

**2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios**

**Scott Aken**  
**CEO, Axellio inc.**

*Scott Aken joined Axellio as Chief Executive Officer in 2022. Scott brings a wealth of expertise and a passion for securing and defending against cyber threats with more than 20 years in cybersecurity and mobile technologies. Prior to joining Axellio, Scott was president of Charon Technologies, a subsidiary of CACI International, where he more than doubled profit and significantly increased revenue in less than two years. During his nine-year tenure at Charon Technologies, his team added 20 unique security technology products to the company's portfolio, with immediate impact to government and commercial customers. Earlier in his career, Aken held key leadership roles in L-3 Communications and SAIC, developing corporate-wide cyber strategies and cyber product and solution offerings and determining key cyber investments. He built his cyber expertise as a former Special Agent with the FBI through numerous cyber counterintelligence computer intrusion investigations and was a member of their elite Cyber Action Team. Prior to his career at the FBI, Aken spent nine years working in the software and Internet industry, holding leadership positions at VeriSign/Network Solutions, GE Information Services, and Manugistics, Inc, a JDA Software company. Scott holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from The Ohio State University and is a graduate of GE's Technical Leadership Program. He has had roles on the Advisory Boards for MACH37, Air Patrol, and SafeGov.org.*



**Reggie Ash III**  
**Vice President, Caliola Engineering, LLC**

*Reggie is a retired U.S. Air Force Colonel, having served over 24 years as a cyber officer. He commanded Communications Squadrons at Travis AFB, California and Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. He served at the U.S. State Department as the Senior Military Advisor for European and Eurasian Affairs. In his final assignment, Reggie commanded the 21st Mission Support Group, leading the six squadrons that manage Peterson AFB and supported Cheyenne Mt AFS, NORAD, NORTHCOM, and AF Space Command. Since retiring from the U.S. Air Force, Reggie was a leader in the nonprofit world. He created Colorado's first military themed charter school, and he led the Colorado Springs defense business community at the Chamber & EDC. He serves on the Boards of Directors of the Colorado Springs Military Affairs Council, and the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association.*

**2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios****Andrea Barker*****HB&A Principal and Director of Business Development***

*Born and raised in Colorado, Barker is a graduate of Denver's Manual High School, alma mater of Denver current mayor. But Barker doesn't have political aspirations. She just wants to quietly save the world through sustainable living. Barker is big on the environment. She composts, has no grass in her yard, grows a vegetable garden, and rides her bike almost everywhere. But browbeating about sustainability just isn't her style. And she helps others live it through her work at HB&A, Architecture and Planning. As part owner and director of business development at the firm, Barker has helped*

*secure several large projects for the firm including the Fort Lupton Readiness Center for the Colorado Army National Guard, a Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certified building. Barker serves on the Downtown Partnership's sustainability committee, an organization that hopes to bring more mixed-use housing to the city's central core. She plays an active role at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, both as a moderator and volunteer on the church's capital campaign. She's a member of the 2012 signature class of Leadership Pikes Peak. She is also Chairwoman of the CSCEDC Board of Directors.*

**Patrick Barret*****CEO, Catalyst Campus for Technology and Innovation***

*As CEO of Catalyst Campus for Technology & Innovation, Patrick leads a diverse team of professionals that create a collaborative ecosystem where industry, academia, small business, workforce training, entrepreneurs, startups, and venture capital intersect with Colorado's aerospace and defense industry to create community, spark innovation, and stimulate business growth. Catalyst Campus provides an infrastructure platform for small businesses to support the rapid innovation of technology to solve operational needs for the warfighter.*

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**Renee Behr**  
**Broker/Owner, Behr & Behr**

*Renee has been working alongside her husband Ed since they were married in 1987. She was a mom first but was able to work part-time while the kids were in school. Now the kids are gone and as a licensed Real estate broker she is able to multitask a variety of tasks with showing properties, writing contracts, keeping the office organized and the central contact person in listening and providing care of the client's needs. Renee's heart's desire is to connect their clients to the right home and in the community. Community involvement is also a passion of hers and in 1997 she founded a non-profit to enhance the relationship between fathers and daughters. A Daughter's heart offers an annual father daughter dinner dance for 1800 attendees.*



**Robert Beletic**  
**Aerospace and Defense Industry Manager OEDIT**

*Robert Beletic is a retired Air Force general and highly-decorated, combat-proven commander and fighter pilot and has over 25 years of senior executive experience in all aspects of strategy, operations, and financial management for governmental and private organizations. That has included a wide range of strategic military and defense roles, including Strategist for the UAE Ministry of Defense, Director of Operations for the Canadian Air Force, and Commander of a USAF Fighter Wing. After serving half his career overseas and retiring from the Air Force in 2013, Beletic and his family selected Colorado as their permanent home. In Denver, Robert served as a vice president in financial services, taught physics and coached robotics at Regis Jesuit High School, and spent a year in defense consulting in the Middle East. Beletic graduated from the Air Force Academy with a BS Aeronautical Engineering. He has since added a Master of Public Administration, Master of Aeronautical Science, and most recently in 2015, a Master of Finance from University of Denver. Beletic most recently served as ATP's Executive Director of Defense Relationships, a United States Air Force and United States Space Force adjunct professor and a certified kitesurfing instructor. As Aerospace and Defense Industry Manger, Beletic will connect, convene, and build trusting relationships between all sectors of the ecosystem, including federal, state, and local governments, research and development institutions, investors, trade associations, and the general public. He will also support Lt. Gov. Dianne Primavera in her role as the National Chair of the Aerospace States Association and the co-chair of the Colorado Space Coalition. Beletic's work will be vital for Colorado to address the industry's unique and complex need to integrate national security, civil, and commercial space infrastructure and actors into our aerospace and defense-focused economic development efforts.*

**2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios****Kathy Boe*****Strategic Consultant and Board Member, Boecore, Inc.,***

*Kathy is an award-winning entrepreneur, engineer, and leader who has worked in support of the Department of Defense for 25+ years. Kathy's career began at Hughes Aircraft, where she worked as a Software Programmer. In 2000, after several years of experience within the defense engineering industry, Kathy decided to start her own business and launched Boecore. Throughout the past 21 years, Boecore has expanded far beyond its original office space to a successful Aerospace and Defense Engineering Solutions Company providing mission-critical capabilities to an extensive list of defense customers. Kathy has led the company to receive numerous industry awards as well as becoming one of the top three defense companies in 2020 rated by Colorado Springs Business Journal. Alongside several Top Supplier awards from Northrop Grumman, Boecore also won the Colorado Springs Chamber and EDC's Company of the Year award in 2013. Kathy was named Business Leader of the Year from Southern Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce and received the Colorado Springs Entrepreneur of the Year award in 2009. Most recently Kathy was named an Honorary Commander at the United States Air Force Academy. She currently serves as a Trustee for the Colorado Thirty Group, the National Cybersecurity Center, and the Colorado Springs Health Foundation.*

