition is to construct a living memorial; instead of bricks and steel, our monument will be built with the stories and perspectives from veterans and their families that will evolve and grow as people contribute and memorialize their experiences.

Media contact: Michelle Anschuetz michelle@projectrelo.org 847-708-4713

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Our Call to Action - Connect, Collect, Contribute, Support and Learn

This nonprofit initiative is a massive undertaking supported by a small group of volunteers (with zero Project RELO or Task Force Tribute funds going towards compensation in any form). As a result, the organization and the desired outcomes require increasing amounts of support as the ambition and the interest in TFT grows. We ask those that would like to honor, recognize and remember our fallen service members to consider joining this cause and supporting it in one of 5 ways:

Connect - Our most basic request - please connect with Project RELO and Task Force Tribute to follow our progress and learn more about our mission and the memorial we intend to build for those that have fallen since 9/11. Social media channels are one way to follow our group (social media channels and details listed below), yet simply going to the Project RELO or Task Force Tribute websites ([here](#) and [here](#) respectively) will allow users to sign up to pay tribute to our service members. 'Tribute', in our vernacular, is providing a story or perspective re: one of our service members and submitting your name and the topic of the tale you want memorialized can be done [here](#).

Collect - Perhaps you are a supporter and friend to our military and service members, yet also know others that serve, served, or have friends and family that were in the military. We want and need their stories and perspectives as they are the very building blocks on which this memorial will be built. Help us collect these stories by becoming an advocate for Task Force Tribute and volunteer to capture the perspectives that will breathe life into the legacies of our GWOt warriors.

Contribute - Building the virtual memorial will take time and resources. From the technology to enable the platform and its visualization, to the collection of the raw materials that will ultimately bring it to life (the stories and perspectives of our military members and their friends and families). We ask for both individuals and firms to support this initiative with direct monetary contributions.

In support of this initiative, we ask for supporters to contribute 1 cent / mile (\$70.54). We ask firms to consider doing fund-raising as well, potentially matching their employees' contributions. Of course, there are sponsorship opportunities available and any and all support is welcome (above, beyond, or even less than the \$70.54 individual target). Please contact our Project RELO and Task Force Tribute team if you have any questions and / or a desire to contribute to this mission and vision.

Support - Beyond the funds necessary to drive this initiative, we need all sorts of other forms of support. From technology services, to licenses to IT products, to marketing, media support, we would benefit from the assistance and expertise of like-minded organizations in building this memorial. Please consider asking your organization what perhaps they could contribute to this cause.

Learn - Finally, yet perhaps more importantly, we ask people to engage with us and other military and veteran organizations to learn more about those that serve and have served. Since our military became wholly volunteer in the past decades, fewer and fewer actually personally know any of our military members. Thanking them for their service is often appreciated, yet taking the time to learn and understand what others sacrificed so that we can enjoy our freedoms and liberties is another thing all together. Learn about our military, and thus honor all that have served.

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Task Force Tribute Schedule of Events

Project RELO Press Contact: Michelle Anschuetz, 847-708-4713, michelle@projectrelo.org								
	Interactive Map							
Date	EVENT LOCATION	Event	EVENT TIME	City	State	Main/Local Contact	Email	Status L(locke P(Plann D(In Dis
Sunday, August 21, 2022	Michigan State Capital, 100 N Capitol Avenue, Lansing, MI	Kick off event/ Governor/National Guard Military Send off,escort to state line/ Ohio upon completion	10 - 2:30 Tribute starts at 1 PM EST	Lansing	MI	Christian Anschuetz	canschue@uptyme.com	L
Monday, August 22, 2022	Wright Patterson Air Force Museum 1100 Spaatz Street Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433	Tour Museum/ Private Innovation Session/Fireside Chat With Museum Military Leadership/ Gen Reynolds, etc	10 - 2 pm EST	Dayton	OH	Rich Sobota	rasobota@comcast.net	L
Monday, August 22, 2022	Dayton National Cemetery, 4400 W Third St, Dayton, OH 45428	Stop at Cemetery / Wreath Ceremony/VFW & Gold Star Family	3 EST	Dayton	OH	Rich Sobota	rasobota@comcast.net	L
Tuesday, August 23, 2022	National World War I Museum & Memorial 2 Memorial Dr, Kansas City, MO	Formal Ceremony/ Wreath Laying/Presentations Sponsored by Honeywell	11 - 2 CST	Kansas City	MO	Doug Bryant	doug@projectrelo.org	L
Wednesday, August 24, 2022	Pikes Peak Military Cemetery, 10545 Drennan Road Colorado Springs, CO	Memorial Wreath Ceremony	1:30 - 2:30 MST	Colorado Springs	CO	Marty Marlow/Ron Swarz	marthymarlow@gmail.com/ron.h.schwarz@gmail.com	L

