

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 – Friday, April 14, 2023





Scan here for Conference Schedule and Virtual Attendance.



CONFERENCE WELCOME

Thank you for attending this year's public policy conference! We are excited to welcome guests and presenters alike to our third annual conference. We hope you will enjoy the wonderful slate of guest speakers who are participating in our plenary sessions, as well as the numerous students and faculty who will be presenting their own research via 17 panels and over 50 papers. These panels represent the following areas of law, government, and policy: 1) Global, Economic, and Legal Policy; 2) Law and Philosophy; 3) the Culture Wars, 4) Rights, Democracy, and Federalism, 5) Military Policy and Diplomacy, 6) Life and Death, 7) Rights, Democracy, and Federalism, 8) Criminal Justice and Social Policy, and 10) Economic Policy and Regulatory Burden. We hope you will enjoy the hard work and thoughtful efforts of our faculty and students in these topics!

Each year, we seek to address the pressing policy issues of our time. Our guest speakers will be discussing the challenges of Constitutionalism, national security, family and social policy as it relates to questions of gender and school curriculum, economic policy in support of free enterprise, and questions of international policy, human trafficking, and national security. From pressing national security issues, including growing Chinese influence in the global arena, to domestic issues such as the War on Drugs, human trafficking, regulatory burden and challenges of excessive spending, we believe this year's conference will provide a Biblical and nuanced perspective on these issues. As we discuss and wrestle with these important topics, we are glad for your participation as well and hope you will find all of the presentations useful for equipping you to make a difference in the policy arena!







Dr. Kahlib Fischer



Dr. Mary Prentice

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

Wednesday, April 12, 2023

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM
9:20 AM – 10:10 AM
10:30 AM – 11:40 AM
12:00 PM – 12:50 PM
1:05 PM – 1:55 PM
2:10 PM – 3:00 PM Breakout Session 2
3:15 PM – 4:05 PM
4:20 PM – 5:10 PM Breakout Session 4
Thursday, April 13, 2023
8:15 AM – 9:30 AM
9:45 AM – 11:00 AM Breakout Session 5
11:15 AM – 12:30 PM

12:45 PM – 2:00 PM Breakout Session 6
2:15 PM – 3:30 PM
3:45 PM – 5:00 PM
5:15 PM – 6:30 PMThomas Jefferson 280 th Birthday Reception
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM
8:15 AM – 9:05 AM
9:20 AM – 10:10 AM
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

GENERAL SCHEDULE

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM
9:20 AM – 10:10 AM. The Enduring Legacy of the Founders' Vision in Montview Ballroom Major Andrew Bibb, U.S. Army (LU BS '12 & MAPP '19) Quena Gonzalez, Senior Director of Government Affairs, Family Research Council Zane Richer, Adjunct Professor, Liberty University il (LU BA '19 & MAPP '22) Dr. Gai Ferdon, Moderator
10:30 AM – 11:30 AMConvocation
12:00 PM – 12:50 PMLunch Break
1:05 PM – 1:55 PM. Global, Economic, and Legal Policy in Montview 2570 Dr. Melissa Beaudoin, Moderator Law & Philosophy in Montview 2610 Dr. Gai Ferdon, Moderator The Culture Wars in Montview 3570 Dr. Connie Huber, Moderator
2:10 PM – 3:00 PM
3:15 PM – 4:05 PM. Policies of Life & Death in Montview 2570 Dr. Wesley Vorberger, Moderator Rights, Democracy, & Federalism in Montview 2610 Dr. Timothy O'Brien, Moderator Military Policy & Diplomacy in Montview 3570 Dr. Anthony Hughes, Moderator
4:20 PM – 5:10 PM. Criminal Justice & Social Policy in Montview 2570 Professor Larry Presley, Moderator Economic Policy & Regulatory Burden in Montview 2610 Dr. William Bowen, Moderator Law & Philosophy in Montview 3570 Dr. Mary Prentice, Moderator

Plenary Session 1

The Enduring Legacy of the Founders' Vision Dr. Gai Ferdon, Moderator







Major Andrew Joseph Bibb, U.S. Army, currently serves as a Civil Affairs Team Leader in the 83d Civil Affairs Battalion at Fort Bragg, NC. He holds a B.S. in Government: Politics & Policy and an M.A. in Public Policy from Liberty University. He has completed combat deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as operational deployments to Bahrain, Latvia, and Germany. His *Small Wars Journal* article "Civil Affairs, Winston Churchill, and the Power of Paying Attention" was featured by the US Senate in the Congressional Record Vol. 165, No. 131.

