**Farmer Veteran Stakeholders Conference**  
*InterContinental Kansas City at the Plaza*  
401 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, MO 64112  
November 14-17, 2018

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<th><strong>Wednesday</strong></th>
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<td>01:30 pm – 05:00 pm</td>
<td>State Chapters Meeting</td>
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<td><strong>Rooftop Bar</strong></td>
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<td>02:00 pm – 07:00 pm</td>
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<th><strong>Thursday</strong></th>
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<td>07:00 am – 09:00 am</td>
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<td>08:00 am – 09:00 am</td>
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<td>09:00 am – 10:30 am</td>
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Call to Order – **Col. Ken DeVan (Ret.),** President, Kansas Farmer Veteran Coalition

Presentation of Colors  
National Anthem  
Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation – **James McCormick,** President, West Virginia Farmer Veteran Coalition  
Welcome to Missouri - **Chris Chinn,** Director of Agriculture, Missouri Department of Agriculture  
**Zippy Duvall,** President, American Farm Bureau Federation  
**Michael O’Gorman,** Executive Director, Farmer Veteran Coalition

10:30 am – 10:45 am  
Break and Snack – Exhibit Floor Open  
**Salon 1A, 1B**

10:45 am – 12:15 pm  
**Breakout Sessions**

Ag Careers – Employment Opportunities in Agriculture  
**Pavilion 3**

Moderator: **Len Monaco,** Acting Chief Operating Officer, Farmer Veteran Coalition

1. **Matt Smiley,** Farmer, Jacobs Farm/Del Cabo
2. **Victor Hernandez,** Outreach Coordinator and Sociologist, USDA NRCS
3. **Matt Keesling,** Dairy Farm Apprentice/Pasture Manager, Bures’ Family Farm

Animal Production - Beekeeping  
**Rooftop Ballroom**

Moderator: **Adam Ingrao,** Agricultural Entomologist Educator, Veteran Liaison, Michigan State University Extension

1. **Alejandro Jauregui,** Beekeeper, Fury Bees & Pollination
2. **Col. Gary LaGrange (Ret.),** Founder and President, Servicemember Agricultural Vocation Education
Crop Production – Berry Production  
**Plaza Room**

**Moderator:** Rachel Petitt, Fellowship Fund Manager, Farmer Veteran Coalition

1. Patrick Byers, Field Specialist in Horticulture, University of Missouri Extension  
2. Ken DeVan, Blueberry Farmer and Beekeeper  
3. Shane Mathis, Blackberry Grower Big Springs Berries

Crop Production - Hydroponic Greenhouse Production  
**Pavilion 2**

**Moderator:** Michael O’Gorman, Executive Director, Farmer Veteran Coalition  
**Colin Archipley,** Co-Founder, Archi’s Acres and Archi’s Institute of Sustainable Agriculture

12:15 pm – 12:30 pm  
**Break**

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm  
**Lunch Buffet**

Col. Cindy Chastain (Ret.), Veteran Outreach Coordinator, National AgrAbility Project,  
Breaking New Ground Resource Center, Purdue University

01:30 pm – 03:00 pm  
**Plenary Session: Government Partners Panel**

**Moderator:** Lt. Col. Keith W. Wilson, US Army, Regional Director, Northeast US and Europe

1. US Department of Agriculture: Bill Ashton, Military Veterans Agricultural Liaison, Office of Partnerships & Public Engagement  
2. US Department of Defense: Mike Miller, Chief of Private and Public Engagement  
3. US Department of Labor: Theo Coney, Kansas State Director, Veterans’ Employment and Training Service (VETS)  
4. US Department of Veterans Affairs: Karen Besterman-Dahan, PhD, RD, Center of Innovation on Disability and Rehabilitation Research  
5. US Small Business Administration: Thomas Salisbury, SBA Region VII Administrator

03:00 pm – 03:15 pm  
**Break and Snack**

03:15 pm – 04:45 pm  
**Breakout Sessions**

Crop Production – Agroforestry: Maximize Your Land’s Earning Potential  
**Pavilion 3**

**Moderator/Panelist:** Michael A Gold, Interim Director, The Center for Agroforestry,  
Agroforestry Graduate Emphasis Area Coordinator, Research Professor, School of Natural Resources, University of Missouri

1. Larry Godsey, PhD, Assistant Professor of Agribusiness, Missouri Valley College, former Economist, Center for Agroforestry, Veteran, Missouri National Guard  
2. Staff Sgt. Meredith Evans, Air National Guard in NW Missouri, MS in Agroforestry  
3. Marie Ryberg, Farmer Veteran, Center for Agroforestry’s Agroforestry Academy in 2018 Graduate
Ag Careers - Apprenticeships

Moderator: Jose A. Velazquez, Deputy Administrator, Operations and Regional Management, Office of Apprenticeship, US Department of Labor Employment & Training Administration