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Wednesday, August 24, 2022	Boot Barn Hall at Bourbon Brothers, Colorado Springs	Tribute/Presentation/ Fundraising Concert/ Tickets needed	5 - 10 PM	Colorado Springs	CO	Marty Marlow/ Ron Swarz	marthymarlow@gmail.com/ ron.h.schwarz@gmail.com	L
Thursday, August 25, 2022	Freedom Memorial, 756 Telluride St, Aurora, CO	Full Ceremony w/reading names of Fallen in CO/ David Callahan, Governor's Staff	8 - 9 am	Aurora	CO	Don Richardson	don.baghdad@gmail.com	L
Thursday, August 25, 2022	Wyoming State Capital, Cheyenne, Wyoming	Ceremony by Wyoming Governor & TAG	11 - 1	Cheyenne	WY	Christian	canschue@uptyme.com	L
Thursday, August 25, 2022	Crow Agency Military Memorial	Lay Wreath /TFT Team	7 pm?	Crow Agency	WY	Doug		L
Friday, August 26, 2022	Driving Day driving to Spokane, WA	Possible meet up with Supporters in Spokane		end in Spokane	WA	Michelle Anschuetz	michelle@projectrelo.org	L
Saturday, August 27, 2022	Spokane, WA Morning Meet-up with Veteran Motorcycle clubs for escort into Mt. Vernon, WA (Address TBD) - leave at 7am I 90 - HWY 28 to Wenatchee - 97 to Winthrop to HWY 20 - HWY 20 to I 5 S toward Anderson Exit to Fairgrounds or motorcycle staging area nearby	Veteran Motorcycle Clubs Escort to Event	7am PST	Spokane	WA	Yvette Dwonch/ TBD local contact	yvette@projectrelo.org	L
Saturday, August 27, 2022	Skagit County Fairgrounds, 1730 Continental Pl, Mount Vernon, WA	Tribute Concert & Ceremony; Gold Star Families, WWII "Band of Brothers" Families, Purple Heart Recipients, Veteran-owned exhibitors, raffles	3 - 10 PM	Mt. Vernon	WA	Yvette Dwonch	yvette@projectrelo.org	L

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Sunday, August 28, 2022	Leave Seattle area headed to Boise Idaho Idaho Veterans Gardens, 305 W Belmont St, Caldwell, ID 83605,	Ceremony/ Wreath Laying?	6 pm?	Caldwell	ID	Christian Anschuetz	canschue@projectrelo.org	P
Monday, August 29, 2022	Driving to Salt Lake City VFW stops along the way	Meet/remember/stories		Salt Lake City	UT	Doug Bryant	doug@projectrelo.org	D
Tuesday, August 30, 2022	Possible stop in SLC National Guard with Utah TAG	Collect stories along the way	TBD	Salt Lake City	UT	Doug Bryant	doug@projectrelo.org	D
Wednesday, August 31, 2022	Drive to Navajo Code Talkers Museum 106 U.S. Rt. 66, Gallup, NM	Visit Code Talkers	TBD	Gallup	NM	Doug Bryant	doug@projectrelo.org	D
Thursday, September 1, 2022	Gallup NM to Ft Hood TX Driving day	Driving Day	end in	Killeen	TX	Doug Bryant	doug@projectrelo.org	D
Friday, September 2, 2022	Ft. Hood, TX Event TBC	VFW Stop	TBC	Killeen	TX	TBC		D
Friday, September 2	Driving Day through Texas/VFW Stops	Collect Stories along the way						D
Saturday, September 3, 2022	Drive from Texas event to Pensacola leaving early morning	Driving most of day		Pensacola	FL	Doug Bryant	doug@projectrelo.org	D
Saturday, September 3, 2022	Pensacola Memorial Park, 200 N. 10th Avenue, Pensacola, FL	Wreath Laying/Memorial	7:00 PM	Pensacola	FL	Gary Bloesl	bloesl@hotmail.com	L
Sunday, September 4, 2022	Gulf Coast Summer Fest Blue Wahoo's Stadium 351 W. Cedar St. Pensacola, FL	Collect Stories	All day	Pensacola	FL	Gary Bloesl	bloesl@hotmail.com	D