**Scott Bryan*****CEO, Bryan Construction***

*Scott began his career in construction as a field engineer and project manager before founding Bryan Construction. Since then, Scott Bryan continues to lead the company as Chief Executive Officer. His dynamic leadership guides the company as we reach new heights in our mission for Performance Excellence. As an active member of his community, Scott gives his time to various civic and charitable organizations such as the Pikes Peak Range Riders and the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Foundation.*



## 2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios

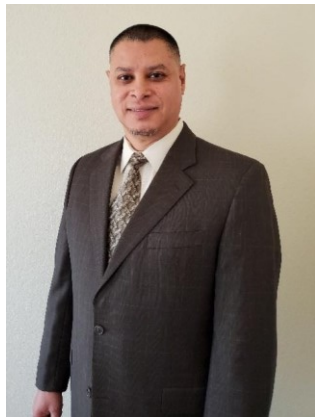


**Brian Burns**

***President and the Board of Directors, Bryan Construction***

*Brian Burns currently serves as President and the Board of Directors at Bryan Construction, a Colorado Springs-based commercial general contractor with offices in Denver and Fort Collins. Brian is a dynamic leader with a passion for growth, innovation, and client relationships, with more than 25 years of experience in the construction industry. In his roles at Bryan Construction, he has managed everything from operations and pre-construction to finance, legal, risk, and strategic planning. Brian also currently serves as Chair of the Board of Directors of the YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region, where he has served since*

*2019. Brian is also the past chair of Associated General Contractors for Southern Colorado, and still serves on as a committee member. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Construction Management from Colorado State University, with whom Bryan Construction often partners to provide internships and career opportunities for the newest members of the AEC industry.*



**Ernest M. Campos**

***CSIO L3Harris Technologies***

*Ernest M. Campos is a Global Chief Information Security Officer (CISO), Cybersecurity Scientist, and Corporate Senior Manager. He currently works for L3Harris Technologies as a Program CISO for the USSF MOSSAIC program. Previously, he co-founded and served as President and COO of Incline Cyber Solutions, LLC (SDVOSB, EDWOSB, and SDB) and was a Public-Sector Practice Principal for the Hewlett-Packard Co within the Intelligence Community. He has spent over thirty (30) years specializing in the design and implementation of complex computing solutions. Throughout his career, Ernest has supported numerous Federal organizations including: The White House, The Central*

*Intelligence Agency, The National Reconnaissance Office, The National Counter-Terrorism Center, The Federal Bureau of Investigation, The Department of Homeland Security, The Department of State, and others. Prior to joining industry, Ernest served 11-years in the U.S. Air Force as a White House Communications, Senior Information Systems Technology Lead. Ernest holds a MS in Information Systems Technology with an emphasis on Cybersecurity from George Washington University and a BS in Business Management with an emphasis on Organizational Information Systems from National – Louis University. Certifications amassed include C/CISO, Federal CIO, PMP, CISSP, Security+, ITIL, and others.*

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**Samuel Clark**

***Pikes Peak Community Foundation***

*Samuel Clark is the Executive Director of the Pikes Peak Real Estate Foundation, which includes oversight of Aspen Valley Ranch and Venetucci Farm. His public-sector experience includes his work with El Pomar Foundation and the National Parks Service Business Management Group. He joined the Real Estate Foundation out of his desire to see our region's built environment and conserved space reflect the values that make this area unique. Samuel grew up in Colorado Springs; he loves the city's potential and Pikes Peak's constant presence. He has a BA in economics from Whitman College,*

*and a Master of Public Affairs from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.*



**Andy Colosimo**

***Government and Corporate Affairs Manager, Colorado Springs Utilities***

*Andy joined the Colorado Springs Utilities in 2002 and is responsible for all state and federal legislative activities affecting Colorado Springs Utilities including water, wastewater and gas and electricity issues. Andy serves on the Board of Directors of the National Water Resources Association, the Colorado Water Congress and chairs the Federal Affairs Committee. He spent more than seven years working in Washington, D.C. and Colorado on energy and natural resources for U.S. Senator's Bill Armstrong and Wayne Allard. Andy was*

*born in Grand Junction and has a BA from the University of Utah.*

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**Mike Coy**  
**MLC Enterprises**

*Splitting his time between Colorado Springs & Austin, TX, Mike serves quite a diverse audience of people. All professions serious in wanting the education and information to learn more about specific solutions to How Employee Benefits make a difference in YOUR business, needs Mike's experience and expertise. Mike is a Registered Financial Consultant + a Certified Professional Behavioral Analyst. He brings the knowledge, experience, & expertise of 45+ years in this business to help you make the right decisions. Mike is a best-selling author & a much sought after public speaker. His various topics & motivational talks bring audiences to their feet. He is a Past-President of the Austin Westlake Chamber of Commerce and currently a Senior Benefits Consultant with Aflac for the past 45+ years.*



**Stephanie Dillon Edwards**  
**Executive Vice President, Gold Hill Mesa**

*Experienced Executive, Community Leader, and Board Member with demonstrated success working in Building Community, skilled in Business and Land Development, Strategic Planning, Marketing Communications, Media Management, Advertising, and Planning Epic Events.*



**Jamie Fabos-Leaverton**  
**General Manager of Public Affairs, Colorado Springs Utilities.**

*Jamie Fabos recently joined Colorado Springs Utilities as the General Manager of public affairs overseeing PR, Economic Development and Community Relations for the municipally owned organization. Prior to that she served as the Chief Communications Officer for Mayor John Suthers with the City of Colorado Springs. There she was charged with handling the City's brand communications strategy, publicity and public information as the City was named the most desirable city in America four years running. Jamie joined the City after a 20 year career in sports PR including handling public relations for USA Swimming and USA Hockey through four Olympic Games, serving as the press contact for the New York Islanders, and a colorful stint handling media relations for two minor league hockey teams. Jamie is married to Kelly Leaverton and is proud mom and stepmom to two kids and two young adults.*

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**Ron Fitch, P.E.**

***President, UCHealth Pikes Peak Regional Hospital and Grandview Hospital***

*Ron Fitch was appointed VP of Operations and Military Affairs in 2018. He brings more than two decades of leadership experience to UCHealth after retiring as a Colonel and serving nearly 24 years in the military. Most recently he served as Garrison Commander at Fort Carson, where his responsibilities included public works, emergency services, security, and all training apparatus on the post. His Army Special Forces background also includes numerous deployments to*

*high-risk areas around the globe and several high-level positions centering on strategic and operational planning. COL Fitch has received numerous awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, and the Bronze Star. He holds a Professional Engineer Registration in the State of Missouri, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University, a Master of Science in Engineering Management from the University of Missouri-Rolla, a Master of Science in International Relations from Troy University, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the US Army War College.*



