

**GEORGE A. B. PEIRCE**  
*Curriculum Vitae*

**Culverhouse Distinguished Practitioner in Residence**

**Stetson University College of Law**

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**Leadership Profile:**

Nearly four decades of legal and leadership experience as an agency General Counsel, litigation attorney, legal advisor and law professor in the federal government and private sector, including extensive experience in the areas of:

- federal litigation and investigations
- national security, constitutional, international, and environmental law
- federal, legal and corporate ethics, compliance and governance

Top Secret/SCI security clearance (subject to access); active member, District of Columbia Bar.

**Education:**

J.D. (*cum laude*), Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1979

M.S. of Strategic Intelligence, National Intelligence University, Washington, D.C., 2014

B.S. (Distinguished Cadet), U.S. Military Academy, West Point, New York, 1974

Graduate, U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, 1999

**Professional Experience:**

**Culverhouse Distinguished Practitioner in Residence, Stetson University College of Law, Gulfport, Florida, 2017 to present:** Courses include International Law, Civil Procedure, Federal Courts, International Security Law and Policy, Trial

Advocacy, and an advanced Constitutional and National Security Law Seminar on the Powers of the President, Congress and the Courts in the national security arena.

**General Counsel, Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), Washington, D.C.,**

**2004-2016:** Member of the Defense Intelligence Senior Executive Service and chief legal officer of a combat support agency with a work force of over 16,500 and a multi-billion dollar budget; led and managed the legal department in five locations providing advice and representation on all legal matters affecting DIA's worldwide intelligence mission supporting the President and other national policymakers, combatant commanders, and defense planners evaluating foreign weapons systems.

- Multiple roles: Counselor, teacher, facilitator, mentor, advocate, strategic planner, problem solver, honest broker, and ethical conscience for the agency as the Designated Agency Ethics Official; designed and implemented values-based ethics training for all DIA senior leaders
- Provided guidance and representation on intelligence operations, human resources and equal employment opportunity law and litigation, international law, federal ethics, government contract and fiscal law, internal investigations, organizational and information security, export controls, CFIUS matters, risk management, privacy law and policy, development and review of legislative proposals, constitutional and statutory interpretation, and support to international war crimes tribunals and federal terrorism prosecutions
- Provided counsel on all legal issues affecting the National Intelligence University, an accredited institution of higher education awarding Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Strategic Intelligence
- Upon becoming General Counsel, took prompt action to strengthen law of war training for all deploying personnel to ensure adherence to Geneva Conventions requirements for humane treatment of all enemy detainees
- Guided the expansion of a legal department as it tripled in size by embedding attorneys with their client organizations to enhance attorney-client relationships and fully integrate legal support throughout the agency's operational components
- Created and annually hosted a four-day DIA legal education workshop on intelligence and counterintelligence law recognized for its excellence in

addressing cutting-edge issues and attended by attorneys from throughout the U.S. Intelligence Community

- Led the successful effort to obtain Department of Defense approval for DIA's assumption of responsibility for the Intelligence Community's Centers of Academic Excellence grant program for both individual colleges and universities and consortiums of participating institutions of higher education
- Facilitated DIA support to a Defense Department Inspector General investigation that rejected false allegations against DIA made by a member of Congress concerning pre-9/11 intelligence activities
- Teamed with the DIA Inspector General to produce an investigative report for the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence demonstrating that criticisms leveled at DIA human source intelligence operations in the WMD Commission report were unfounded

**Professorial Lecturer in Law, The George Washington University Law School, Washington, D.C., 2015:** At the Law School's invitation, designed and taught a new advanced seminar on constitutional and national security law approved by the full-time faculty examining the Constitution and the national security powers of the President, Congress and the federal courts.

**Principal Deputy Staff Judge Advocate (Deputy Chief Counsel), United States Joint Forces Command, Norfolk Naval Base, Virginia, 2001-2002:** As a Colonel, Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Army Reserve, volunteered for active duty following the September 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States.

- Served as a senior legal officer and advisor to the Commander, U.S. Joint Forces Command/NATO Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic and his staff during the initial phases of Operation Noble Eagle (the military defense of the United States) and Operation Enduring Freedom against al Qaeda and the Taliban
- Provided daily supervision of a rapidly expanded legal department supporting the combatant commander of a joint force of several hundred thousand military personnel comprised of Army Forces Command, the Navy's Atlantic Fleet, Marine Forces Atlantic, and Air Force Air Combat

Command, with a NATO area of responsibility covering over 12 million square miles

- Responsible for legal guidance on all matters involving combat operations, international and operational law, internal investigations, government ethics, intelligence law and oversight, government contracts, military support to civil authorities, military justice, and personnel law

**Trial Attorney, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., 1995-2001 and 2002-2004:** Lead counsel for the United States in the prosecution of civil enforcement actions in federal court against corporate and individual defendants for violations of federal environmental laws protecting the nation's land, air and water resources.

- Responsible for all phases of civil litigation in the district courts; supervised the work of other attorneys, law clerks, paralegals, consultants and legal assistants on the litigation teams for assigned cases
- Secured favorable trial verdicts, summary judgments and consent decrees for the United States in all assigned cases, including cost recoveries, injunctive relief and civil penalties valued at over \$260 million
- Recipient of the Department of Justice Special Commendation for Outstanding Service

**Associate, Steptoe & Johnson, Washington, D.C., 1988-1995:** Areas of emphasis included legal, corporate and government ethics, trial and appellate litigation, international law and international trade, and complex commercial arbitration.

