

VETERANS LAW CAREER PANEL



AMY KRETKOWSKI



CHESLEY ROBERTS



RYAN HARRISON

Amy Kretkowski: Amy Kretkowski is a veterans law attorney in private practice and an Adjunct Lecturer of Veterans Benefits Law at the University of Iowa College of Law. She began her career in veterans' law in 2009 as a judicial law clerk at the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (CAVC) in Washington, DC. In 2011, she returned to Iowa to represent veterans and their families in their appeals for VA benefits. She's on the Board of Directors of the National Organization for Veterans' Advocates; a mentoring attorney with The Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program; a member of the National Law School Veterans Clinic Consortium; and a member of the Iowa State Bar Association's Military Affairs Committee. She is a frequent speaker at national veterans' law and judicial conferences and conducts annual trainings for Iowa's county veterans' service officers and other veterans' service groups across the country. She is admitted to practice in Iowa and before the CAVC, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Chesley Roberts: Chesley Roberts serves as the Deputy Director for The Veterans Consortium's Legal Assistance Programs. She began working at TVC in 2020 as an Equal Justice Works Fellow, sponsored by Lockheed Martin Corporation. During her fellowship, Chesley managed TVC's Women Veterans Legal Assistance Program (WVLAP) and focused on the unique legal issues women veterans face. In her current role, Chesley manages WVLAP, where she assists women veterans, who are survivors of Military Sexual Trauma, with their claims for VA disability compensation. She also manages our Veterans Naturalization Assistance Program (VNAP), which assists veterans who are applying for U.S. citizenship through their military service. Chesley is a graduate of Florida State University (B.S. 2017) and Stetson University College of Law (J.D. 2020). While in law school, Chesley worked at Stetson's Veteran Advocacy Clinic in St. Petersburg, Florida. She assisted veterans who were appealing decisions denying VA disability benefits.

Ryan Harrison: Ryan Harrison is a 2019 graduate of Syracuse University College of Law (J.D.) and a 2015 graduate of Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri (B.A.). During law school, he participated in the Syracuse Veterans Legal Clinic and the National Veterans Law Moot Court Competition. In the summer before his 3L year, he interned with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Court of Appeals Litigation Group. Following law school, he accepted a position as an Appellate Attorney in the same office. Over the last five years, Ryan had handled hundreds of appeals defending the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in litigation before the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. His work primarily involves negotiating with opposing counsel on joint motions for remand, drafting briefs on behalf of the Secretary, consulting with VA stakeholders on policy and litigation positions, and participating in oral arguments before the Court.

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 AT 1:00 PM CST
VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS VIDEO**

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