**Bobby Frazee**

***Owner and CFO, Frazee Construction***

*Bobby Frazee is a Colorado-based civil infrastructure constructor with more than 16 years of experience in the infrastructure and homebuilding industry. Bobby is one of two owners and is the acting CFO of Colorado Springs based- third generation Frazee Construction Co. Frazee Construction is one of the state's largest and longest standing pipeline contractors. Since 1946 Frazee Construction has been an industry leader in infrastructure construction and development for commercial, government, and residential projects. Bobby currently volunteers with the local Kids on Bikes Non- Profit. He is a hockey coach for the Monument Rampage U10 hockey program as well as coaching with the Landsharks Running Club of Colorado Springs. Bobby and his wife, Michelle, live in Colorado Springs and have two children.*



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**Kent Fortune**  
**Chair, Military Affairs Council**

*Kent Fortune retired as the Regional Vice President of USAA's Colorado Springs Campus in December 2021, after a 32+ year career. His last position provided leadership to approximately 1,800+ employees across Colorado Springs as well as 750 Insurance Service Professionals across other USAA locations. Since 2011, he has served as the senior officer responsible for site management, community affairs, employee safety, business continuation, philanthropic support, and military/government relations. One of Kent's focus areas was on the overall culture of the campus. Kent is still active in the community and state. He is the Chair of the Colorado Springs Military Affairs Council (MAC). He is a board member of the University of Colorado (CU) Foundation, the Colorado*

*Springs Chamber and EDC, and First Tee of Southern Colorado. He was appointed by the Mayor to the Colorado Springs Health Foundation Board this year. He was the Chair of the Board for the Pikes Peak United Way (2014-2017) and participated in the Colorado Chamber of Commerce Execs Advocacy Program (2019). He was a mentor for UCCS Boots to Suits program and facilitated the UCCS "Leader U" program—a leadership class for UCCS athletes. Kent was named the Colorado Springs Chamber Business Citizen of the Year in 2017, and Colorado Springs Business Journal's "Healthiest Executive" in 2016. Kent is married to Stephannie and together they enjoy traveling and giving back to the community any way that they can.*



**Stephannie Fortune**  
**Councilmember, District 3**

*Stephannie's career started in a family-owned business distributing food to the military. During that time, she discovered her passion for public service and politics as a young volunteer. She went on to have an exhilarating career in public policy, government, community development and business, working early in her career for the White House in Presidential Advance; serving as Chief of Staff for a Colorado Congressman representing the western slope and Pueblo; ascending to Assistant Director at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment; working with the President of the University of*

*Colorado System; Chief of Staff for the Lt. Governor under Governor Bill Owens; was recruited to Colorado Springs to become the Chamber of Commerce's President of Governmental Affairs and Public Policy along with executive director of the Center for Regional Advancement and a special advisor to the Chamber Political Action Committee; and working for the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Colorado Colorado Springs; and building community in Colorado Springs until starting her own business. Stephannie has been blessed with incredible experiences that gave her the opportunity to have a positive effect on the communities that she's very proud to have served. She started Spark and Soar to help executives and individuals in transition arrive at clarity, solve complex problems, and secure professions and opportunities meant especially for them. Stephannie was recently appointed to serve the residents of District 3 on the Colorado Springs City Council.*

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**Jenifer Furda**

***Director of Partnerships & Governmental Affairs & Military Liaison ,  
University of Colorado Colorado Springs***

*Jenifer is the Director of Partnerships and Governmental Affairs for the University of Colorado Colorado Springs. She has a bachelor's and a master's degree from the University of Northern Colorado. Jenifer has held previous leadership positions at the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce, Colorado Springs Business Journal, National Cybersecurity Center, and Kaiser Permanente Colorado. She currently serves on the Pikes Peak United Way and Downtown Partnership Board of Directors. Jenifer has been in the Colorado Springs community since 1988, her husband Jon and two teenage children Rhyann and Wyatt enjoy everything that Colorado has to offer.*



**Mr. Michael Gaal**

***Superintendent District 11***

*Michael Gaal is an accomplished leader with over 30 years of service-centered experience across multiple sectors and disciplines. Before coming to D11, Michael served as Deputy Chancellor, DC Public Schools; Chief of Staff, Oakland Unified School District; and Chief Operations Officer and Elementary Superintendent, Education Achievement Authority of Michigan. His private sector experience includes President of Sales for an education technology company, and Chief Operations Officer and later President of an energy management company, primarily supporting school districts and universities. Michael is a retired Air Force Colonel with deep experience in in-flight instruction, mobility operations, and national strategic policy development. Michael's student's first mantra and understanding of the needs of schools and students drive his urgency and passion for ensuring all students are loved.*

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**Longinos Gonzalez Jr.**

***Board of County Commissioners, District 4***

*Longinos Gonzalez, Jr. serves District 4 on the Board of County Commissioners. His district encompasses southern and eastern El Paso County. Graduating from the Air Force Academy in 1992, Longinos returned to Colorado Springs because of his love for the outdoors and beauty of the region, particularly the mountainous Front Range. He enjoys hiking in our areas' great parks and trails and is an avid fisherman and tennis player. His background includes a 20-year career as an Air Force Intelligence officer, retiring as a Lt.*

*Colonel in 2012. Longinos has a Master's Degree in science education and he was a teacher with Harrison School District 2 prior to his election.*



**Rodney Gullatte, Jr**

***Firma IT Solutions and Services, LLP***

*Firma IT Solutions was started by community leader and US Air Force Veteran, Certified Ethical Hacker and Network Defense Architect, Rodney Gullatte, Jr. When the job market would not cooperate in Key West, FL, he decided to take matters into his own hands and start a business. With a background in Information Technology and Cybersecurity that includes the Department of Defense, retail, healthcare, casinos, utility companies and more, Rodney has developed a company that brings enterprise technology solutions to small businesses. Law firms, accounting firms, architect firms, museums, and marinas are just a few of the clients that Firma IT Solutions has transformed. Since arriving to Colorado Springs 7 years ago Rodney has hit the ground running. He is the First Black President of the Rotary Club of Colorado Springs and is the President/CEO of the newly revived Colorado*

*Springs Black Chamber of Commerce. He serves on the boards of the Colorado Springs Chamber and EDC, Colorado Springs Conservatory, Better Business Bureau of Southern Colorado and the Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region. He is also cybersecurity consultant for the Pikes Peak SBDC. He was won numerous awards and accolades during this time in Colorado Springs. Most recently he is a 2022 Colorado Governor's Fellow and Honorary Commander for the US Air Force Academy.*

