

Committee on Sexual Assault at Sea

SPEAKER BIOS

Session 1:

Stefanie Goebel

Stefanie Goebel graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy with the first gender integrated class in 1980. She served for nearly 13 years as a General Unrestricted Line Officer (1100). Ms. Goebel has over 30 years experience in the field of gender equity work. Her focus has been developing and implementing leadership, mentoring, and advocacy programs for girls and women in both government and nonprofit organizations. Most recently Ms. Goebel has been active with *USNA Women*, a Shared Interest Group (SIG) of the U. S. Naval Academy Alumni Association. Since 2021 she has served as the Chair of the Survivor Advocacy Network (SAN), a committee of *USNA Women*. The SAN's mission is to 1) support the healing of and advocate for women officer, officer veteran and service academy alumnae survivors of sexual assault and 2) support the USNA SAPR office in their mission to prevent and respond to midshipman sexual assault. The SAN fulfills its mission through developing and conducting virtual and in person healing events for women officers/veterans, women who attended military colleges (regardless of graduation status), as well as practitioners who work with these populations.

Amy Zabel

Amy Zabel is a registered nurse and experienced forensic nursing educator who serves as an instructor for the Department of Defense (DoD) Inter-service Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examiner (SAMFE) Course at the U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School at Joint Base San Antonio–Fort Sam Houston. The SAMFE Course is a rigorous, standardized training program designed to prepare military healthcare providers—including nurses, physicians, and medics—from all branches of the armed forces to conduct comprehensive, trauma-informed sexual assault medical forensic examinations. The course emphasizes evidence collection, documentation, and survivor-centered care in alignment with military and civilian legal standards. Through her instructional role, Zabel contributes to strengthening the military's capacity to respond effectively and sensitively to sexual assault, ensuring that survivors receive competent, compassionate forensic care.

Session 2:

Major General James Johnson (Retired)

Major General James Johnson served over 30 years in the Air Force and for the last decade, in and out of uniform, he has been a leader and advocate for improving sexual assault prevention and response. At the Pentagon, he established A1Z, the office responsible for transforming the Air Force's strategic framework for addressing sexual assault. Additionally, his work on the Independent Review Commission led to significant policy changes, including the creation of the Integrated Primary Prevention Workforce. General Johnson also served as an executive consultant and as a member on several boards, including the Chairman of the Air Force Academy Board of Advisors.

Session 3:

Captain Leanne Lusk (Retired)

Captain Leanne Lusk retired from the U.S. Coast Guard in 2023, concluding 29 years of honorable service. While on active duty, Captain Lusk spent two years at sea onboard a high endurance cutter, conducting Coast Guard missions in the Pacific Ocean and Alaska's Bering Sea. From 2013-2015, she served as the Deputy Director of the Coast Guard's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Military Campaign Office, where her team was responsible for overhauling the Service's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program. In this role, she was awarded the Department of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention Innovation Award. Captain Lusk also served on the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault, working to assist colleges and universities in addressing campus sexual assault. In 2022, she received the Captain Niels P. Thomsen Innovation Award for Culture Change, where her team introduced multi-disciplinary team support to field commanders with members in need of immediate mental health intervention. Captain Lusk is a 1998 graduate of the United States Coast Guard Academy and earned an MBA from the University of Phoenix in 2013.

Captain Andrea Marcille (Retired)

Andrea Marcille assumed the role of the President of the United States Coast Guard Academy Alumni Association in 2015. CAPT Marcille retired from active duty in 2014 after serving more than 25 years in the Coast Guard. She is a 1989 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy where she received a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, and in 1999 earned a Master of Science in Instructional Systems Technology from Indiana University. Her last active duty assignments, Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Leadership Development Center and Cadet Training Officer, saw her stationed at the Academy for the last nine years of her service. During her Coast Guard career she split her time with assignments at sea for four tours, including serving as Commanding Officer of USCGC PEA ISLAND and Executive Officer on the Barque EAGLE, and several assignments within the Coast Guard Training System.

In preparing for her transition to lead the Alumni Association she served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors from 2009-2012, where she was involved in the execution of the Association's first major fundraising campaign, the Leadership 44 Project, to provide eight sailing vessels to support the Coastal Sail Training Program, a key experience in the CGA Leader Development Program. She was also involved in the creation of the USCG Women's Leadership Initiative, a very successful endeavor that supports mentorship, networking and professional development opportunities for Coast Guard women and alumni.

Rear Admiral Cari Thomas (Retired)

Rear Admiral (Retired) Thomas entered the Coast Guard in 1980, when women had been attending service academies for just four years. The first third of her career was spent serving aboard CG ships as the USCGC MANITOU's Commanding Officer (WPB 1302). Following this, she served in training, personnel, resources, and coastal operations ashore. Her last decade was spent negotiating international agreements in the Arctic, as the head of human resources, and operating the Coast Guard in the Central and Western Pacific as the 14th District Commander. After 36 years in uniform, Cari worked as a non-profit executive to advocate for the military, educate the public about the sea services, and support the sea services and their families. At CG Mutual Assistance, Rear Admiral Thomas led the organization through the 2019 government shutdown with a record \$8.4 million in relief in a short 35 days, after obtaining a \$15 million perpetual gift to assist members of the Coast Guard and their families. In her third life chapter, Cari is a full-time student at Arizona State University and will receive her third Master's degree in May 2026. She lives in Tucson, Arizona, with her husband of 38 years, two rescue dogs, and has a grown daughter and son-in-law. Cari likes to paint, draw, and play the ukulele. She is a recovering perfectionist.