



**Performing the Duties of General Counsel  
National Guard Bureau  
Major General Jaime A. Areizaga**



Major General Jaime A. Areizaga is currently Performing the Duties of General Counsel, National Guard Bureau, Office of the General Counsel. He serves as the senior legal advisor to the Chief, National Guard Bureau (NGB) and other senior leaders of the National Guard. MG Areizaga oversees and manages the General Counsel's core legal functions, including Operational and Administrative Law, Contract and Fiscal Law, Strategic Engagement, Environmental and Real Property Law, and legal services provided to the Army and Air National Guard Directorates. He also serves as the Chairman of the Legal Services Advisory Group. Major General Areizaga most recently served as the Special Assistant to the NGB General Counsel, where he led key outreach and senior leader engagements with the Staff Judge Advocate offices across the 54 National Guards in the states, commonwealths, territories, and the District of Columbia.

Major General Areizaga, born and raised in Puerto Rico, was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant upon graduating from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University and completing the Hoya Battalion ROTC Program in 1991. Following his graduation from Stanford Law School, he transferred to the Judge Advocate General's Corps and joined the District of Columbia Army National Guard (DARNG). He began his military legal career as a Legal Assistance Judge Advocate and Defense Counsel, then he served as Senior Defense Counsel and Staff Judge Advocate of the DCARNG. Major General Areizaga served as the Commander of the DARNG's 352d Trial Defense Service Team and as the Commander of the NGB Legal Support Office. In 2018, Army TJAG mobilized him for three years to serve as the Chief of the Army National Guard Trial Defense Service, a 218-Soldier strong formation across all 54 National Guards. In 2022, he was mobilized for six months to serve as NGB's Principal Deputy General Counsel.

In his civilian capacity, Major General Areizaga most recently served as the Chairman of the Board of Veterans' Appeals, where he led 1,400 personnel, including more than 130 Veterans Law Judges, 1,100 attorneys, and 200 support staff, in considering and resolving over 100,000 final decisions annually on Veterans' appeals for benefits and

services. He started his legal career practicing international law for twelve years with large U.S. law firms, including eight years in Brazil, focusing on cross border infrastructure projects. He served as a White House Fellow at the Treasury Department and as the Deputy Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs of Virginia.

Major General Areizaga received a Masters in Latin American Studies from Stanford University, a Masters in Defense and Security from the Inter-American Defense College at Ft. McNair (where he was elected Class President), and a Masters from the National Academy of Political and Strategic Studies of Chile. He is fluent in Spanish, Portuguese, and French and conversational in Italian.