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Monday, September 5, 2022	Driving to Georgia event being planned by Georgia National Guard	TBC		TBC	GA			P
Tuesday, September 6, 2022	Georgia Event	Ceremony/Fireside Chat with Military Leaders of GA		TBC	GA	Christian		P
Wednesday, September 7, 2022	TBD							
Thursday, September 8, 2022	US Airborne & Special Operations Museum TBC	Fireside Chat with GWOTMF CEO Army Green Beret Rod Rodriguez	9am - 10 am	Fayetteville	NC	Michelle	michelle@projectrelo.org	P
Thursday, September 8, 2022	Horton Memorial Veterans Cemetery	Memorial/Wreath Laying	3 - 5 PM	Norfolk	VA	Jim Theuer JR Montalvo	jim@theuerlaw.com / jrmonvalvo51@gmail.com	L
Friday, September 9, 2022	Norfolk Tides Stadium, 150 Park Avenue, Norfolk, VA	Collect Stories	10 - 6 PM	Norfolk	VA	Jim Theuer JR Montalvo	jim@theuerlaw.com / jrmonvalvo51@gmail.com	L
Saturday, September 10, 2022	National Museum Marines Corp, 18900 Jefferson Davis Highway, Triangle, VA or Annapolis MD	Stop/ Lay Wreath	10 - 12 am stop	Triangle	VA	Don Richardson	don.baghdad@gmail.com	D
Sunday, September 11, 2022	The National Mall, Washington, DC (WWII Memorial)	Final Event/ Corporate support by Accenture	10 - 6 pm	Washington	DC	Michelle Anshuetz	michelle@projectrelo.org	P

Task Force Tribute Crew & Bios

[Christian Anschuetz](#)

Founder, Chairman, Project RELO
CEO, SFDigital LLC
Adjunct Professor, University of North Carolina, Flagler School of Business
US Marines Corps 1990 - 1997

Executive leader and advisor in art and science of 'strategy activation,' Christian Anschuetz helps industry leaders re-imagine and re-invent how their companies do business. His unique blend of market-shaping vision and leading-edge tech savvy coupled with a strong belief in the power of service over self helps leaders step beyond conventional thinking. The result? Envisioning and executing future-proofing market strategies that lead to competitive edge, rapid growth, and lasting digital transformation.

Christian was born into a 'military family', where service to country and community was considered both an obligation and an honor. Father and brother both served (the Navy and the Army respectively), with the latter losing his life during Operation Reforger. The service and sacrifice of his family members propelled Christian to join the United States Marine Corps where he served multiple active duty tours as an Officer of Marines. Later he founded Project RELO, a nonprofit that helps veterans transition from military service to corporate careers through partnerships with executive business leaders.

Christian has held C-level leadership positions at top global firms in the advertising, cyber security, global safety and supply-chain arenas, and is known for success in case studies by Microsoft, Intel, HP, and Oracle. He is also a professor of Strategic Marketing in the MBA program at UNC in Chapel Hill.

You can catch him regularly on Cloud Wars Live with Bob Evans, "[Anschuetz on Leadership.](#)" or applying contemporary technologies to farming as he cultivates his organic, sustainable lavender fields.

[Donald Richardson](#)

Project RELO Military Liaison
US Marines Corps, Lt. Col. (Retired)

Having twice served as a Battalion Commander, Don Richardson retired from the Marine Corps and started several small companies - each increasingly successful as he learned the mechanics of capitalism. Ultimately, however, Don was made an "offer he couldn't refuse" and joined a small IT integrator and helped them grow into one of the most successful companies in the industry. When the Global War on Terror erupted, he obtained a one year leave of absence to support the rebuilding of Iraq. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the one year turned into ten. During this decade of continued service Don was involved in various government and commercial projects throughout Iraq, Afghanistan, Kurdistan, Kyrgyzstan, Jordan, and elsewhere.

