

# SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINATIONS

WITH U.S. SENATOR JOE MANCHIN

West Point

Naval

Air Force

Merchant Marines



## Mara Boggs

Mara Boggs is from Keyser. She served in the 82nd Airborne Division and the 1st Cavalry Division. She is the current State Director for U.S. Senator Joe Manchin.



## Aaron Scheinberg

Aaron Scheinberg is from Hedgesville. He is an Iraq War Veteran. He is a former Senate staffer and serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs.



## Elizabeth Kay

Elizabeth Kay is from Charleston. She is a 2021 Nominee of U.S. Senator Manchin to the Merchant Marine Academy. She is currently a second classman at the Merchant Marine Academy.



## Nic Porta

Nic Porta is originally from Charleston, and now lives in Morgantown. Following graduation from the Coast Guard Academy in 2003, he served on active duty for 10 years, primarily conducting counter narco-terrorism operations. Presently a reserve Commander, he is assigned to The Joint Staff as a Joint Exercise Planner.



## Nicholas Rotunda

Nicholas Rotunda is from Fairmont and currently serves as a Blue and Gold Officer with the Naval Academy. Following graduation from the Naval Academy in 2002, he served 10 years on active duty in the Navy as a P-3C Orion pilot, which included flying 100 combat missions in Iraq. He recently retired from the Navy Reserves following 20 years of Naval service.



## Jason Foster

Jason Foster is an attorney with The Segal Law Firm in Charleston, WV. Jason is a 1998 graduate of the Naval Academy. He served as a surface warfare officer from 1998-2004. During that time, he participated in Operations Allied Force and Noble Anvil in Kosovo and Operation Southern Watch in Iraq. He has volunteered as a coach and official in his church and has held office in the WV State Bar Young Lawyers Section.



## Jerry Wood

Parkersburg native, Jerry Wood, served over 30 years on active duty with the Army. Both enlisted and officer service, he was commissioned through the WVU Army ROTC BN via the Army's Green-to-Gold Scholarship program.



## Que Stephens

"Que" Stephens, Sr., is a retired Lieutenant Colonel who is a two-time veteran of the Vietnam War, where he received a Purple Heart during the Tet Offensive. He is a Ranger, Master Parachutist and JumpMaster and was the Officer in Charge of the Special Forces Office's Course at Fort Liberty, North Carolina. He was Professor of Military Science at West Virginia State University and Prairie View A&M University.

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**Latash Luzum**

Chief Master Sergeant LaTash Luzum retired at the highest enlisted rank in 2021 with over 22 years of honorable service. Her military background experience includes duties at base level, Higher Headquarters, Major Commands, and the Pentagon. She deployed in support of two war campaigns, Operation New Dawn and Enduring Freedom.



**Mark Arellanos**

Lt Colonel (ret) Mark Arellanos served over 32 years in the USAF. He was enlisted for eight years and commissioned in 1998. He was an aircraft maintenance and munitions officer who commanded three squadrons and two detachments. His final assignment was the WVU AFROTC detachment commander. He earned a B.S. in Resource Management and an MBA in logistics.



**Chris Fussell**

Chris joined McChrystal Group as a Partner in 2012 and currently serves as President. Prior to this role, Chris spent over 15 years as an officer in the Navy SEAL Teams, leading SEAL elements in combat zones around the globe.



**Erika Bailey**

Erika Bailey is the parent of Liam, a graduate of the Naval Academy and the Naval Introductory Flight Evaluation program in Pensacola. He is now in Corpus Christi for aviation training. Erika is also the founder of the Naval Parents Club of West Virginia and has been instrumental in coordinating all parent clubs in WV from each academy.



**Ted Diaz**

Ted Diaz is from Huntington. He is a retired U.S. Navy Hospital Corpsman and a former Federal Dept of Affairs senior staffer. Ted is currently the Cabinet Secretary for the State of WV Department of Veteran Assistance.



**John Scott**

Lieutenant Colonel John R. Scott is a command pilot with more than 3100 flying hours and two command tours. He has more than 20 years in the USAF and is currently serving as the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Detachment 915 Commander at WVU.



**Chad Peltier**

Chad Peltier is a U.S. Army Veteran with more than 31 years of military experience as a commissioned officer. He currently serves as the Professor of Military Science for Marshall University.



**Cecil Marson**

Cecil Marson is the city manager in Bluefield. He served as the Garrison Commander at West Point Military Academy. He has over 25 years in the U.S. Army as a commissioned officer.

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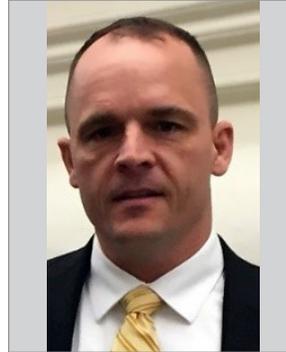
— Air Force

— Merchant Marines



## Robert Brown

Robert Brown is a veteran, former police officer, and former caseworker for U.S. Senator Joe Manchin. He is currently the police chief of Chesapeake, West Virginia.



## Phillip Cantrell

Phillip R. Cantrell (CSM, Retired) is the State Director of Mountaineer ChalleNGe Academy. He served 32 years in the Army with deployments in support of peace keeping missions, combat operations and overseas assignments, as an Army Congressional Fellow in Senator Manchin's office and a Legislative Liaison in the Army Senate Liaison Division.



## Amber Brugnoli

Amber Brugnoli was a member of WVU ROTC. After completing her undergraduate degree in 2001, she attended the JAG Corps and became an International JAG attorney in the Air Force, serving on active duty from 2004-2008. Amber deployed to Iraq from January through June in 2008. Since 2008, she has been a Category B reservist and has been involved with the Air Force OIG completing JAG Corps case reviews and will be assigned to the Air Force Civil Litigation Unit in Washington DC starting September 1st.



## Jocelynn Cooper

Jocelynn Cooper graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in May 2022 and was commissioned into the Air Force as a 2nd Lieutenant. She was stationed at Vandenberg Space Force Base from July 2022 through December 2022. She is currently stationed at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Montana in the 341st Missile Wing. Jocelynn is from Whitesville, West Virginia.



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