Quena González leads Family Research Council's government affairs division. Under the direction of the Vice President for Policy & Government Affairs, he directs FRC's federal and state legislative policy agendas on life, family, and religious liberty. He leads FRC's day-to-day engagement with Capitol Hill and directs FRC's partnership with the <u>Family Policy Councils</u> (a national network of independent state policy organizations that share FRC's commitment to the great issues of our day). He and his wife spend their time trying to keep up with three amazing boys.

Zane Richer is an adjunct professor of government in the Helms School at Liberty University, from which he holds a Bachelor's degree and a Master's. He is currently working on his Ph.D. in the field of political theology through the Kirby Laing Centre for Public Theology at Cambridge University in partnership with Union Theological College in Belfast. His areas of interest include Kuyperian political theology, Reformational philosophy, public policy, and the history of Western Civilization. He lives in central Virginia with his wife, Nicole, where they are active members in their local Orthodox Presbyterian Church and are currently expecting their first child.

1:05PM – 1:55PM BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

Global, Economic, & Legal Policy in Montview 2570	
Moderator:	Dr. Melissa Beaudoin
Presenter	<u>Topic</u>
Johnny Davis	Trade, Globalism, and the American System
Deborah Adeniji	SWOT Analysis: An In-Depth Look at the United Kingdom
Ikenna Nwobu	United States Foreign Policy in Africa, with a Focus on Nigeria

Law & Philosophy in Montview 2610	
Moderator:	Dr. Gai Ferdon
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Roger Engle	Jean-Jacques Rousseau's Discourse on Inequality and
	its Impact on Modern Western Society
Bryce Tenberg	Christian Influence on Roman Natural Law in the
	Corpus Juris Civilis
Analeise Wasenius	The Influence of Montesquieu on American Ideals

The Culture Wars in Montview 3570	
Moderator:	Dr. Connie Huber
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Zachary Cary	Political Compromise in America: Why are Americans so Politically Divided and What can be Done to Prevent a Fractured Nation?
Patricia Cazeau	The Polarization of Political Parties and the American Republic
Logan Marcotte	A Religious Society Promotes a Flourishing Nation

2:10PM - 3:00PM BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

Global, E	Conomic, & Legal Policy in Montview 2570
Moderator:	Dr. Melissa Beaudoin
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Rodney Ford	An Analysis of US Energy Policy Within a Shifting
	Geopolitical Landscape
Emilio Lau	US Involvement of Water Sanitation in El Salvador
Patricia Cazeau	Challenges Facing the Reunification of Korea
Rights, I	Democracy, & Federalism in Montview 2610
Moderator:	Dr. Jennifer Purvis
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Katie Cassady	Bureaucratic Overreach and the Role of the Courts in
	Protecting Representative Democracy
Riley Banker	Limitation for Liberty
Jason Chahyadi	Deterring from the Declaration: Contrasting the 21st
	Century Proliferation of Positive Rights with the
	Founding Vision for Individual Rights
Milita	ry Policy & Diplomacy in Montview 3570
Moderator:	Dr. Anthony Hughes
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Graciela Phillipps	Middle Eastern Defense: The Role of the Abraham
	Accords
Elizabeth Cook	The Cyber Theater of War Reimagined and
	Application of Just War Doctrine
Carl Rehberg	The Future of Integrated Air and Missile Defense
	(IAMD) against China

3:15PM – 4:05PM BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

Policies of Life & Death in Montview 2570	
Moderator:	Dr. Wesley Vorberger
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Ava Standish	Eugenics not Eradication: How People with
	Disabilities Have Lost the Right to Life
Haleigh Perkins	The Death Penalty from a Christian Worldview
Rights, De	mocracy, & Federalism in Montview 2610
Moderator:	Dr. Timothy O'Brien
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Ikenna Nwobu	Nigeria Federalism and State
Joseph Livni	Covenant Persuasion Led to Constitutionalism –
	Neither Was Invented
Dorien Porter	What is at Stake: Declaration of the American
	Foundation
Military	Policy & Diplomacy in Montview 3570
Moderator:	Dr. Anthony Hughes
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Ann Melise Mullins	U.S. Strategy for Countering Terrorism in Iraq and
	Syria
Natalle Cawston	The Taboo Relationship of Policy and Intelligence
Carlton Byers	A Defense for Practical Standards of Ethics in
	Intelligence and Related Situations