1. Marisa Alcorta, CA Farm Academy Apprenticeship Manager, Center for Land-Based Learning
2. James McCormick, Veterans and Warriors to Agriculture Coordinator, West Virginia Department of Agriculture
3. Joe Tomandl, Director, Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship

Business and Finance – What VBOCs Can Do for You

Darcella Craven, President, Veterans Business Resource Center, Missouri

Business and Finance – USDA at Your Service

1. FSA – Jessica Claypole, Public Affairs/Outreach Specialist
2. NRCS – Gorman Bennett, District Conservationist and Missouri NRCS Veterans Emphasis Program Manager
3. RMA – Jeff Darrow, Risk Management Analyst, Topeka Regional Office

04:45 pm – 05:30 pm Break

05:30 pm – 07:00 pm Cocktail Reception

07:00 pm – 09:00 pm Dinner on Your Own

Friday 16 November

07:04 am Sunrise flag-raising ceremony at National Agricultural Center and Hall of Fame, Bonner Springs, Kansas | Organizer: Col. Ken DeVan (Ret.)

07:00 am – 01:00 pm Exhibit/Tradeshow

08:00 am – 09:00 am Registration

08:00 am – 08:45 am Continental Breakfast

09:00 am – 10:30 am Plenary Session

Jackie McClaskey, PhD, Secretary of Agriculture, Kansas Department of Agriculture

Susan Metzger, Senior Executive Administrator, Kansas State University College of Agriculture and K-State Research and Extension

Lt. Gen. Mike Dodson (Ret.), Chairman of the Board, Servicemember Agricultural Vocation Education (SAVE)

10:30 am – 10:45 am Break and Snack
10:45 am – 12:15 pm  
**Breakout Sessions**

Animal Production - Aquaculture  
Pavilion 3
Moderator: **Dean Koyanagi**, Farmer Veteran Program Associate, Cornell Small Farms Program
**Daniel Barth**, Owner, Patriot Shellfish Farms

Animal Production – Pastured Poultry  
Plaza Room
**Terrell Spencer**, Owner, Across the Creek Farm

Crop Production – Food Safety and Modernization Act  
Rooftop Ballroom
1. **Chelsea Matzen**, FSMA Project Director, National Farmers Union
2. **Chris Dorsey**, Army Veteran, Founder and Executive Director of Warrior Farms, Program Coordinator/Veteran Liaison at the University of Georgia's Farm Again Program

Business and Finance – Growing Cash Flow  
Pavilion 2
**Gary Matteson**, FVC Board Chair, VP, Farm Credit Council, Young, Beginning, Small Farmer Programs and Outreach

12:15 pm – 12:30 pm  
Break

12:30 pm – 01:30 pm  
Lunch  
Salon 2, 3
**Karen Besterman-Dahan, PhD, RD**, Center of Innovation on Disability and Rehabilitation Research

02:30 pm  
Exhibit Hall Ends

01:30 pm – 03:00 pm  
**Plenary Session: Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans Panel**  
Salon 2, 3
Moderator: **Brent Elrod**, National Program Leader, Community Development, USDA-NIFA
1. **Col. Gary LaGrange (Ret.)**, Servicemember Agricultural Vocation Education
2. **Justin Myers**, Recipe for Success Foundation
3. **Michael O’Gorman**, Farmer Veteran Coalition
4. **Samuel Scott**, North-South Institute
5. **Joe Tomandl**, Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship
6. **Lovay Wallace-Singleton**, Veterans Employment Base Camp and Organic Garden

03:00 pm – 03:15 pm  
Break and Beverages  
Salon 1A, 1B

03:15 pm – 05:00 pm  
**Plenary Session: Successful Farmer Veterans Panel**  
Salon 2, 3
Moderator: **Brig. Gen. Charlie Kruse (Ret.)**, MOARNG, Vice President, Farmer Veteran Coalition
1. **Alejandro Jauregui** – Beekeeper, Fury Bees & Pollination
2. **Sarah Porter** – Maple syrup farmer, Goodrich’s Maple Farm
3. **Mike Reynolds** – Cattle rancher, Reynolds Cattle Ranch
4. **Kevin Schenker** – Beef, lamb, pork, poultry producer, Schenker Farms
05:00 pm – 06:00 pm  Reception  Ballroom Pre-Function

06:00 pm – 08:00 pm  Dinner  Salon 1A, 1B, 2
Kubota Video Presentation: Alex Woods
Farm Credit Council Video Presentation: Gary Matteson

Saturday  17 November

08:00 am – 08:45 am  Light Refreshments

09:00 am – 10:45 am  Plenary Session: Marketing Your Farm and the Homegrown By Heroes Label  Salon 2, 3
Moderator: Gary Matteson, FVC Board Chair, VP, Farm Credit Council, Young, Beginning, Small Farmer Programs and Outreach
Homegrown By Heroes Panelists:
1. Mark Bowen
2. Sara Creech
3. Josh Eilers
4. Davon Goodwin
5. Frank Ritz

10:45 am – 11:00 am  Closing Remarks – Michael O’Gorman and Gary Matteson
Retirement of Colors