

# SOCIETY FOR MILITARY PSYCHOLOGY

Presents this 2019 Presidential Citation to

*Lieutenant Aaron J. Banas, PsyD*

For his selfless service, leadership, and innovative approaches to serving the military community while forwarding the mission of the Society for Military Psychology.

As a student and prior to completing his internship, LT Banas made major contributions to the Society's strategic plan committee by championing the strategic partnership strategic objective, in which several partnerships were established. He also served as a committee member for the Advocacy for Military Psychology Summit in Washington, D.C. For the Summit, LT Banas coordinated with nine well-known veteran service organizations (VSOs) to create a successful day of program information exchange and consultation for these organizations, with over 100 attendees at this event.

LT Banas, upon completing his internship this year, became a staff psychologist and behavioral health consultant at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC). Previously, LT Banas served as a Hospital Corpsman and was deployed during Operation Enduring Freedom. Following his enlistment, he obtained a position at Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton and contributed to the development of the Navy and Marine Corps' first dual diagnosis intensive outpatient program. He then relocated to the newly established WRNMMC and contributed to creation of the Resiliency and Psychological Health Program. LT Banas later led therapeutic outdoor retreats for combat veterans up until he entered graduate school at the George Washington University. He continued to be involved with military and veteran organizations to support service members, veterans, and families.

For his initiative and leadership in organizing VSOs, providing resources to service members and their family members, and advancing the field of military psychology and Society objectives, I, Stephen V. Bowles, take great pleasure in presenting the Society for Military Psychology Presidential Citation to LT Aaron Banas.

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Stephen V. Bowles, PhD, ABPP  
President, Society for Military Psychology