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**Andrew Gunning**

**Executive Director, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG)**

*Mr. Gunning has over 30 years of experience in community planning and regional collaboration. Since 2018, he has been the Executive Director of the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG), which serves the three-county region of El Paso, Teller and Park counties. PPACG coordinates transportation planning, air and water quality coordination, planning around military installations, and coordinates senior service needs through the Area Agency on Aging. PPACG also administers the regional Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority (PPRTA) for its member jurisdictions. Prior to joining PPACG, he was the Planning Director for the City of Rockville, Maryland, a suburb in the Washington D.C. area. He was the Director of Planning for the Pima Association of Governments in Tucson, Arizona, and he earned a master's degree in City and Regional Planning from Clemson University.*



**Kate Hatten**

**Executive Director, Peak Care Military Network**

*As executive director of Peak Care Military Network, Kate Hatten knows firsthand what it's like to move frequently to a new community as a military spouse. She remembers her own experience coming to Colorado Springs when her husband was stationed in the Air Force. While she says some people embrace a new environment with no struggle, others find it terrifying and lonely. It becomes a huge leap of faith. For that reason, Hatten said she is passionate about supporting local veterans, service members and their families. With a background in local government, she leads the nonprofit that links veterans and active-duty personnel to local resources through a centralized network of information.*



**Nancy Henjum**

**Councilmember, District 5**

*Nancy Henjum is a 30-year resident of City Council District 5. Her dad was Joe Henjum, an Air Force pilot who was an instructor at the Air Force Academy where Nancy spent several years of her childhood. She received her Master of Social Work degree from Loyola University in Chicago, where she worked as a clinical therapist before moving with her husband to start a family in Colorado Springs. She and her husband, Steve Kern, a retired schoolteacher, have raised two children, now grown. Nancy's professional life in Colorado has included being the Chief Operations Officer for a public-private partnership that managed behavioral health services for 43 of the 63 counties in the state. She was also a faculty member at the Center for Creative Leadership, engaging in leadership development and executive coaching. She runs her own leadership consultancy business, working with a wide variety of organizations, both large and small, including energy companies, arts groups, non-profits, and civic entities.*



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**Natasha Hutson**  
***Business Access Adviser, US bank***

*Natasha currently serves as Business Access Advisor with US Bank, creating strong client relationships with minority business owners which are based on trust and a dedication to growth and sustainability. In this role Natasha also assists business owners navigate and access resources with local small business support organizations and recommends US Bank solutions based on each client's unique goals and needs.*

*Natasha currently serves as Treasurer of the Southern Colorado Springs Women's Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Child Advocate Peer Coordinator for CASA, member of the Proud to Serve and Development Network Boards of US Bank, and volunteers with Care and Share Foodbank and United Way.*



**Ann Kidd**  
***Pikes Peak Association of Realtors***

*Realtor, Ann Kidd, like many Colorado Springs residents, has strong ties to the military. As a child, she traveled from place to place with her father, who was in the Air Force. Upon marrying her husband, she continued the military lifestyle with Don who also had a career in the Air Force. Together they have two children, Eric and Courtney, and a beautiful granddaughter named Rylee. Of course, Ann says, her family would not be complete without Tornado, their orange barn cat from North Dakota; Bonnie their Scottish Terrier from Wyoming, and Duke, the Pitbull from hell.*

*Before venturing into real estate, Ann spent 25 years as a Special Education teacher. Her military lifestyle gave her the opportunity to teach around the globe. She finished out her teaching career here in Colorado Springs at Air Academy High School in Academy District 20. For pleasure, Ann loves to go antiquing, paint and draw. She enjoys conceptualizing projects for her home and then seeing them through to fruition. After retiring from teaching, Ann began her career in real estate in 2005.*

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**Don Kidd**  
**Chief, Space Operations; Omitron, Inc**

*Don retired from the U.S. Air Force with nearly 27 years of service and is recognized as an operational expert in fighter operations, space surveillance, space control, missile warning and defense, and base/installation management. Previous military assignments included staff positions in the headquarters of Air Training Command, the United States Air Force Academy, Air Force Space Command and The Joint Staff. He commanded at the squadron and group level and served as the Executive Officer to both the Vice Commander and the Commander of Air Force Space Command as well as the Superintendent of the Air Force Academy; he also served as Speechwriter to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.*

*Don obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from St. Vincent College in Latrobe, Pennsylvania; an MBA from National University; a master's degrees in Strategic Studies from The Air War College; is also a licensed Realtor and is a certified Design Thinking instructor through MIT's Sloan School.*



**Jessie Kimber**  
**Special Assistant to the Mayor of Colorado Springs for Military Affairs**

*Jessie Kimber serves as the Military Advisor to Mayor John Suthers and chairs the Military Spouse Career Coalition. Jessie is a retired Naval Intelligence Officer with more than 24 years of distinguished military service. A designated Joint Qualified Officer, she served in a variety of command, leadership, and analytic positions while stationed aboard U.S. Naval warships, four U.S. Combatant Commands, the Defense Intelligence Agency and multiple deployments. A native of Colorado, she graduated from the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Anthropology in May 1998. She received her commission through Officer Candidate School and was designated a Surface Warfare Officer in October 1998 and an Intelligence Officer in 2005. She received a Master of Arts in Military Studies from the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College in 2014. She is a 2019 graduate of the U.S. Naval War College, Mahan Scholar, with a Master of Arts in Strategic Studies and a sub-specialty in strategic deterrence. In addition to her military portfolio, Jessie is the Director of the Mayor's Civic Leader Fellowship and leads the Olympic City USA Task Force.*

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**Keith Klaehn**

**Chairman, Defense Mission Task Force**

*Keith is an Army Retiree of some 21 years Aviation service. He was the 2016 Chairman of the Colorado Springs Military Affairs Council and of its Board of Advisors during its 75th Anniversary Year, and presently serves an indefinite term as the Chairman (only the 4th in its 25-year history) of the very impactful Defense Mission Task Force (DMTF). The DMTF works in concert with the Military Community Support Organizations and government at all levels to develop relationships and programs to improve the ability of all Colorado military installations to execute and grow*

*their missions. In the 20 years since retiring from active duty, Keith has become a fixture as an advocate for our military community, one of the largest in the nation, with its five local installations and multiple Army, Air Force, Joint and Bi-National Commands. In each of these last 20 years, and most recently multiple times a year, Keith has traveled to our nation's Capital either of his own accord or with the Chamber of Commerce's annual Legislative Action Mission for meetings in the Pentagon, on Capitol Hill or with Senior Defense Industry Leaders.*



**Chuck Lesnick**

**Vice President, Relocation Management Associates Inc.**

*Chuck Lesnick has worked for RMA at various points during his career when he was not working in public service. He is the former Deputy Counsel & Assistant Commissioner for the New York State Homes & Community Renewal. He started the Lesnick OZ Fund in 2019 and is a partner in Veterans Victory. The former Yonkers City Council President, Lesnick championed adaptive re-use of historic buildings, smart growth &*