Don has always been drawn to our military where one can find the finest men and women in the world. His interest there had everything to do with his father, a combat infantry medic who married his English mother three days before shipping out to the relief of Bastogne. Don's uncle Jack, who waded ashore at Normandy with the Big Red One, and his mother who survived The Blitz in the tubes of London and helped put out the fires that raged across the city were two more of his role models. Don was raised by the hero's who saw the worst of WWII. Giving back, helping friends and neighbors, even if you had nothing, was their way of life.

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When the suicide attack of August 2021 took the lives of 13 brave young service members at the Kabul Airport amid a chaotic withdrawal and evacuation, Don was especially troubled. He felt compelled to bring a positive message to our military community, and in turn, help to share their stories with the world. This is why Don supports Task Force Tribute and why he'll be driving 7,054 miles - honoring and celebrating our veteran community while gathering their stories.

It's too late to gather my parents' stories. It's not too late for our Global War on Terrorism veterans.

[Eric Lazar](#)

Project RELO Communications Lead

Owner Speed Pro Chicago Loop

US Marines Corps Sgt. 1986 - 1994

Eric Lazar hails from Port Jefferson, NY, where, in 1986, he decided to forgo acceptance into several universities and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. While his experience in the USMC was relatively un-storied compared to most, Eric served as an Intelligence Specialist with both a Combat Engineer Battalion and an Electronic Warfare Squadron with two overseas deployments. Upon finishing his eight-year enlistment, Eric enrolled at the State University of Stony Brook, New York, where, in three years, he received his B.A. Political Science.

Mr. Lazar's transition into the private sector was fraught with challenges, unable to find his calling, a sense of purpose or adopting to the culture of a corporate environment. While working in series of retail stores to make living wage, Eric launched a resume and job-search business, which he often says rose from the ashes of his unsuccessful pursuit of truly gainful employment and the adage, 'those who can do and those who can't teach.' After two years of business, Eric had difficulty scaling and again pursued more stable employment.

In 1996, Eric found an opportunity as a sales executive for a local cable station in Washington D.C., he was then recruited to a larger station in the same market, eventually moving to New York City as a national TV sales representative and then to Chicago to assume the reigns as the National Sales Manager for WPWR-TV after just 2.5 years in the industry. Eric continued working in broadcast TV sales, going on to manage national sales for six TV stations within the Sinclair Broadcasting portfolio until leaving his position in 2008 and starting his second entrepreneurial venture.

Upon leaving Sinclair Broadcasting, Eric started a mobile technology company which specialized in SMS communication for local and regional business to consumer marketing. The business was quickly absorbed by competitor, which he then joined as the VP of Sales. With Eric at the helm of business development efforts, the company soared in revenue by 7x in just four years and purchased by a private equity company in 2012. Eric continued in his role until 2015 after the completion of the buyout obligation to launch his third entrepreneurial effort, SpeedPro Chicago Loop.

[SpeedPro Chicago Loop](#) is a NVBDC certified Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Business specializing in large-format digital printing company which encompasses corporate décor, brand activations, event signage, exhibits & trade show displays, wall, floor, window & ceiling murals, glass finishes, vehicle wraps, posters, banners, et al. Their client roster is broad, partnering with renowned brands to include, Live Nation, Samuel Adams, St. Jude, Allstate and literally hundreds more! Eric is a past President of the SpeedPro Imaging National Franchising Advisory Committee and sits on boards and in leadership roles for several veteran organizations to include Project Relo and Chicago Marines Foundation. His company is dedicated to being a great corporate citizen, donating product and services to many charitable organizations. SpeedPro Chicago Loop is a Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Business, two-time winner of national 'Project of the Year' and named Top 3 Sign Shop in Chicago for 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

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[Michelle Anschuetz](#)

Project RELO co-founder/ Business Development & Press Contact

Managing Director, Accenture

Veteran spouse, daughter, sister, and niece

Michelle Anschuetz has spent her career as a commercial leader for some of the world's greatest firms. From HPE to Oracle, and Aon to Ondine Biomedical, and now leads a team for Accenture which serves clients in the manufacturing, auto, industrial, consumer goods, retail and life sciences industries. A result, Michelle has diverse public and private industry expertise across a broad spectrum of solutions and technologies.

