

*Veterans Courts in Pennsylvania  
Ensuring Success for the Veteran*

Widener University Commonwealth Law School  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Friday, September 28, 2018

Bios of Speakers and Participants

**Lieutenant Governor Michael Stack** (quoted from <https://www.governor.pa.gov/lt-gov-mike-stack/>)

On January 20, 2015, Mike Stack was sworn in as Pennsylvania's 33rd lieutenant governor, and in that role serves as presiding officer of the Pennsylvania Senate. He also chairs the Board of Pardons and was appointed by Governor Wolf to chair the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Council.

Lt. Gov. Mike Stack is a former Captain in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard and a graduate of the U.S. Armed Forces Officers Basic Course. He also served as a Judge Advocate General (JAG) for the 28th Infantry Division. Before being elected as lieutenant governor, he served as a member of the Pennsylvania State Senate representing the 5th District, which includes Northeast Philadelphia, Bridesburg, and portions of Port Richmond and Juanita Park, from 2001 to 2015. As a senator, Lt. Gov. Stack was the Democratic chair of the Banking and Insurance Committee and a member of the Aging and Youth, Communications and Technology, Judiciary, Local Government, and Policy committees.

Lt. Gov. Stack earned his law degree from Villanova University Law School in 1992. He is a graduate of LaSalle College High School and of LaSalle University. During the administration of Governor Robert P. Casey, Lt. Gov. Stack was executive deputy director of the Pennsylvania Medical Professional Liability Catastrophic Loss Fund.

Lt. Gov. Stack is a member of the Philadelphia Board of City Trusts, co-chair of the Philadelphia Veterans' Court Advisory Committee, and a Fellow of the University of Pennsylvania Leadership Academy of the Fels Institute of Government. He serves on the Board of Trustees of Temple University. He is also a member of the Chilean & American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Philadelphia, Officer Daniel Boyle Division 88 Chapter of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and Shaare Shamayim Men's Club.

**Major General Anthony J. Carrelli, Adjutant General of Pennsylvania**

Brigadier General Anthony J. Carrelli assumed duties as the Deputy Adjutant General-Air, Pennsylvania National Guard, Joint Force Headquarters on January 22, 2013. He serves as the primary advisor to The Adjutant General on all matters pertaining to air operations and as commander of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard. He is responsible for overall operational

readiness and ensuring that the 4,100 assigned members are trained and equipped to successfully accomplish their federal and state missions.

General Carrelli graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy with a Bachelor of Science Degree and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1985. He completed undergraduate pilot training at Reese Air Force Base, Texas, followed by several flying assignments as an A-10 pilot. He served in the active duty Air Force for several years as a T-37, AT-38 and A-10 pilot.

Following his release from active duty, General Carrelli joined the Pennsylvania Air National Guard in 1999. He has deployed in numerous operations to include Desert Storm, Southern Watch, and most recently Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

General Carrelli has completed Air Command and Staff College and Air War College. His military decorations include: the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with two devices, Air Medal with five devices, Aerial Achievement Medal with five devices, Air Force Commendation Medal with three devices, Air Force Achievement Medal with one device, Gallant Unit Citation, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Award, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with seven devices and Valor, National Defense Service with one device, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with two devices, Southwest Asia Service Medal with one device, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with two devices, Iraq Campaign Medal with one device, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Air Force Overseas Ribbon with one device, Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with two devices and gold border, Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with four devices, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with multiple devices, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with one device, Air Force Training Ribbon, Pennsylvania Distinguished Service Medal, Pennsylvania State Service Medal, Pennsylvania Major General Thomas R. White, Jr. Medal, and Pennsylvania Thomas J. Stewart Medal. He is a command pilot with more than 4,500 flying hours in the A-10, T-37, T-38, AT-38B and KC-135 aircraft.

General Carrelli has served as commander of the 111th Fighter Wing, Horsham, and commander of the 171st Air Refueling Wing, Pittsburgh International Airport. (copied from <https://www.governor.pa.gov/administration-announces-acting-adjutant-general>)

### **Justice James J. Fitzgerald**

Former Justice of Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Senior Judge on the Pennsylvania Superior Court. Former judge on Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. Former chief counsel to Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board.

### **Melissa Fitzpatrick**

In November 2013, Melissa Fitzgerald joined Justice For Vets, a division of National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) as its new Senior Director, she will be expanding her role at NADCP's and leading the soon to be launched global initiative to lead justice reform called, Advancing Justice. As an actor, Melissa is best known for her seven-year role as Carol on the television series *The West Wing*, but off-screen she is widely recognized as a courageous advocate for people in need. Melissa is co-founder of Voices in Harmony, a non-profit mentoring organization that uses theater to work with under-served teens in Los Angeles.

In 2007, Melissa traveled to war-torn Northern Uganda to bring the Voices in Harmony theater program to former abducted child soldiers and other teenagers affected by the region's brutal rebel war. The Voices in Harmony program in Northern Uganda resulted in the award winning film. *After Kony: Staging Hope*. The experience opened her eyes to the lingering impact of war.

In 2011, Melissa co-executive produced *Halfway Home*, a documentary featuring Vietnam War veteran and former U.S. Senator Max Cleland and Silver Star recipient and Iraq War veteran, Sgt. Tommy Rieman joining other veterans in recounting their experience in war and their struggle to reintegrate and recover upon returning home. "Although most veterans are strengthened by their military service, my experience working on *Halfway Home* personalized the struggle of many veterans who are having difficulty reintegrating. I have followed the development of veterans treatment courts closely and know that there is no better way for me to be of service to veterans than by devoting myself to the expansion of these life-saving programs," said Melissa. "I am deeply honored and grateful to have the opportunity to be part of Justice For Vets, an organization that is having such a profound impact on the lives of veterans and their families."

(copied from Justice for Vets website)

### **Judge Craig Trebilcock**

Craig Trebilcock is a judge on the York County Court of Common Pleas in Pennsylvania. He was elected in 2011 to a term that expires in 2022. Trebilcock has served as the pro bono counsel on the U.S. Supreme Court for Mr. Albert Snyder in his case against the Westboro Baptist Church. He has served a judicial clerk for the U.S. Department of Labor administrative appeals judges. He has worked as a prosecutor and private practice attorney for 24 years. Trebilcock earned his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School in 1985

### **Judge Patrick F. Dugan**

Judge Patrick Duggan is a Philadelphia Municipal Court Judge. He was a Captain in the U.S. Army Reserves JAG Corps. He presides over the veterans court in Philadelphia.

**Joe Sklarosky, Jr.** is a judge on the [Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas](#) in [Pennsylvania](#). He was elected in 2011 and his term expires in 2021. Sklarosky earned his undergraduate degree from King's College summa cum laude. He earned his J.D. cum laude from Widener University School of Law. Skolarosky serves as the assistant county public defender for Luzerne County. He has also worked as a private practice attorney.

**Kelly Cesari**, Treatment Court Coordinator, Luzerne County

**Angela Lowry** – Problem Solving Courts Coordinator, Administrative Offices of Pennsylvania Courts

**Andrew M. Simpson**, Judicial Programs Analyst, Veterans Courts, Administrative Offices of Pennsylvania Courts

**Sarah Primak**, MSW, Veterans Outreach Specialist, Lebanon VA Medical Center