*transit-oriented development, and a robust Affordable Housing Ordinance. In a previous stint as Yonkers Director of Economic Development, he helped plant the seeds of the current waterfront downtown renaissance by obtaining funds to restore the historic Yonkers City Pier and led the efforts to obtain and restore Federal and state Economic Development Zone designations. He has a BA in Economics & Political Science from Yale, a Masters in Policy Analysis & Economic Development from Princeton's School of Public & International Affairs, and a JD from the NYU School of Law.*

**2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios****Hayley McGuire*****Regional Strategic Partnership Field Office Leader, Boeing***

*Ms. Hayley McGuire leads the Boeing Air Force and Space Partnership Office supporting key government customers in the regions of Colorado and Southern California. Prior to this role she was the Director for Advanced Missions and Programs for Boeing's Satellite Business where she managed the new business portfolio for US National Security Space and Military Satellite Communications (MILSATCOM) Space and Ground Systems. Ms. McGuire completed an Industry Fellowship in Washington DC at the National Defense University (NDU) Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource*

*Strategy. At NDU, she researched and developed policy recommendations to strengthen the US manufacturing industrial base and improve global competitiveness for US manufacturers. Ms. McGuire holds a Master of Science in National Security and Resource Strategy from National Defense University, a Master of Space Systems Engineering and Business Engineering from Delft University in the Netherlands, and a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Southern California. She is a botany, archeology, and anthropology enthusiast. In her free time she enjoys traveling, hiking & backpacking, camping, performance art, and painting surrealist art.*

**Bob McLaughlin*****CEO Mt. Carmel Veterans Service Center***

*Currently working as the COO of Mt Carmel Center of Excellence of Colorado with a mission to support troops in transition and veterans and their families with wellness programs. Visionary military executive that can make any organization more competitive – increasing value/return on investment and decreasing costs. Over 28 years of direct leadership/management experience in high performing organizations. Has positively led, directly and indirectly, Soldiers and Department of the Army Civilian formations of up to 5,000 people.*



**2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios****Andrew Merritt****Chief Strategy Officer (CSO) , The O'Neil Group Company**

*As the Chief Strategy Officer for The O'Neil Group Company, Andrew is responsible for setting strategic direction across a broad portfolio of companies and activities within the organization to achieve our founder's vision for job and wealth creation. His responsibilities include interacting with elected officials and regulatory agencies, coordinating community focused engagements, identifying new investment opportunities as well as potential investors, and managing interactions with media outlets. Andrew's previous career includes twenty-one years of Congressional staff work, most of it in senior positions, for three United States Senators and one Member of the House of Representatives. His most recent*

*position was as State Director for United States Senator Cory Gardner (CO). In that role, he managed eighteen staff across an eight-office network in the state that was responsible for providing direct service to the people of Colorado.*

*After obtaining his Series 7 General Securities license, he worked for two different financial services companies: Atlas Securities and Intervest International as a registered representative. In the non-profit sector, Andrew served as the Chief Defense Industry Officer for the Colorado Springs Chamber and Economic Development Corporation where he was responsible for focusing community support to the five local military installations, supporting the growth and recruitment of aerospace, defense, and cyber companies, and overseeing the government affairs program. A 1989 graduate of the United States Military Academy, Andrew served as an Armor officer with assignments in the Republic of Korea and at Fort Carson, Colorado*

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**Erin M. Miller**  
**Executive Director Space ISAC**

*Erin has over a decade of experience building meaningful tech collaborations and has formed hundreds of formal partnerships between government, industry, and academia to solve problems for warfighters and national security. Currently Erin is the Executive Director of the Space ISAC and leads this Public-Private Partnership (P3) with fervor to secure the global space community. This is the third non-profit launch Erin has led and has been passionate about P3 for her entire career.*

*Erin was the Managing Director of the Center for Technology, Research and Commercialization (C-TRAC) and brought three USAF-funded programs to bear at the Catalyst Campus for Technology & Innovation ([www.catalystcampus.org](http://www.catalystcampus.org)) from 2016-2018. Her expertise in brokering unique partnerships using non-FAR type agreements led to the standup of the Air Force's first cyber focused design studio, AFCyberWorx at the United States Air Force Academy, and the first space accelerator, Catalyst Accelerator, at Catalyst Campus in Colorado Springs - in partnership with Air Force Research Laboratory and AFWERX.*



**Matt Oliver**  
**Associate Vice President ,General Manager at LinQuest**

*Matt Oliver is an Associate Vice President and General Manager in The LinQuest Innovation Center at LinQuest Corporation where he oversees operations of the western region. He has over 20 years of experience in software development projects for the DoD, primarily for space systems. In his current capacity he manages a portfolio of internal investment (IR&D) and customer projects focused on the application of advanced technology for acquisitions, training, and operations.*

## 2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios



**Ryan Parsell**

**Chief Public Information Officer**

*Parsell, a former deputy state treasurer from March 2017 to September 2018, has served as the county's communications director for about three years. Before his state gig, he worked as the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder's Office's public information officer and chief deputy from 2013 to 2017*

*"Some of the highlights of my new job description include monitoring federal, state, and regulatory activities and communicating the organization's position on the same," he tells the Indy via email. "I'll spearhead proactive legislative or rule changes ... which would help our organization better serve our citizens. My existing team has handled elements of all of the above, and it's exciting that the legislative front will get the attention other large countries have devoted to it." He notes that recent changes in criminal justice and employment laws "have greatly impacted our services," but didn't elaborate*



**Meredith Payne**

**Senior Vice President, Caliola**

*Meredith Payne is a proven leader, brand-builder, and strategic marketing professional with more than 20 years' experience across a broad range of project management functions and diverse industry segments including Business Development, Communications, Defense, Marketing, Strategic Planning, Nonprofit Program Management.*

*Payne served as Senior Vice President of Business Development, Strategy and Communications at Davidson Technologies, Inc., where she also executed the role of Governmental/Congressional Liaison. Payne stood up Davidson's Enterprise Marketing and Communications group in 2020. She was then promoted to Senior Vice President of Business Development, Strategy and Communications. In this expanded role, Payne was steward of business strategy from inception to*

*completion while executing robust business growth plans. She also oversaw the development of corporate communications strategy, managed the creation and consistency of internal and external communications, and drove operational excellence by executing novel marketing strategies. Payne holds a master's degree in science from Auburn University in Montgomery, is a graduate of Leadership Huntsville/Madison County Class F-35 and L-33 and volunteers with several local non-profits in the Huntsville/Madison County area. In January 2022, Payne became a Board Member for the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce.*