4:20PM – 5:10PM BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

Criminal Justice & Social Policy in Montview 2570	
Moderator:	Professor Larry Presley
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Katherine Doan	American Sign Language Legal Interpretation
	Complications: A Comprehensive Analysis of
	Linguistic Barriers within the Criminal Justice System
Mayce Combs	Prostitution and Pornography: Reforming a
	Perspective
Henrique Krigner	Deinstitutionalization Movement and Homelessness in
	America

Economic Policy & Regulatory Burden in Montview 2610	
Moderator:	Dr. William Bowen
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Giana DePaul	The Economic Ferocity of Policy
Thomas Savidge	Breaking the Promise: The Burden of Government
	Debt on Future Generations
Zachary Cary	America Without a Minimum Wage: Why the Federal
·	Minimum Wage Should Be Abolished

Law & Philosophy in Montview 3570	
Moderator:	Dr. Mary Prentice
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Dr. Mary Prentice, Bess	Ordered Liberty: The Guardian of Justice
Blackburn, & Colton	
Grellier	
Johnny Davis	The Declaration of Independence, Natural Law, and
	the True Meaning of the 14th Amendment
Henrique Krigner	Liberation Theology and the Concept of Justice in
	Latin America

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023

GENERAL SCHEDULE

8:15 AM – 9:30 AM
9:45 AM – 11:00 AM
11:15 AM – 12:30 PMThe Future of American Energy and National Security
in Montview Ballroom Scott Kopple, Senior Director of Government Relations, BXWT Jack Spencer, Senior Research Fellow for Energy & Environmental Policy, Heritage Foundation Professor Aaron Van Allen, Moderator
12:45 PM – 2:00 PM
2:15 PM – 3:30 PMCyber and Emerging Technology Threats to U.S. National Security in Montview Ballroom Colonel Benjamin Bishop, DARPA Mr. Mike Harasimowicz, Lockheed Martin Mr. Shawn Turskey, Meta Professor Scott Roenicke, Moderator
3:45 PM – 5:00 PM America, China, and Global Power in Montview Ballroom Kevin Freeman, Freeman Global Holdings Dr. Carl Rehberg, Adjunct Professor, Liberty University Neil Wiley, Former Principal Executive, ODNI Admiral Tony Cothron, Moderator
5:15 PM – 6:30 PMThomas Jefferson 280 th Birthday Reception in Montview Ballroom
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM
North Korean Defector & Human Rights Advocate

Plenary Session 2 The Defense of the Family in Education Policy Dr. Kahlib Fischer, Moderator



Dr. Shannae Anderson is a licensed psychologist with over 25 years in practice. After completing her PhD in 1995 from the University of Southern California, Dr. Anderson developed a state-of-the-art eating disorder, substance abuse. and trauma treatment program at Anacapa by the Sea. She is currently the clinical director at Monarch Recovery Intensive Outpatient Program in Ventura, California. Dr. Anderson is also an adjunct professor at Fuller Theological Seminary where she teaches Pastoral Care and Addictions in the Recovery Ministry Program.



Dr. Jennifer Bauwens serves as Director of the Center for Family Studies at Family Research Council. In her role, she researches and advocates for policies that will best serve the health and well-being of families and communities. Jennifer has a Ph.D. from New York University her scholarship has focused on the effects of psychological trauma, including man-made and natural Additionally, Jennifer has taught on psychological trauma and research methods in several graduate programs, including Rutgers University Princeton Seminary. She has also served as an editorial consultant for, and published in, peerreviewed journals focused on clinical practice and traumatic stress.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023

