

Declan Ware

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Veteran Services Professional and former U.S. Army Noncommissioned Officer with extensive experience in leadership, operations management, advocacy, and personnel development. Currently serving as Director of Veterans Services for the Town of Whitman, administering state and federal veterans' benefits programs, managing municipal operations, and advocating for veterans and their families. Proven ability to lead teams, manage public resources, coordinate community initiatives, and deliver measurable results in high-responsibility environments.

EDUCATION

Cardinal Spellman High School 2016, (Brockton, MA)

Basic Leaders Course 2019, Christopher R. Brevard NCO Academy (Ft. Richardson, AK)

Advanced Leaders Course 2021, 1-204th Regional Training Institute (IDARNG)

Work History

US Army January 2017 - February 2025

Director of Veterans' Services (Town of Whitman) February 2025 - Present

February 2025 - Current

Director of Veterans Services | Town of Whitman MA

Responsible for overseeing the delivery of benefits, advocacy, and support services to Veterans, their families and surviving spouses within the municipality. Leads all aspects of Veterans Services to include the discharge of M.G.L 115 benefits, Department of Veterans Affairs Claims and municipal benefits to Veterans.

- Oversaw a budget in excess of \$250,000. Successfully delivered over \$120,000 in M.G.L 115 benefits YoY to eligible recipients.
- Planned and executed the Town of Whitman Memorial Day Parade & Tri-Town Veteran's Day celebration. Provided outreach to Veterans via television programming "Your VSO Show".
- Bolstered Federal VA Awards from approximately \$540,000 → \$670,000 during the period of July 2025 - January 2026.
- Certified to Discharge M.G.L 115 benefits through Massachusetts Executive Office of Veterans Services; Federally accredited to execute Veterans Affairs Compensation & Pension Claims. Accreditation #59586.

January 2021 - February 2025

82d Airborne Division | 3rd Brigade Combat Team "Panthers" | Platoon Sergeant | Ft. Bragg, NC

Supervised and led a team of 28 soldiers and ensured each platoon member's combat readiness, physical fitness, health, welfare, morale, and good conduct. Specialized in reconnaissance, surveillance, and making first contact with enemy forces on the frontline.

- Deployed Platoon to Poland during Operation Ensure, Deter, and Reinforce. Successfully moved \$1.5 billion in military equipment overseas and ensured the safety of Platoon continuously during international operations. Led multinational training exercises with Polish forces.
- Led an Airborne Reconnaissance Platoon, responsible for tactical employment, resupply, and casualty evacuation of the Platoon. Ensured overall readiness of Platoon to take part in expeditionary operations as part of the 82nd Airborne Division's Immediate Response Force.
- Exercised Administrative skills ensuring all soldiers remained prepared for any task to include medical readiness, quarterly/annual performance reviews, and PowerPoint and Excel products

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January 2017 - January 2021

25th Infantry Division | 1st Brigade Combat Team "Arctic Wolves" | Fire Team Leader & Squad Leader | Ft. Wainwright, AK

Led and operated a team from both the mounted and dismounted positions to close with and destroy the enemy; trained team and maintained proficiency in team dismounted movements and weapons; oversaw maintenance of all equipment; collected tactical information from the team and passed it up the chain of command; responsible for the health, welfare, and morale of the soldiers they are appointed over.

- Deployed to Iraq as part of Task Force Wolf in support of Operation Inherent Resolve (2019-2020), led six enlisted Soldiers in Combat & Stability Operations.
- Served as a supervisor for Personal Security Detail in Kirkuk Iraq; escorted and protected Field and General Grade Officers under Combat conditions throughout Northern Iraq.
- Led Soldiers in expeditionary Arctic Warfare operations, and conducted Arctic training for 36 Soldiers utilizing Arctic equipment and cross-country skiing.

SKILLS

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- Attention to detail
 - Leader Development
 - Personnel Management
 - Leader Presence
 - Risk mitigation
 - PowerPoint, Excel and Large Presentation Experience
 - M.G.L 115 expertise
 - Federally Accredited VSO

HONORS AND AWARDS

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- Order of Saint George, Black Medallion
 - Excellence in Armor
 - Draper Award (Armor and+ Cavalry Leadership Award; awarded to Unit)
 - Combat Action Badge

Awards and Decorations: Parachutist Badge; 4 Army Commendation Medals; 3 Army Achievement Medals; National Defense Service Medal; Army Service Medal; 1 Army Good Conduct Medal; NCO Professional Development Ribbon (Numeral 2); Operation Inherent Resolve-Iraq Campaign Ribbon w/ 1 Campaign Star; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Ribbon.