Leveraging her extensive experience in strategic planning and enterprise organizations, Michelle has become an asset for startup to midcap similar-sector companies looking for business strategy, go-to-market, business intelligence, and growth. This background, combined with her interest in market-disrupting innovation has landed her on several advisory boards, one of her favorites being Springboard, a highly-vetted network of innovators, investors and influencers who are dedicated to building high-growth technology-oriented companies led by women.

In addition to advising women startups and entrepreneurs, Michelle co-founded the innovative nonprofit Project RELO, an organization that helps veterans transition from military service to corporate careers through partnerships with executive business leaders. Influenced by a father and sister that served in the Navy, and a husband that is a Marine Corps veteran, Michelle plays an integral role in helping to educate corporations' most senior executives on the value and character of our former military members and the role they can play in the workforce.

Michelle is a proud mother of two young men and several thousand lavender plants on a small but growing organic, 'green' and sustainable farm in Northern Michigan.

[Doug Bryant](#)

Project RELO Alumni Lead Senior Engineer Specialist, Honeywell US Army, Captain 1996 - 2017

Doug is currently employed with Honeywell Federal Manufacturing & Technologies in Kansas City, Missouri as a Senior Engineering Support Specialist. Doug can trace his roots back to William Bradford who traveled to America by way of the Mayflower. Doug is a United States Army Veteran who served from 1996 to 2017 in various roles and responsibilities from Infantry Private to Military Police Captain. Doug possesses a comprehensive background in organizational security management, strategic planning, and personnel development derived from conducting domestic and global operations in numerous nations. Doug has extensive knowledge in team development, resource management, sensitive material handling, and operational planning. He is a recipient of multiple awards for outstanding performance and professionalism including two Bronze Star Medals. His career is supported by a Master's degree in Business and Organizational Security Management from Webster University.

In the late 90s, Doug deployed to Egypt for the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) international peacekeeping force that oversees the terms of the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. After 9/11 Doug deployed to Guantanamo Bay Cuba to provide security at the U.S. detention facility on the Naval Base. In 2007 Doug deployed to Regional Command East in Afghanistan for 15 months to assist with the professional development, training, and security of the Afghanistan National Police. Doug's last deployment was to Regional Command South in Afghanistan for 12 months where he again assisted with the professional development, training, and security of the Afghanistan National Police.

[Erik Ward](#)

Project RELO, Alumni Director of Innovation, Purafil US Army, Green Beret, 2002 - 2010

Erik grew up between Detroit and Chicago as the second oldest of seven kids. After graduating high school he worked for his family as a carpenter where he found himself on a job site on 9/11. When the military began to ramping up its recruiting in 2002, he was inspired to serve his country.

In 2003 Erik joined the United States Army as a Combat Engineer. After deploying to Iraq for more than a year, he attended Special Forces Assessment and Selection. Upon being selected, the Qualification Course began the two year journey to becoming a Green Beret. After graduation, Erik was stationed at 1st battalion 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) as a member of ODA 012, where he deployed multiple times to locations including Afghanistan and Western Africa. It was during a deployment in 2008 that Erik created his first product which would later be commercialized and become an integral part of the military equipment set.

Since leaving the military, Erik pursued his undergrad from Anderson University, while working in and leading innovation teams across industries, from medical supplies and military vehicles, to virtual reality and air filtration. After attending a Project RELO Mission in 2017 as a veteran instructor, he has remained involved in the mission of educating corporate America on the value of hiring veterans.

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Erik currently resides in the Atlanta area with his wife Julie and four children, Alexzander, Roman, Isabelle and Penelope. He enjoys hiking with his family and attending the kids sporting events.

[Yvette Esparza](#)

Project RELO, TFT Regional Lead, Washington
Owner, Nurse Practitioner, North End Medical Professional Group
Clinical Director Addiction Medicine, Sunrise Services
Owner, North End Fitness
US Navy, Lt. 1991- 2005

Yvette is currently the owner and head medical provider of North End Medical Professional Group serving the Northwest Puget Sound in Occupational Medicine and Chronic Pain. She is also the Director of Addiction Medicine at Sunrise Services which serves dual diagnosed individuals in multiple counties in the Northwest Puget Sound. She has dedicated her time in her community working in the mental health and addiction community and has worked as the Island County Jail and Juvenile Detention Center Medical director as well as providing outpatient care to those in need.