- Provided guidance to business organizations, law firms and individual attorneys on the professional ethical standards governing corporate officers, directors and attorneys
- Advised corporate officers and political appointees on federal conflict-of-interest laws and related limitations on post-government employment
- Member of a trial team that successfully defended a multinational corporation in the jury trial of a federal class-action suit for treble damages under price control regulations

- Co-authored U.S. Supreme Court briefs in successful *pro bono* representation of crime victims' rights organizations as *amici curiae* in capital murder cases
- Served as lead counsel in the successful *pro bono* representation of Somali refugees in U.S. immigration proceedings and a disabled U.S. Army veteran before the U.S. Court of Veterans Appeals
- Provided guidance to a multinational corporation with operations in the Middle East on the legal status of its employees under the Geneva Conventions of 1949 during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm to expel Iraqi forces from Kuwait
- Participant and contributing drafter in the preparation of the American Bar Association's Special Task Force *Report on the International Tribunal to Adjudicate War Crimes Committed in Former Yugoslavia* (1993)

**International Law Faculty, The Judge Advocate General's (JAG) School, U.S. Army, Charlottesville, Virginia, 1987-1988:** Personally selected by the JAG School Commandant for assignment to the faculty; conducted classes on international law, including core curricula and elective seminars in the JAG School's Master of Laws (LL.M.) program.

- Redesigned and supervised the presentation of a seminar on legal aspects of counterterrorism featuring presentations by U.S. and allied nation counterterrorism officials
- Conducted an LL.M. elective seminar on the Law of Peace: International Law of the Sea, Air and Outer Space

**Assistant to the Army General Counsel, Office of the Secretary of the Army, Pentagon, Washington, D.C., 1985-1987:** Provided legal advice to the Army leadership on administrative and international law, to include government ethics, fiscal law and budget issues, Panama Canal Treaty implementation, the conduct of intelligence activities and special operations, and investigation of the Army's role in the Iran-Contra Affair.

- Prepared the legal memorandum for the Army General Counsel non-concurring with a proposed transfer of weapons from the Army to another agency that halted further weapons transfers in the Iran-Contra operation

- Prepared an investigative memorandum describing a series of unlawful augmentations of federal appropriations for an Army-sponsored program that led to immediate congressional action to provide substantial supplemental funding for the program
- Represented the Army General Counsel's Office in meetings of the binational Panama Canal Commission Board of Directors during implementation of the Panama Canal Treaty

**Attorney, International Affairs Division, Office of The Judge Advocate General, Pentagon, Washington, D.C., 1984-1985:** Provided legal guidance to the Army Staff on the status of U.S. forces overseas, international military operations and plans, the law of war, security assistance, foreign military sales programs, and peacekeeping operations.

**Command Judge Advocate, U.S. Army Intelligence & Security Command Field Station, Sinop, Turkey, 1983-1984:** Provided guidance on international and intelligence law, military justice, and administrative law to a joint Army-Navy command engaged in strategic intelligence operations, together with legal assistance to individual service members assigned to the command.

Served, in turn, as **Chief Trial Counsel, Special Assistant United States Attorney, Contract Attorney, and Chief, Administrative Law, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas, 1980-1982:**

- Successfully prosecuted courts-martial and obtained convictions for premeditated murder, rape, armed robbery, aggravated assault, fraud, obstruction of justice, and other crimes
- Obtained convictions on 99 of 102 charges in federal court for crimes involving the Cuban refugee resettlement operation
- Wrote the *1st Infantry Division Field Standing Operating Procedures* for compliance with the law of war during military operations

**Executive Leadership Programs:**

Graduate, Intelligence Community Executive Leadership Program,

Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, 2005

Graduate, U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, 1999 – capstone of education in strategic leadership for competitively selected Army officers

**Principal Military Awards:**

Legion of Merit; Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Army Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters; Army Commendation Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Humanitarian Service Medal; Parachutist Badge; Army Staff Identification Badge

**Individual Academic and Public Presentations:**

- “Intelligence and the Law,” graduate seminar on Intelligence and National Security, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., February 2012 and January 2014
- Panelist, “Can Intelligence Agencies Protect Us from Terrorists?” St. Petersburg Conference on World Affairs, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, FL, February 2018
- “The Legal Aspects of Advising Strategic Leaders,” National Defense University, graduate seminar on Advising Strategic Leaders, Washington, D.C., November 2012 and February 2014
- Chair, Plenary Session, Oxford Conference on the Ethics of National Security Intelligence, Oxford Intelligence Group and International Intelligence Ethics Association, Nuffield College, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom, March 2011
- “Intelligence as a Learned Profession,” Conference on Ethics in the Intelligence Community, International Intelligence Ethics Association, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, February 2009
- “Law, Intelligence and National Security: A Critical Perspective,” Course on Intelligence Law, The Judge Advocate General’s Legal Center and School, U.S. Army, Charlottesville, Virginia, May 2004

**Professional Publications:**

Contributing author, The Judge Advocate General's School, U.S. Army,  
*Operational Law Handbook* (2001 edition)

*Trade Round-up*, 11 Canadian Law Newsletter 3 (1990)

*Selective Adoption of the New Law of the Sea: The United States Proclaims Its  
Exclusive Economic Zone*, 23 Virginia Journal of International Law 581 (1983)

*The Neutrality Doctrine in Federal Sector Labor Relations*, The Army Lawyer 18  
(July 1983)

*Humanitarian Protection for the Victims of War: The System of Protecting Powers  
and the Role of the ICRC*, 90 Military Law Review 89 (1980)

*Arms Control: SALT*, 19 Harvard International Law Journal 372 (1978)