

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Betty Moseley Brown, Ed.D.

Dr. Betty Moseley Brown is the Associate Director of the Center for Women Veterans at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). In this capacity, she advises and assists the Director in planning, directing, managing, and coordinating programs and activities of the Center. Dr. Moseley Brown also serves as the facilitator for VA's National Summit on Women Veterans' Issues – a major training and outreach quadrennial event for women veterans, advocates, and other federal agencies that provide services to women veterans, promoting transparent, interagency communication on issues impacting women in the military and women veterans. Dr. Moseley Brown has been instrumental in promoting national awareness of the contributions made by women who served in the military through multiple department-wide efforts, such as VA's "Her Story" campaign and the "Face Behind the File: Women at War" DVD.

After serving in the United States Marine Corps (1978-1992), Dr. Moseley Brown began her career with VA at the San Diego Regional Office, where she was a Veterans Benefits Counselor and served as the Women Veterans Coordinator. Following a brief tenure at the Department of the Navy, Dr. Moseley Brown returned to VA in 2001, working in the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Compensation and Pension Service, and later for the Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Policy and Program Management. She was the VBA's first outreach coordinator, coordinating outreach activities of five major programs and efficiently providing veterans and their dependents with information on benefits and services administered by VA.

Dr. Moseley Brown earned her doctor of education degree from the University of Sarasota and is an alumnus of Leadership VA and a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute.

Captain Lory Manning USN (Ret.)

Captain Lory Manning served in the U.S. Navy for over 25 years and is now the Director of the Women in the Military Project at the Women's Research and Education Institute.

While on active duty, Capt. Manning served as Commanding Officer for the Naval Computer and Telecommunications Station (NCTS) in Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory. She also served as Executive Officer of NCTS in Balboa, Panama, Communications Department Head at NCTS Keflavik, Iceland, and Company Officer and Military Justice Instructor at Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island. Her other tours include assignments on the staffs of the Chief of Naval Operations, Chief of Naval Personnel, Chief of Legislative Affairs, and on the London staff of the Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe. She served on the Secretary of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Women Veterans from March 1998 through September 2004 and on the Military Advisory Committee of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network from March 2008 until March 2009.

Capt. Manning's military decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with two gold stars, and the Navy Commendation Medal.

Capt. Manning earned her bachelor's degree in history from Trinity College and her master's degree in liberal studies from Georgetown University. She is a graduate of the College of Command and Staff and the Post-Command Course at the U.S. Navy War College.

Joy J. Ilem

Joy Ilem, a U.S. Army service-connected disabled veteran, is the Deputy National Legislative Director of the 1.2 million-member Disabled American Veterans (DAV), a position she assumed in June 2009. In this capacity, Ms. Ilem directs the advancement of DAV's public policy objectives to promote and defend responsible legislation to assist disabled veterans and their families nationwide, while guarding current veterans' benefits and services from legislative erosion.

Ms. Ilem began her DAV career as a member of Class III at National Service Officer (NSO) Training Academy in Denver. Following her graduation in 1996, she was assigned as an NSO Trainee at the National Service Office in Phoenix, Arizona, and then as a National Appeals Officer with DAV staff at the Board of Veterans Appeals in Washington. In 1999, she was transferred to the National Service and Legislative Headquarters to serve as an Associate National Legislative Director; she was appointed Assistant Director in 2000 and held that title until her current appointment.

Ms. Ilem enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1982. Following basic training at Ft. Jackson, South Carolina and advanced medical training at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas, she was assigned as a medic to the 67th Evacuation Hospital in Wurzburg, Germany, where she underwent additional certification as an emergency medical technician (EMT). Her military duties included emergency room assignments and non-commissioned officer in charge (NCOIC) of recovery room operations. She was honorably discharged from the Army in 1985.

Ms. Ilem received her bachelor's degree in archaeology from the University of Arizona at Tucson, where she also minored in religious studies.

Deborah L. Frett

Deborah Frett became CEO of BPW Foundation in May 2005. She is a frequent speaker and panelist on the implementation of successful workplaces, providing expertise in the areas of workforce development, workplace policy, and job readiness as they pertain to working women and businesses.

Under Ms. Frett's leadership, BPW Foundation conducted the first research on the challenges facing women veterans in their transition from military to civilian careers and hosted the inaugural Joining Forces for Women Veterans National Summit. Most recently, the organization launched the Joining Forces for Women Veterans and Military Spouses Mentoring Plus™. Ms. Frett is a member of the 2012/2013 Pfizer Small Business Council, and has served on the planning committee for the Department of Veterans Affairs 2011 National Training Summit on Women Veterans. She also is a member of the Inter Department Work Group on Women Veterans Employment.

Prior to joining BPW Foundation, Ms. Frett was an entrepreneur serving as an independent consultant and chief executive officer for DFA Project Solutions. She previously served as executive director for an online start-up, SeniorNavigator, a public-private partnership initiative with the Virginia Health Care, AOL Time Warner, and CollisWarner Foundations. Ms. Frett began her career in association management at the American Hospital Association, where she served for 23 years in various capacities.

Ms. Frett earned her bachelor's degree in sociology from Quincy University. She also earned an advanced certification in nonprofit management through the Nonprofit Organizations Program at Virginia Commonwealth University.