

DANIEL BERNHARD

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ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

University of Detroit Mercy Veterans Law Clinic, Detroit, MI

Toni Wisne Foundation Veterans Legal Fellow

- Supervise law students and represent veterans in VA benefits and discharge upgrade cases through the Veterans Law Clinic.
- Teach and develop courses on veterans' law, critical lawyering skills, and professional development, including asynchronous modules and seminar instruction.
- Manage clinic operations, pro bono programming, interdisciplinary projects, and grant reporting while supporting student learning and community outreach.

University of Detroit-Mercy Veterans Law Clinic, Detroit, MI

Teaching Assistant, August 2023 – December 2024

- Manage completion of administrative tasks, such as grading, marking attendance, and providing course feedback.
- Conduct independent research into veteran and military law, including VA regulations, CAVC case law, and evidentiary requirements for appellate claims.
- Instruct the Veterans Law Clinic module on veterans' culture which covers recent military history, the service member life cycle, and current veterans' issues.

University of Detroit-Mercy Veterans Law Clinic, Detroit, MI

Legal Intern, June 2023 – August 2023

- Maintained and organized veterans' files, both hard copy and electronic. Review military and medical records to summarize veterans' files.
- Assisted veterans in applying for VA benefits, such as disability compensation and pension. Answered basic questions about VA benefits and the VA claims process.
- Provided a veteran's perspective to the students and assisted students with military records, culture, and terminology.

University Writing Center, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

Graduate Writing Tutor, August 2013 – December 2014

- Provided students with feedback on written and verbal assignments. Consultations include both face to face evaluations as well as online, asynchronous assessments with both undergraduate and graduate students.
- As part of the Dissertation, Article and Thesis Assistance (DATA) program, worked with several graduate students individually on his or her thesis or dissertation to prepare for submission.

EDUCATION

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Detroit, MI

Juris Doctorate, *cum laude*, May 2025

- Dean's List
- Book Award for Public Health Law

Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

Master of Public Service & Administration, May 2014

- Dean's Leadership Certificate
- Texas Legislative Capstone

Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, May 2014

- Texas Armed Service Scholarship
- General O.R. Simpson Academic Honor Society

PUBLICATIONS

The Fund: A Texan's Guide to the Past, Present, and Future of the Economic Stabilization Fund, Public Service & Administration Capstone, The Bush School of Government & Public Service, Texas A&M University, 2013.

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Legal Intern, Ban Law Office, Salt Lake City, UT, 2024-2025

- Conduct independent research into Veteran and military law, including VA regulations, CAVC case law, and evidentiary requirements for appellate claims.
- Maintained and organized Veterans' electronic records. Review military and medical records to summarize Veterans' files.
- Provide experience in reading military records and directing FOIA requests to locate accurate and relevant documents, especially for National Guard and military reserve units.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Civil Affairs Team Chief, United States Army Reserve, Portage, MI, 2023-Present

Lead a six-person team that coordinates with civilian, governmental, and multinational partners during U.S. and allied operations. Advise on European military affairs—particularly in Eastern Europe and Russia—and oversee the integration of civil affairs across all levels of command.

Brigade Operations Planner, United States Army, Fort Bliss, TX, 2021-2022

Helped shift the organization from refugee operations to rapid deployment readiness under tight timelines and limited resources. Coordinated interagency support for Operation Dragon Strike, a five-week combat training exercise involving nearly 5,000 soldiers.

Tank Company Commander, United States Army, Fort Bliss, TX, 2020-2021

Led a 60-Soldier unit with fourteen M1A2 SEP tanks and nine support vehicles, maintaining combat readiness and rapid deployment capability. During Operation Allies Welcome, oversaw life support, aid distribution, and interagency coordination to process immigration for over 1,000 Afghan refugees transitioning to U.S. resettlement.

Battalion Operations Planner, United States Army, Fort Bliss, TX, 2020

Planned and resourced future operations through written orders and coordination with command teams. Forecasted requirements for Bradley and Tank Gunnery, and coordinated external support for testing with Tactical Unmanned Aircraft Systems and Mobile Short Range Air Defense platforms.

Initial Entry Company Commander, United States Army, Fort Benning, GA, 2019

Led daily operations for a company of 400–1,000 trainees, ensuring they received essential services and processing before entering Basic Combat Training. Managed morale, discipline, and training readiness while working closely with drill sergeants and command staff to develop future Soldiers.

Tank Basic Training Executive Officer, United States Army, Fort Benning, GA, 2018-2019

Oversaw combat readiness for eleven M1A2 SEP tanks and managed training resources for Armor Crewman Basic Training. Built a forecasting tool to track tank availability in a constrained environment—later adopted by higher command to brief training readiness.

Assistant Operations Officer, United States Army, Fort Hood, TX, 2017-2018

Coordinated and tracked daily operations through written orders and regular meetings with leadership. During Operation Bright Star 17, served as a key liaison with Egyptian forces, facilitating real-time coordination and cross-functional communication during joint exercises.

Tank Platoon Leader, United States Army, Fort Hood, TX, 2015-2017

Led a 16-Soldier tank platoon and maintained combat readiness of four M1A2 SEP tanks during deployment to Kuwait. Oversaw U.S. forces on base and ran a joint maintenance program with the Kuwaiti 8th Tank Battalion, sharing best practices and coordinating cross-national support.

Committee Intern, Texas Senate Finance Committee, Austin, TX, 2013

Managed constituent communications and served as a liaison between analysts and the public. Conducted research on how the state budget process affects capital projects, while gaining hands-on experience with the legislative process from planning to passage.

Citizens' Assistance Office Intern, City of Houston Mayor's Office, Houston, TX, 2012

Interviewed constituents and helped draft the Mayor's briefings for public sessions. Supported fieldwork, resolved resident concerns, and helped write grants for city health and volunteer programs.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Post Service Officer, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Ferndale, MI, 2023 – Present

Student Member, Detroit Mercy Law Honor Council, 2023-2025

Vice President, Detroit Mercy Law Mental Health Association, 2023-2025