ACGNEXT

Disruptive Growth in the National Capital Region

March 10, 2026
Capital One Headquarters | C2 Auditorium & Atrium
1680 Capital One Drive, McLean, VA 22102

The 2026 ACG Next Conference will explore how autonomous, agentic systems are transforming the competitive landscape across defense, government services, and the broader national security technology ecosystem. As the world accelerates toward artificial general intelligence, the United States must not only harness emerging technologies – it must lead in defining how software agents, autonomous decision-making systems, and human machine teaming shape mission execution and national power.

From adaptive logistics and autonomous strike systems to adversarial-aware cyber defense and automated program management, "Agentic Everything" is becoming the new operational reality. These technologies will not replace human judgment, they will scale it, accelerate it, and preserve decision advantage in an era defined by speed, complexity, and contested domains.

This year's event will focus on the practical pathway from today's AI to agent-driven autonomy at scale, and how industry, government, and the investment community must align policy, capital, and talent to ensure America remains the world's innovation engine.

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11:00 AM	**Conference Registration & Lunch**
12:00 PM	**Welcome to ACG Next** Andy McEnroe, GRVTY; Matt Robinson, Razor's Edge; Morgan Higgins, Blue Delta Capital Partners
12:05 PM	**The Challenges of AI & National Security** Joel Predd, Director, Center for the Geopolitics of AGI; Senior Engineer, RAND
12:20 PM	**State of the Debt Capital Markets** Carolyne Pelton, Regional President, Pinnacle Financial Partners
12:35 PM	**State of the M&A Market** Ryan Hoffman, Lincoln International
12:50 PM	**Break**
1:00 PM	**The Fierce Urgency of Now: AI & Cyber** A discussion between Phil Root, CTO, GRVTY and Richard Danzig, former Sec. of Navy, Senior Fellow at JHU Applied Physics Lab
1:45 PM	**Building the Agentic Ecosystem: Policy, Infrastructure and Trust** Panelists: Bryce Petty, Dark Wolf; Ali Reza Manouchehri, MetroStar; David Spirk, Palantir, Adam Lurie, Knexus | Moderated by: Morgan Higgins, Blue Delta Capital Partners
2:30 PM	**The New Reality of AI in decision making and its impact on the battlefield** A discussion with General Stan McChrystal | Introduction by Aidis Zunde, Cydecor | Moderated by: Katie Selbe, CEO, GRVTY
3:15 PM	**Decision Advantage at Machine Speed: Command, Control & Cognitive Dominance** Panelists: Michael Davenport, Booz Allen Hamilton; Greg Harrison, Expedition Technology; Joseph Norton, LMI; Rich Briggs, RII | Moderated by: Andy McEnroe, GRVTY
3:55 PM	**Autonomy in the Physical World: Multi-domain unmanned systems, robotics and battlefield agents** Panelists: Bob Pudney, BlackSea Technologies; Paul Benfield, Forterra; Josh Knight, Integer Technologies, Carmel Fiscko, General Atomics | Moderated by: Michael Robbins, Association for Uncrewed Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI)
4:35 PM	**Break**
4:40 PM	**The Adoption of Applied Artificial Intelligence and Unmanned Capabilities** A discussion with General Tony Thomas | Moderated by: Jason Rigoli, Partner, Enlightenment Capital
5:25 PM	**Bridging the Valley of Death: Defense technology from startup to deployment** Panelists: Patrick Zeitouni, Hawkeye360; Tim Newberry, Razor's Edge; JD Parkes, Parry Labs; Mike Stoffregen, TurbineOne | Moderated by: Andy Lustig, Cooley
6:05 PM	**Networking Reception**
7:30 PM	**Main Chapter Networking Reception Closes**

Featured Speakers

Joel B. Predd, Ph.D | Director, Center for the Geopolitics of AGI; Senior Engineer, RAND Global

Joel B. Predd is the director of the Center for the Geopolitics of AGI, part of the RAND Global and Emerging Risks division, and a senior engineer at RAND. Dr. Predd's current research portfolio focuses on the geopolitics of artificial intelligence and on the intersection of the security and economic competition with China. Previously, Dr. Predd served as director of the Acquisition and Technology Policy Center (ATP) within the RAND National Security Research Division from 2018 until early 2022, where he oversaw a period of growth in the breadth and depth of RAND's portfolio of force planning, technology and acquisition, and supply chain research for Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, defense agencies like DARPA, and international sponsors.