Her passion in health and fitness has led her to spending her off time from medicine owning and managing North End Fitness Center in Oak Harbor, Washington since 2005.

Yvette went to Purdue University and received her Bachelor of Science, Majoring in Biology and Chemistry, Minor in Psychology in December 1991. She then went on to continue her education at the University of Colorado, Beth-El College of Nursing and received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in May 1998. She later received her Master of Science in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner Degree in 2002.

While at Purdue University, Yvette was a member of the Navy ROTC program and graduated as a Distinguished Graduate and went active duty on December 16, 1991. During this time she was stationed at NORAD Space Command - Cheyenne Mountain Joint Command and specialized as an electronic warfare officer and space and missile specialist. While at NORAD she was a supportive role to movement of ground troops and provided support for the Space Shuttle and Missile Defense Programs. She entered the reserves in August 1998 and transferred into the Medical Corp and served as a Navy Field - Trauma Nurse supporting ground troop mobilization. She later transferred to NAS Whidbey and stayed active in the reserves at a LT in the medical department providing services to all active duty members until May 2005.

[Richard Sobota](#)

Project RELO, TFT Regional Lead - Ohio

Sales Director, Accenture

US Air Force, Captain 1983 - 1990

Over the past 25 years, Rich has been a business technology change agent working for the top IT services companies including Accenture, IBM, Capgemini and Cognizant providing professional services to the top Fortune 200 companies. Rich is a collaborative, results-oriented Senior Sales Executive with expertise in global business technology transformations and outsourcing with extensive experience in leading large strategic deals. Prior to his sales role, Rich was a trusted Systems Integration Delivery Executive where he successfully delivered innovative business systems across ERP, supply chains, production centers and customer services.

Rich is a graduate of the USAF Academy and held several key roles in winning the Cold War. As a newly minted lieutenant he worked as a Program Manager/ Test Engineer in the B-1B Bomber Program Office to ensure this critical strategic long-range bomber was ready for production and service. This high payload supersonic bomber flew critical missions in Operation Desert Fox, Operation Allied Force, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Rich's next assignment was Chief/ Captain of an Electronic Intelligence Branch, Strategic Intelligence Wing, Strategic Air Command where his team analyzed and exploited threat-radar systems. This exploitation analysis allows our military to develop superior radars, guidance and counter-measure systems used across all branches of our services which is in large part why our Air Forces and Navy dominate the skies and oceans where we guard and fight.

Away from the workplace, I am very active in my Church, and service my local communities on HOA boards and planning commissions.

I was drawn to Project RELO and Task Force Tribute as a way of serving the military once again. I come from a family of service to our Country with my grandfather, father and two brothers, along with my father-in-law having distinguished military careers. "I know that the freedom we enjoy today is because of the brave men and women of our military who risked and gave their lives protecting our nation. By sharing their career accomplishments and stories through TFT we will not only honor them but will also enrich our nation's history and character."

[Rene McBride](#)

Project RELO, Coordinator

CNA

US Coast Guard 1994 - 1999

Rene' McBride has been a stay-at-home mother of 5 children for the last 20 years. Now that all the children are in school or out of the house, she has the opportunity to start her second career as a CNA which ultimately will lead to being a Registered Nurse.

Rene's military family history goes back to the American Revolution. Serving and protecting her country and the American people is ingrained in her DNA. Her military career was short, but the experience was well loved. Unlike the majority of her past military family members, she chose to serve her country in the Coast Guard. She served as a Seaman (E-3) on the USCGC Hamilton WHEC-715 on the U.S. Coast Guard Base Terminal Island, San Pedro, CA while she studied and trained to become a Boatswain's Mate (BM). Just call her "boats" if you need her. She transferred to the U.S. Coast Guard Station Gulfport, Gulfport, MS as a BM3 (E-4). She was a master of seamanship and her knowledge spanned everything from small boat operations and navigating waterways to deck maintenance and supervising, training and directing the ships workforce.