**2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios**

**Jeffrey Renehan**  
**Senior Vice President LinQuest**

*Mr. Jeff Renehan is the Senior Vice President and Line of Business (LOB) Lead for the Mission Operations Services (MOS) unit of the LinQuest Corporation. He leads a team of over 400 LinQuest and 200 subcontractor personnel on over 35 contracts valued at over \$115M per year and is responsible for the overall operation of the LOB and 2 profit and loss centers. The MOS LOB supports a broad range of Military Service Branches and DoD agencies in the Colorado Springs, Denver, Albuquerque, Scott AFB and National Capitol areas. Mr. Renehan has been employed with LinQuest since 2012. Prior to joining LinQuest, Mr. Renehan worked at the Schafer Corporation and Booz Allen Hamilton in positions ranging from Program Manager to Business Development and technical support focused on Space Control; Planning Programming, Budget and Execution (PPBE); risk management and Headquarters Air Force budget/operations integration. Prior to his civilian career, Mr. Renehan served 25 years in the United States Air Force as a career Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) and Space Operations Officer and retired as a Colonel.*



**Dennis Roark**  
**Terra Ferma**

*Dennis Roark has more than 25 years of experience in the telecommunications industry, beginning with seven years of service with the U.S. Army. He has a history as a strong leader, problem-solver, and project manager. He has been responsible for multimillion dollar budgets and has delivered consistent results: solving business issues while managing costs and risks, increasing revenue, and achieving profitability in entrepreneurial ventures.*



**2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios**

**Ryan Roberts**  
**MBA CISSP GCIH CISM Principal**  
**Cyber and Strategic Risk Services, Deloitte & Touche LLP**

*Mr. Roberts is a Principal in Deloitte's Government and Public Services Cybersecurity practice with direct responsibility for managing delivery across multiple cyber defense projects for the DoD. In addition to his client delivery role, Mr. Roberts is focused on developing cybersecurity offerings for Deloitte in the non-traditional IT and mission system space as well as growing the Deloitte Cyber brand in Colorado. Over the past 20+ years, Mr. Roberts has developed a strong understanding of IT hardware and infrastructure and the challenges in defending the enterprise against cyber attacks. Mr. Roberts has leveraged his experience in*

*both the commercial and Department of Defense (DoD) sectors to help government agencies secure and defend their critical infrastructure. This includes commercial hosting companies, serving as the Tier 2 Computer Network Defense Contractor lead for the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) and over the past 7 years focusing on implementing cyber defense capability across multiple, critical, complex mission systems for The Air Force, US Space Force and the Missile Defense Agency. Mr. Roberts is proud to have defended our nation while serving in the United States Marine Corps and is driven by a passion to continue defending our nation through cyber defense of our nation's most critical systems.*



**Leslie Sabin, CPA**  
**Pikes Peak Community Foundation**

*Leslie Sabin joined the foundation in 2015 as the Vice President of Finance and Operations and oversees the investment and financial administration of the foundation's 270+ charitable funds. She also has expertise in charitable gift planning and works with current and potential fundholders and their professional advisor team to research and work through the tax benefits and implications of potential charitable gifts. Leslie has spent her 13+ year career in nonprofit finance and has worked at BKD, Catholic Health Initiatives Foundation as well as other nonprofits in Colorado Springs. Leslie is a Certified Public*

*Accountant, a Fellow in Charitable Estate Planning and has also served as a lead instructor for courses on financial best practices for community foundations with the Council on Foundations. Leslie grew up in Colorado Springs and the Bay Area and is a graduate of University of Colorado-Colorado Springs. When Leslie isn't working with her true love, MS Excel, she enjoys spending time outside with her horses, leisurely hiking, unintentionally killing plants, painting, yoga, craft cocktails, and being an overly enthusiastic spectator at her two daughters' soccer games.*

## 2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios



**Tim Seibert**  
**Sr. Vice President, Norwood Construction**

*Tim is truly committed to making The Springs a great place to live. As Sr. Vice President, he oversees Norwood's master-planned community portfolio, including its most ambitious undertaking to date, the 18,000-acre Banning Lewis Ranch. Through this effort, he is guiding a team of the nation's leading planners and designers to explore how 21st-century technology and cultural trends can guide the growth of The Springs over the next 75 years. Tim is also a leader in the community, serving on many boards and committees that seek to improve the quality of life in the Pikes Peak region. In 2019, Tim was named a Colorado Governor's Fellow, a program that promotes engagement between the private sector, non-profits, and public agencies to ensure entrepreneurial leadership throughout the community and encourages leaders to become more engaged in the future of Colorado. He and his wife Kathryn have two children,*

*Emma, and Jack. As a family, they share their passion for Colorado by enjoying the state's numerous outdoor activities.*



**Forrest Senti**  
**Vice President of Programs & Operations, National Cybersecurity Center**

*As Vice President of Programs & Operations and Board Secretary for the National Cybersecurity Center, Forrest Senti oversees the operations, government affairs and programs to include: the National Cybersecurity Center Student Alliance, the Colorado Cyber Resource Center, Secure Smart Cities and the Cybersecurity for State Leaders programs, all of which were created to identify critical gaps in cybersecurity related to workforce development and government. Through this effort he is actively engaged as a thought leader in the*

*role of emerging technologies, such as blockchain and cybersecurity, in government and industry. Notably, Forrest has worked in multiple states to implement the first use of online voting for military and overseas citizens as well as disabled voters. He was recently awarded the title of Honorary Commander by the US Air Force Academy for his efforts as a community leader, in addition to winning the 2019 Colorado Springs Mayor's Young Leader Award for Technology and Innovation. Lastly, he volunteers his time serving on the following boards: UCCS Regional Connect, Pikes Peak United Way Public Policy Council, ID2020's Ethics & Risk Advisory Committee, Colorado Springs Cyber Leaders Roundtable and the Colorado Springs Chamber's Government Affairs Council.*

**2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios**

**John Suthers**  
**Mayor, City of Colorado Springs**

*The 41st mayor of Colorado Springs, Suthers' first term began in May of 2015. In his first four years, Suthers sparked historic infrastructure improvements with the passage of voter-supported Ballot measure 2C, which established a temporary sales tax increase that generated \$50M per year to fund massive road reconstruction across the city. Suthers also successfully gained voter support for Ballot Measure 2A, which re-established the city's defunct stormwater enterprise, and now has the city on the way to building one of the best stormwater systems in the nation. Other accomplishments in his first term included the annexation of Banning Lewis Ranch, vastly improved relations between the executive and legislative branches of government, finalization of four City for Champions projects and a renaissance at both the Colorado Springs Airport and Downtown Colorado Springs. The City also created over 6,000 jobs each year of his first term, exceeding the number needed for sustainable growth.*