9:45AM – 11:00AM BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

Education Policy in Montview 2570	
Moderator:	Professor Aaron Van Allen
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Sarah Rogers	Examining the Effects of Student Loan Forgiveness and
	the Christian Perspective
Isaiah Franqui	Mentoring Programs: An Answer to the Cultural and
	Social Challenge of Juvenile Rehabilitation
Joseph Norris	From the Ground Up: Restoring the Promise of
	Education
Rachel Held	Adverse Childhood Experiences and their Correlation to
	College Major

Family & Gender Issues in Montview 2610	
Moderator:	Dr. Connie Huber
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Elizabeth Wilson	The Terrorists' Secret and Hidden Weapon
Elizabeth Wilson	The Fight Against Abduction and Child Exploitation
Taylor Nilson	Creating a New Sports Division: The Importance of
	Protecting Women's Sports While Encouraging
	Sportsmanlike Competition
Mariana Davis	The Unethical Use of Children in War

Rights, Democracy, & Federalism in Montview 3570		
Moderator:	Dr. Kahlib Fischer	
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>	
Daniel Partin	Unequal Democracies: Economic Sanctions' Impact on	
	Human Rights in Democratic Systems	
Dr. Kahlib Fischer &	Introducing the CNI for Evaluating Community and	
Dr. Melissa Stewart	Local Resiliency	
Dr. Timothy O'Brien &	Political Rhetoric and Civility: A Challenge to "the	
Dr. Melissa Stewart	Legacy of 'Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness"	
Zachary Federico	The American Debate Between Toleration and Liberty	
·	of Conscience	

Plenary Session 3

The Future of American Energy and U.S. National Security Professor Aaron Van Allen, Moderator



Scott Kopple is the Senior Director of Government Relations at BWX Technologies, Inc. (BWXT). Mr. Kopple represents the company's interests on Capitol Hill and within the administration with a focus on the Department of Energy's national security programs and contracts, fuel cycle programs, and commercial nuclear energy issues. Mr. Kopple has extensive experience on Capitol Hill and within the nation's nuclear weapons complex. He was appointed by President George W. Bush as director of Congressional Affairs for the National Nuclear Security Administration. In this role, he served as NNSA's primary liaison to the Appropriations and Armed Services Committees.



Jack Spencer is a senior research fellow for energy and environmental policy in the Center for Energy, Climate, and Environment at the Heritage Foundation. He previously oversaw research on a wide variety of domestic economic and trade issues as vice president for the Institute for Economic Freedom and Opportunity. Before his promotion to vice president in January 2015, Spencer served as the director for the Roe Institute, where he spearheaded research initiatives on federal spending, taxes, regulation, energy, and environment. Previously, he specialized in nuclear energy issues in both the domestic and global arenas as Heritage's senior research fellow in nuclear energy policy.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023

12:45PM – 2:00PM BREAK-OUT SESSIONS

China Policy in Montview 2570	
Moderator:	Dr. Timothy O'Brien
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>
John Davis	The False Religious Freedom of China and its Impact
	on the Christian Church
Ruben Frivold	Ambitions of Chinese Hegemony: An Analysis of The
	Hundred-Year Marathon
Ruben Frivold	Sino-Indian Tensions: India's Response to China's
	Rising Ambitions
Jillian Fournier	The Global Reach of China's Economy

Rule of Law, Transparency, & Accountability in Montview 2610		
Moderator:	Dr. Kahlib Fischer	
<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Topic</u>	
Katherine Doan	Removing a Log from the Nation's Eye: A National	
	Self-Analysis of the Domestic Terrorism Question	
Christopher Boosey	Crossfire in the Crosshairs: Why Prosecutions are	
	Necessary in the Interests of the Republic.	
Christopher Boosey	Giglio Feds: The Void of Ethical Leadership Within	
	Federal Law Enforcement	
Macy Montgomery	Drug Ideologies of the United States	

Plenary Session 4

Cyber and Emerging Technology Threats to U.S. National Security

Professor Scott Roenicke, Moderator







Colonel Benjamin W. Bishop is the Special Assistant to the Director, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) and Operational Liaison to the Department of the Air Force. Prior to assuming his current position, Colonel Bishop served as Assistant Deputy Director, Politico-Military Affairs, Europe/NATO/ Russia, J-5, Joint Staff. Colonel Bishop is a graduate of the USAF Weapons School and a Command Pilot with over 2,700 flight hours. In his spare time, Colonel Bishop also serves as an Assistant Adjunct Professor in the Center for Security Studies within the Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University.