Project RELO Board Members

[Christian Anschuetz](#)

**Project RELO, Chairman of the Board
USMC**

[<see above>>](#)

[Don Bright](#)

**Project RELO, Board Member and Treasurer
National Defense, Account Director - Microsoft
US AirForce 1996 - 2000**

Don Bright is a Microsoft Account Director, serving his two customers - Air National Guard and the Air Force. Don focuses on empowering National Defense customers, partners, warfighters, and industry to achieve the mission. Developing unique strategies across warfighting domains, weapons systems, sensors, and Cyberspace.

Prior to this role, Don managed several commercial accounts within Microsoft as Account Director and Sr. Account Strategist.

Don was born in Chicago and has 3 brothers and two sisters. His father Edward is a Korean War veteran and radioman and brother Kevin retired as a Colonel and is an Ear Nose and Throat surgeon. Don followed in their footsteps and joined the Air National Guard, in the Combat Comm Squadron.

Before joining Microsoft 13 years ago, Don worked in several corporate technology and leadership roles at Arthur Anderson, Caremark and Hewitt Associates. He holds a bachelor's degree from Devry University and Electrical Engineering Associates from Community College of the Air Force. Don lives in Chicago with his 3 sons and wife Nikki and enjoys family time and golf when he's not serving his customers.

[Shelli Nelson](#)

Project RELO, Secretary Managing Director, Madison Industries

Shelli is Managing Director of Talent Acquisition at Madison Industries. Madison Industries is one of the largest and most successful privately held companies in the world. Shelli has excelled in her career in Human Resources because she understands business strategies, building organizations that are structured to excel, recruiting and developing outstanding talent, and designing and executing innovative programs.

Shelli formerly served as President of the Board of Directors for the Chicago Society of Human Resources Management (Chicago SHRM). SHRM is the country's largest human resources professional society and a leader in the advancement of human resource management. In addition, Shelli led HR teams at Spot Trading, Ibbotson (Morningstar) and Legacy Marketing Partners. She is on the Board of Directors for Project RELO, a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating business executives on the benefits of hiring military veterans. Shelli is also a member of the International Women's Foundation (IWF) and is the co-host of the Innovation and Digital Enterprise podcast. Shelli graduated from Drake University and earned a master's degree in HR Management from Keller Graduate School.

[Sean Slattery](#)

Project RELO, Board Member Strategy Director, Palantir Technologies US Marines Corps

Sean Slattery recently joined the US Commercial Team at Palantir Technologies as Strategy Director in Dallas, Texas. Sean is responsible for patterning and collaborating with commercial firms to create bespoke technology solutions that solve complex business challenges - ranging from asset management to supply chain (industry agnostic) solutions. Previously, Sean had roles in financial technology (FinTech), real estate property technology (PropTech), and loan portfolio / investment management systems.

Prior to his corporate experiences, Sean was an Infantry Officer and Foreign Security Advisor in the US Marine Corps – completing four tours of duty in Afghanistan, South Pacific, & Middle Eastern Areas of Operation (AORs). He held billets ranging from Platoon Commander, Executive Officer, and Foreign Security Advisor. Sean holds an M.B.A. in Emerging Technology from the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD), and a B.S. in Economics from the University of Kentucky's Gatton School of Business.

[Jim Vaselopulos](#)

Project RELO, Board Member
Owner/founder, Rafti Advisors LLC

Jim Vaselopulos is a seasoned executive with a proven record as a rainmaker and new business development expert. With a reputation for principled leadership, strategic vision, and effective execution, Jim has built successful new enterprises and turned around underperforming organizations. Jim has been a consultant to many companies across nearly every industry. An entrepreneur at heart, Jim has started many companies, managed partnerships and participated in several well-orchestrated exits.

As the founder of Rafti Advisors LLC, Jim helps early stage companies get off on the right foot, growth stage companies push through plateaus and mature companies with strategic shifts and complex challenges.

Jim is a sought after executive coach focusing on leadership, strategy, business development, effective communications and professional development. He is a frequent speaker on leadership, sales, professionalism, networking and innovation. Jim volunteers regularly with veterans groups and business incubators. Jim is also co-host of [The Leadership Podcast](#)

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