

VETERANS AT SHEPPARD

Sheppard Mullin thanks our veterans and active military men and women for their courage, dedication, sacrifice and hard work. We also thank the military families for their support and resilience.



At Sheppard Mullin, our goal is to maintain a culture in which diverse perspectives are applauded. We know that it is the differences, as well as the similarities, that help make us strong.

With this in mind, we created Veterans At Sheppard, an affinity group that strives to positively impact the veteran community by encouraging Sheppard Mullin attorneys and staff to participate in pro bono projects that serve veterans and their families; foster the success and development of veterans in the legal field; lead outreach initiatives to serve veterans in the community; raise awareness of topics, experiences and skills unique to veterans; participate in job fairs and events designed to integrate veterans into the workforce; and partner with clients and other organizations to serve the needs of veterans.

Our Dedication to the Veteran Community

The firm aims to positively impact not only our own and our clients' workplaces, but also outside the firm in the larger communities where we live and work. We are committed to seeking out, encouraging and supporting meaningful pro bono work, community activism and volunteer opportunities to protect the rights and improve the lives of veterans and their loved ones.



Fast Facts About Veterans At Sheppard

- Launched in 2019 with the objective of expanding support for our veteran employees and increasing our recruiting of veterans
- Open to veterans, active military personnel and their family members, and allies who are both attorneys and staff members at the firm
- Led by a team of attorneys that includes partners Jason Mueller, Michael Driscoll, associate Brittany Walter and Chief Security Officer Quincey Collins
- Currently comprised of over 60 members

Examples of our pro bono service for the veteran community include:

- Representing a *pro se* veteran – a Navy veteran who fought in the Gulf War and was determined to be 100 percent disabled by the VA – whose appeal of an administrative law judge’s (ALJ’s) denial of Social Security benefits was going to be dismissed. We convinced a magistrate judge to reverse the ALJ’s decision. The court ordered the ALJ to review our client’s application again, obtain the additional evidence from the VA and “either give the VA’s disability determination great weight or provide lawful reasons for rejecting it.”
- Participating in veteran legal clinics across the nation in which we live and work, such as the Los Angeles County Bar Association’s Veterans Legal Services Project.
- Serving as pro bono counsel in a myriad of matters for Give an Hour, a national non-profit that provides free mental health services to U.S. service members, veterans and their families.

The firm partners with veteran organizations and has received recognition for its presence and work in the veteran community. Some examples include:

- Throughout the lifetime of our nation, Native Americans participated in U.S. wars at a higher rate than most other populations. In November 2019, our Chicago office revealed a beautiful art installation in honor of the confluence of Veterans Day and Native American Heritage Month. Our firm partnered with Trickster Art Gallery, a local non-profit gallery and community arts center dedicated to Native American culture that also serves Native American military veterans, including an art therapy program. Our collaboration resulted in a 40-foot-long timeline that chronicles the involvement of Native Americans in the U.S. military from the Revolutionary War through modern times, alongside art created by Native American veterans.



- Sheppard Mullin sponsors and participates in the annual national Veterans Legal Career Fair in Washington, D.C.
- Our firm was selected to attend the 2018 Navy Employer Recognition Event (NERE), an annual event recognizing employers from across the nation who provide their Reserve Sailors with superior support and providing employers with an opportunity to see first-hand what Reserve Sailors do every day.
- In 2017, we received the “Access to Justice Award” by the Legal Aid Society of Orange County for our pro bono work aimed at preventing vulnerable veterans from becoming homeless in Orange County and serving as an advocate for the local homeless population.
- In 2018, the Los Angeles Veterans Collaborative honored Sheppard Mullin special counsel Derek Rockers for his pro bono work that helped charitable organizations in Los Angeles County create a platform to assist local veterans with accessing and using employment-related services.

Internal Thoughts...



“At Sheppard Mullin, we pay it forward. Our firm stands committed to returning the favor to the men and women who have served our country by fostering the career growth of our veteran attorneys and staff, along with supporting our local veteran communities.”

~ **Jason Mueller**

*Intellectual Property Partner, Dallas
Veteran, U.S. Army National Guard
Co-Leader, Veterans At Sheppard*



“I’m proud to be part of a firm that’s dedicated to supporting veterans like me both inside and outside the firm, from our internal veterans group to partnerships with veteran organizations across the nation.”

~ **Mike Driscoll**

*Finance & Bankruptcy Partner, New York
Veteran, U.S. Marine Corps
Co-Leader, Veterans At Sheppard*



“I’m proud to be a part of an organization with a demonstrable commitment to the veteran community, and honored to continue to serve veterans through the provision of pro bono legal services as well as other veteran-focused initiatives.”

~ **Brittany Walter**

*Intellectual Property Associate, San Francisco
Veteran, U.S. Air Force*



“I joined VaS because it is a great opportunity to help veterans that have given us so much of themselves over the years.”

~ **Quincey Collins**

*Chief Security Officer, Los Angeles
Veteran, U.S. Air Force*