Mike "Rabbi" Harasimowicz, is the Director for Artificial Intelligence Innovations at Lockheed Martin's AI Center leading Rapid Prototyping for Cognitive Application Development and Ethical Use of AI. Prior to his role at Lockheed, Mike served as an executive consultant for the Department of Defense's Joint Artificial Intelligence Center in AI Product Development and as initial cadre of the JAIC's Responsible AI Champions. Mike retired from the U.S. Air Force in 2015 as Wing Commander of the 688th Cyberspace Wing after 25 years of innovating new cybersecurity, intelligence and warfighting.

Shawn Turskey's background spans Federal C-suite, Cyber, and Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) experience, along with commercial experience at Meta Platforms in supporting Intelligence, Operations, and Investigations. He consistently demonstrated success across all elements of the National Security Agency (NSA), U.S. Cyber Command, and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). He specializes in Cyber Operations, Exploitation, Attack, Defense, Policy, Development, Analysis, and Strategic Planning.

Plenary Session 5 America, China, and Global Power Professor Tony Cothron, Moderator







Kevin D. Freeman, CFA, is founder and CEO of Cross Consulting and Services, LLC, DBA, Freeman Global Investment Counsel, an Investment Advisory firm serving High Net-Worth Clients and Institutional Investors. Prior to establishing his own firm, Kevin Freeman wrote a business plan for Sir John Templeton in 1990 and helped build the Templeton Private Client Group from inception. Kevin Freeman is considered one of the world's leading experts on the issues of Economic Warfare and Financial Terrorism. He has consulted for and briefed members of both the U.S. House and Senate, present and past CIA, DIA, FBI, SEC, Homeland Security, the Justice Department, as well as local and state law enforcement.

Dr. Carl Rehberg is an adjunct professor for Liberty University and a non-resident senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments. He was founder and director of the Headquarters Air Force Asia-Pacific Cell, which played a pivotal role in the development of Air Force strategy, force development, planning, and analysis, and war fighting concepts supporting initiatives related to Asia-Pacific and the DoD Third Offset Strategy. He spearheaded the establishment of the China Airspace Studies Institute and led the development of innovative concepts and capability proposals to improve DoD's joint resiliency and integrated air and missile defenses.

Neil Wiley retired from government service in 2021 with 38 years of experience in the national security arena, both as a naval officer and as a civilian intelligence professional. He is currently a Professor of Practice at the University of Maryland Applied Research Laboratory for Intelligence and Security (ARLIS) and Managing Principal of Lyseon Consulting LLC. He most recently served in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) as Principal Executive.

Thomas Jefferson 280th Birthday Reception and Guest Speaker Yeonmi Park



Born in North Korea, human rights activist and TED speaker **Yeonmi Park** grew up in a punishing society devoted to the worship of Kim Jong-Il. But at the age of 13, she and her family made a daring escape to China in search of a life free of tyranny. In her viral talks, viewed online nearly 350 million times, Park urges audiences to recognize—and resist—the oppression that exists in North Korea and around the world.

In 2002, Park's family suffered a crucial blow when her father was arrested and sent to a prison camp for engaging in "illegal trading"—selling materials that no one would be punished for in a free society. In 2007, Park's sister escaped with a friend before she and her mother followed her to China. But before they could locate her, Park and her mother were sold separately to Chinese human traffickers. She recounts her incredible story in her searing memoir, *In Order to Live: A North Korean Girl's Journey to Freedom*, and in the insightful, moving talks based on her experiences.

A candid speaker, Park is fast becoming a leading voice of oppressed people around the world. Her address to One Young World Summit on the horrors of detention camps, political executions, and sex trafficking has been viewed over 320 million times. The BBC named Park one of their "Top 100 Global Women."