**Michelle Talarico**  
**Co-Owner, Picnic Basket Catering Collective**

*Michelle is from Northglenn Co. and attended Colorado College. She currently serves as Board Chairman for CSLI, Secretary for The Greenburg Center for Learning & Tolerance, and sits on the board of The Pikes Peak Hospice Foundation, Colorado Springs Conservatory, Care and Share and The Wine Festival of Colorado Springs. Michelle has been in the hospitality business since she was 15, first in Denver for Governors Park, then as a manager and part owner of the former Dale Street Café. She is the company spokesperson and a well-loved community leader. Son Sam is a very important part of her life as is her love and appreciation for her staff, vendor partners and family. Michelle loves sleep, country music and chocolate. She is extremely kind and very funny and likes romance novels.*



## 2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios



**Bob Thompson**  
**Founder & CEO, Underline**

*Bob Thompson is the Founder & CEO of Underline, a venture-backed company focused on deploying intelligent infrastructure for U.S. communities. Prior to founding Underline, Bob served as SVP & Head of Corporate Finance Solutions for Guardian Life, where his mandate ranged from Treasury & Liquidity Risk Management to Capital Markets Strategy and Balance Sheet Optimization, Corporate Development, M&A, and Strategic Investments. During his tenure with Guardian, Bob led a number of strategic initiatives, including serving as Chairman and President of Guardian Investor Services and Guardian Strategic Ventures. Over the years, Bob has led multiple efforts including acting as Head of Capital Markets for a boutique insurance bank and Group Head of the Special Transactions Group at CIBC World Markets, working with the UBS Global Structured Products Group, and executing various first-of-their-kind derivative/concentrated risk transactions. In 2009, Bob and his wife founded One Life Missions, operating in the U.S. and internationally; as a result, Bob has worked in various missions and relief capacities in the U.S., Haiti, and Guatemala. Bob attended Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, earning a bachelor's in science of Foreign Service.*



**Becca Tonn**  
**Communications Manager, PPWFC**

*Becca Tonn has been the Communications Manager at the Pikes Peak Workforce Center, since 2017. She has more than 16 years of experience in the communications and public relations industries. At the Workforce Center, she manages a cross-functional team, and directs and oversees production of content for the Workforce Center's website, social media platforms, newsletters, radio commercials, TV and print-media interviews, public information materials, video production, as well as internal, external and executive communications. An enthusiastic communicator and editor, she has produced many projects over the years, including editing several full-length manuscripts. Also, Becca has trained Elected Officials, County Commissioners, political candidates, Department Chiefs, CEOs, and Executive Directors for media interviews, and has served as agency spokesperson and public information officer for dozens of municipalities, government agencies, nonprofits, community organizations, and multi-billion-dollar businesses. She has a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. Becca has served on the Business Department Advisory Board of Pikes Peak State College since 2010, and Chair of the Board since 2020. In addition, she was a mentor for Karen Possehl Women's Endowment scholars from 2018-2021. Becca is also a graduate of the 2021 Leadership Pikes Peak Signature Program.*



## 2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios



**John J. Trylch** Lieutenant Colonel, US Army Retired  
*City of Fountain, Colorado*

*Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) John J. Trylch enlisted in the U.S. Army at 18 years old, first serving as a Medical Specialist, until receiving an ROTC Scholarship at Colorado State University and then a commission as an Armor Officer in 1997. After almost a decade in the Combat Arms and tours in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Iraq, John was selected to become an Army Foreign Area Officer, specializing in the Western Hemisphere. He continued his military career working on security cooperation and defense policy matters across Latin America. Deciding to retire after 24 years of service in the Army, John joined the City of Fountain as the City's first Community Engagement Manager and official Civil-Military Liaison. He is married 20 years, has three children, and enjoys many activities in the outdoors, including camping, hiking, hunting, and fishing.*



**Stan VanderWerf**  
*County Commissioner at El Paso County, District 3*

*Stan VanderWerf serves District 3 as Chairman on the Board of County Commissioners, which encompasses central and western El Paso County, including the Town of Green Mountain Falls, the City of Manitou Springs, the Towns of Palmer Lake and Monument, the Westside and downtown areas of Colorado Springs, and unincorporated western areas of the County including Ute Pass and areas south of Cheyenne Mountain State Park. Commissioner VanderWerf is founder of several small businesses and previously served 28 years in the US Air Force. He has 35 years of experience in scientific, program director, engineering, contracting, plant manager, and C-level positions in industry and public agencies. He is a Bronze Star awarded for his service in Iraq and a Legion of Merit awardee for his military service, and has been assigned around the world, having served in Korea, Iraq, and Germany. After his service in the military, he founded Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Colorado, Advanced Capital LLC (aerospace defense consulting), and CEM-TEK USA (computer aided design and 3-D printing). Hobbies include mountain climbing, skiing, and flying. He is married to Betsy and has two children, Erik and Carolyn.*

**2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios**

**Lawrence Wagner**  
**CEO, Spark Mindset**

*Greetings! I'm Lawrence, IT and cybersecurity expert, U.S. Army veteran, social entrepreneur, and the CEO of Spark Mindset, Inc., where my team and I provide cybersecurity training and certification to youth and adults, with an emphasis on working with persons from historically disadvantaged backgrounds, persons of color and girls.*

*My passion behind Spark Mindset stems from my personal experience. I grew up in a community that provided limited opportunities for future success in life.*

*Many people I knew ended up in jail or dead, and a feeling of hopelessness ruled the atmosphere. Despite the situation around me, I knew that I wanted a different path for myself, which led to my decision to join the military. After 8 years of service, I started my career in IT and cybersecurity. I'd found a better path, but I knew that countless others were still facing the same struggles that I had encountered growing up. If there is one thing I learned from my personal experience, it is that hopelessness can be defeated. All we have to do is "ignite the spark."*



**Wayne Williams**  
**Councilmember , At-Large Representative**

*Wayne Williams has a bachelor's degree from Brigham Young University in Political Science and graduated from the University of Virginia School of Law. Wayne moved to Colorado Springs in 1992, he fell in love with the city and never left. He began integrating himself in the community through serving on local boards before being elected to the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners, a position he held for eight years (2003-2011). After his time with the El Paso County BOCC, Wayne was elected as the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder (2011-2015). Most recently, Wayne served*

*as Colorado's Secretary of State (2015-2019), people urged him to move to Denver, but Wayne told them, "Colorado Springs is my home." Now, he is ready to serve the community he fell in love with 27 years ago as an At-Large City Council Member. Wayne is a father of four (Sean, Alaric, Lindsey, and Wendy) and is married to Holly Williams who currently serves on the El Paso County Board of County Commissioners.*

