



KEYNOTES APRIL 30TH and MAY 1, 2026

Camp Ripley, MN

Breaking Points: Understanding Psychological Injury, Moral Injury, and Leadership in Crisis

This April 30th, 2026 Keynote session explores the concept of psychological breaking points across high-stress professions, including military, fire service, nursing, and law enforcement. Participants will learn to differentiate PTSD from moral injury, recognize early indicators of breaking points, and apply crisis leadership strategies drawn from Admiral William McRaven's Conquering Crisis framework. The presentation combines military history, clinical insights, personal testimony, and frontline vignettes, providing practical tools for leaders and providers to enhance resilience, maintain morale, and prevent organizational collapse.



Joshua Deisinger is a medically retired U.S. Army Staff Sergeant with over two years of combat deployment experience in Iraq. He is a clinician specializing in trauma, moral injury, and resilience among veterans, first responders, and healthcare professionals. Currently, he serves in a specialized clinical program titled Firewatch for Rogers Behavioral Health. Joshua is pursuing his Doctorate in Organizational Leadership at the University of Dayton, where his research focuses on the declining membership of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and organizational change strategies. Drawing from both lived experience and professional expertise, he brings a unique perspective that bridges frontline realities with evidence-based practice and leadership frameworks.

Military Mental Health Conference agenda and registration

<https://www.militarymentalhealthcoalition.com/annual-conference>

May 1, 2026 Keynote session

Understanding Transition: A Preliminary Review of California National Guard Service Members Mental Health Utilization

National Guard service members face unique transition challenges unlike their active-duty counterparts. Understanding who is seeking mental health treatment can provide critical information for state military departments to better support National Guard service members during times of transition. This presentation will review preliminary mental health treatment data for California National Guard service members who have sought mental health treatment through an innovative community partnership. Considerations for policy and practice implications will be discussed.



LTC Dustin Harris currently serves in the California Army National Guard (CAARNG) as the Director of Psychological Health (Joint). In this capacity, he provides executive leadership and oversight of the California Military Department's statewide Behavioral Health program, including direct supervision of the full-time behavioral health force and strategic management of more than twenty traditional Behavioral Health Officers across the state. From 2019 to 2021, LTC Harris commanded the 297th Area Support Medical Company and was activated as the Medical Task Force Commander during the California National Guard's COVID-19 support mission, overseeing critical medical response operations across the state. LTC Harris has deployed in support of contingency operations to Kuwait, Iraq, and Afghanistan, and has also traveled to Ukraine and Poland to train Ukrainian and NATO forces.



Dr. Nick Boyd was an enlisted military police officer in both the Oregon and California Army National Guard. During his enlisted service, he held positions as a squad leader, honor guard member, and career counselor. He continues to serve in the California State Guard as a behavioral health officer, providing support to National Guard soldiers across California. Currently, he is an Assistant Professor at the University of San Diego, as well as the VA San Diego Lead Licensed Professional Mental Health Counselor (LPMHC) and Director of Clinical Training for Counseling. He received his M.A. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from the University of San Diego and a Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision from the University of the Cumberland.