Park is also the author of While Time Remains: A North Korean Defector's Search for Freedom in America, published on February 14, 2023.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2023

GENERAL SCHEDULE

8:15 AM – 9:05 AM
9:20 AM – 10:10 AM
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Plenary Session 6 Combating Human Trafficking Professor Larry Presley, Moderator







Heather C. Fischer is the senior advisor for human rights crimes at Thomson Reuters Special Services. Prior to joining Thomson Reuters, Fischer most recently served as White House special advisor for human trafficking, coordinating the President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. Fischer also served as special advisor to the Ambassador-at-Large in the US State Department. Today, Fischer is an advisor to the Knoble network's public-private Financial Crimes Working Group to Prevent Human Trafficking.

Ambassador Morse H. Tan served as the first Asian-American Ambassador at Large in U.S. history. Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice Tan pursued preventative, mitigating, and accountability seeking justice throughout the world for mass atrocity crimes. Ambassador Tan advanced this mission in places such as Rwanda, Kosovo, Burma, and China. Ambassador Tan has served as a Professor of Law at Northern Illinois University College of Law, and he currently serves as Dean at Liberty University School of Law.

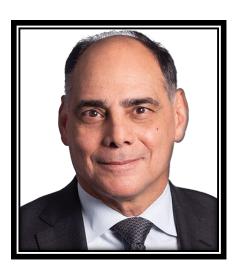
Kristi Wells is the Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Safe House Project, a non-profit organization combating trafficking in America. Safe House Project has helped mentor and launch new safe homes across America for trafficking survivors to find healing. As a human trafficking expert, Kristi is helping to advance a coordinated national response to trafficking in America. She is also a military spouse and mom to 3 kiddos.

Plenary Session 7

Career Development & Masters of Public Policy Dr. Mary Prentice, Moderator



Grace Barron is the Director of Marketing and Recruitment for Forge Leadership Network and an alumna of the Forge Mentorship Academy. A graduate of Grove City College with a degree in History, Grace served as Editor in Chief of the college newspaper The Collegian and facilitated student events with organizations including American Enterprise Institute, American Majority, Leadership Institute, American Conservative Union, and Americans For Prosperity. Before joining the Forge team, Grace worked on a conservative New Hampshire congressional campaign developing a thriving intern program that was responsible for thousands of voter contacts.



Dr. James Jay Carafano, a leading expert in national security and foreign policy challenges, is the vice president of the Heritage Foundation's Kathryn and Shelby Cullom Davis Institute for National Security and Foreign Policy and the E. W. Richardson Fellow. Carafano is an accomplished historian and teacher as well as a prolific writer and researcher. His recent research has focused on developing the national security required to secure the long-term interests of the United States. Carafano, a 25-year Army veteran with a master's and doctorate from Georgetown University, now directs Heritage's team of foreign and defense policy experts in five centers on the front lines of international affairs.

Liberty University Convocation with Governor Ron DeSantis



Governor Ronald D. DeSantis is the forty-sixth governor of the state of Florida. A native Floridian with blue-collar roots, Ron DeSantis worked his way through Yale University, where he graduated with honors. He also graduated with honors from Harvard Law School. While at Harvard, he earned a commission in the U.S. Navy as a JAG officer. During his active-duty service, he supported operations at the terrorist detention center at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and deployed to Iraq as an adviser to a U.S. Navy SEAL commander in support of the SEAL mission in Fallujah, Ramadi and the rest of Al Anbar province. His military decorations include the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service and the Iraq Campaign Medal.

After active-duty service, Ron DeSantis served as a federal prosecutor, where he targeted and convicted child predators. He still serves in the U.S. Navy Reserve. He was first elected to Congress in 2012, as the U.S. Representative for Florida's Sixth District, where he fought for term limits, the No Budget/No Pay Act, and to cut taxes. While serving in Congress, he refused his Congressional pension and health insurance plan because he is against special deals for politicians. He also sponsored legislation to make it easier for the military to prosecute sexual assault and authored the bill to end the secret taxpayer-funded slush fund for members of Congress to make hush payoffs for sexual harassment. Governor DeSantis is married to Casey DeSantis, an Emmy Award-winning television host. Together, they are the proud parents of their daughter, Madison, and their son, Mason.



The Liberty University Journal of Statesmanship & Public Policy explores topics in the realms of national security, international relations, domestic policy, and political philosophy from a deeply thoughtful, ethical, and Christian perspective. Current residential and online undergraduate, graduate, and faculty of Liberty University are invited to submit original articles by May 15, 2023. for the next issue.

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