## 2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios

### Colorado Springs Chamber & EDC Staff



**Devin Camacho**  
**Manager, Government Affairs**

*Devin Camacho is the Government Affairs Manager for the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce & EDC. Devin's responsibilities include the logistical management of the Government Affairs Council, as well as any Government Affairs Events. Devin also serves as the liaison between the Chamber & EDC and the City of Colorado Springs and El Paso County. Devin's background is rich in Colorado Politics, he has worked for many campaigns, including Senator Cory Gardner's 2020 re-election campaign as a Political Coordinator, and for State Representative Clarice Navarro's 2016 re-election campaign, where he serves as her campaign manager. In 2017 Devin was elected as the youngest Republican County Chairman in Colorado, and in 2019 he was elected as the youngest Colorado Republican Party Secretary.*

*More recently Devin worked in the El Paso County Elections Department as an Elections Specialist, and prior to that he served as the Southwest Regional Director for Colorado's Third Congressional District.*



**Dave Dazlich**  
**Vice President, Government Affairs**

*Dave is the Vice President of Government Affairs and former Director of Government Affairs for the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, the largest and broadest based business advocacy organization in the state of Nevada. At the state level, Dave is very familiar with the legislative process, having worked as a lobbyist, government affairs staffer and legislative aide in Colorado, California, and Nevada. Throughout his career he spent several legislative sessions and special sessions with state legislatures, giving him invaluable insight into the challenges they can present. He has proactively worked to implement legislation on behalf of several organizations, while working with teams of industry experts, contract lobbyists and coalitions of volunteers, trade associations, and labor unions. Working with local governments, Dave has experience tracking ordinances and legislative*

*proposals, most notably during his time working for the Building Industry Association in Southern California. In this role he successfully engaged with 93 jurisdictions across Riverside and Imperial counties, tracking and testifying on legislation affecting the homebuilding industry. While working for the Vegas Chamber and Building Industry Association, he actively pursued the federal agenda and priorities of each association by organizing lobbying trips and events for membership in Washington D.C.*



## 2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios



**Cecilia Harry**  
**Chief Economic Development Officer**

*Cecilia Harry is the chief economic development officer of the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Corporation. Her expertise and leadership keep the Colorado Springs region at the forefront of business development and economic growth, helping existing and future businesses thrive. Before joining the Chamber & EDC, Cecilia served as the first president and CEO of Envision Greater Fond du Lac, Inc. in Wisconsin, an organization formed in 2017 to combine the efforts of the Fond du Lac County Economic Development Corporation and the Fond du Lac Area Association of Commerce. She has also served as the Executive Director of the Greater Fremont Development Council in the Greater Omaha region of Nebraska. She led the efforts that resulted in Costco selecting Fremont as the preferred location for their first fully integrated poultry processing facility, a \$550 million project that will impact the GDP of Nebraska by 1%. She has also practiced economic development in the regions of Kansas City and St. Louis. Cecilia is a social worker by training and spent several years with the Department of Child Services in Indiana prior to finding her way to economic development. She loves the idea of helping families achieve stability and safety through economic opportunities like skills enhancement and quality jobs with quality wages.*



**Johnna Reeder Kleymeyer**  
**President & Chief Executive Officer**

*Johnna Reeder Kleymeyer took over as president and CEO of Southern Colorado's largest chamber and economic development organization in 2022. Prior to that, she managed her own consulting firm. Her previous roles include president and CEO of Regional Economic Development Initiative (REDI) Cincinnati, leadership positions at Duke Energy, Citi, United Way-Cincinnati, OH, and Obion County Chamber of Commerce and Jackson Downtown Development Corporation-Tennessee. She's a proud graduate of the University of Memphis (BA – Communications), Thomas More University (Master of Business Administration), and the Oklahoma University Economic Development University (OUEDI). In addition, she completed her certificate in economic development through the International Economic Development Council. A champion of the communities where she lives, she serves on several boards and committees. In her down time, she enjoys exploring new trails, restaurants, and shops with her husband, Kurt, and spoiling their beloved French Bulldog, Nutmeg.*



## 2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios



**Kelly Leaverton**

***Vice President, Defense & Economic Development***

*MAJ (RET) Kelly Leaverton enlisted in the Oregon Army National Guard and attended OSUT at Fort Leonard Wood, MO in 1992. In August of 1998, MAJ Leaverton enlisted on active duty and was assigned to the 82<sup>nd</sup> EN BN, 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division in Bamberg, Germany (1998-2005). While there, he served as a Sapper, Command Driver, Unit Armorer, Team Leader, Squad Leader, and Platoon Sergeant. MAJ Leaverton reported to 3/11th IN RGT in January 2008 for Officer Candidate School and was commissioned 27 March 2008. In 2016, Major Leaverton was assigned to the Mountain Ranger Battalion, UCCS ROTC as an Assistant Professor of Military Science and then Senior Professor of Military Science where he served as the Deputy Commander and Battalion Executive Officer prior to retiring in August 2019. In July of 2021, Kelly accepted a position as Operations Manager with Amazon where he helped the firm launch COS5 in Colorado Springs before accepting a position with the Colorado Springs Chamber & Economic Development Center as the Director, Business Retention & Expansion. In June, he was promoted to VP, Defense & Economic Development. Kelly holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Leadership from Saint Martin's University and a Master of Science in Geological Engineering from the University of Missouri Science and Technology. He is currently working on an MBA with a finance concentration from Denver University.*



**Jim Lovewell**

***Chief Defense Development Officer***

*Jim Lovewell is the Colorado Springs Chamber and Economic Development Corporation's Chief Defense Development Officer and recently retired from nearly 25 years of active duty service in the US Air Force. As the Colorado Springs Chamber & EDC Chief Defense Development Officer, Jim links military, defense company and community leaders to enhance the local economy and function as a liaison between local military installations and the community. He coordinates with the nearly 300 defense businesses, five military installations and numerous headquarters as well as City of Colorado Springs, El Paso County and state elected leaders. Jim retired from active duty Air Force on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, at the rank of Colonel from his final assignment as the Director of Staff, headquarters Space Operations Command, US Space Force, Peterson AFB, Colorado. He's a Distinguished Graduate of San Diego State University's AF-ROTC program and received his commission in 1997. A career logistics officer, he held various command and staff positions at base, MAJCOM and Combatant Command levels and completed three Joint service tours.*

**2022 D.C. Fly-In Attendee Bios**

**Vincent Persichetti**  
***Vice President, Administration***

*Vinnie Persichetti is the Vice President, Administration for the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Corporation. In this position, he is responsible for management of the day-to-day activities of the Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development Corporation's office and functions. Vinnie leads the internal functions of the organization, ensuring it is appropriately staffed, managed, and governed to ensure the fulfillment of the Chamber & EDC's mission and values. He provides leadership over asset management, cross-departmental operations, compliance, procurement, administration, IT, human resources, office operations, and the finance team. Finally, Vinnie coordinates with the senior leadership team to develop and meet broad organizational goals. Vinnie previously served in the United States Air Force and retired in November 2017 as a Chief Master Sergeant with 30 years of service.*