Dr. Predd spent fiscal year 2013 working in Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy as a force development analyst, supporting Policy leadership in activities related to the 2014 Quadrennial Defense Review and the Strategic Choices Management Review. From October 2022 through May 2023, Dr. Predd served as executive-technical director for pilot National Network for Critical Technology Assessment led out of Carnegie Mellon University. As a researcher at RAND, Dr. Predd led studies that had direct impacts on the formulation of the 2018 National Defense Strategy, the Australian shipbuilding enterprise, and a range of policy implementations across the U.S. national security community. Prior to joining RAND, Dr. Predd earned a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Princeton University on topics of machine learning, wireless networks, and probabilistic judgment aggregation. He has a B.S. in electrical engineering from Purdue University.

Richard Danzig | Former Secretary of the Navy, Senior Fellow at JHU Applied Physics Lab

Richard Danzig's primary activities in recent years have been as a consultant to U.S. Intelligence Agencies and the Department of Defense on national security issues. He is Chair of the US Department of the Navy Advisory Committee on Science and Technology, a Senior Fellow at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory, and a Trustee of the RAND Corporation.

Secretary Danzig served as the 71st Secretary of the Navy from November 1998 to January 2001. He was the Under Secretary of the Navy between 1993 and 1997. From the spring of 2007 through the Presidential election of 2008, Dr. Danzig was a senior advisor to Senator Obama on national security issues.

Secretary Danzig has been a director of National Semiconductor Corporation (NY Stock Exchange), Human Genome Sciences Corporation (NASDAQ) and Saffron Hill Ventures (a European Venture Fund). He has served as The Chairman of the Board of The Center for a New American Security, Chairman of the Board of the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, and as Chair of the Advisory Panel for Idaho National Laboratories' Innovation Center. He has also been a member of President's Intelligence Advisory Board, the Secretary of Defense's Defense Policy Board, the Homeland Security Secretary's Advisory Council, the Aspen Strategy Group, the Toyota Research Institute Advisory Board, the Cyber Resilience Forum of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and the Reed College Board of Trustees.

Secretary Danzig received a B.A. degree from Reed College, a J.D. degree from Yale Law School, and Bachelor of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar. Upon his graduation from Yale, he served as a law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Byron White. In addition to his service in the US Department of Defense, he was a Professor at Stanford Law School, a member of the Harvard Society of Fellows, a partner in the law firm Latham and Watkins, Pro-bono Lawyer of the Year of the International Human Rights Law Group, and a Rockefeller Foundation fellow.

He is the author of two books and numerous articles, including recently "Machines, Bureaucracies, and Markets as Artificial Intelligences," and "Technology Roulette: Managing Loss of Control as Many Militaries Pursue Technological Superiority."

General (Ret.) Stanley McChrystal | Former Commander of U.S. and International Forces in Afghanistan & Former Commander of JSOC; CEO and Chairman of McChrystal Group

A transformational leader with a remarkable record of achievement, General Stanley A. McChrystal was called "one of America's greatest warriors" by Secretary of Defense Robert Gates. He is widely praised for launching a revolution in warfare by leading a comprehensive counterterrorism organization that fused intelligence and operations, redefining the way military and government agencies interact.

The son and grandson of Army officers, Gen. McChrystal graduated from West Point in 1976 as an infantry officer, completed Ranger Training and later, Special Forces Training. Over the course of his career, he held leadership and staff positions in the Army Special Forces, Army Rangers, 82nd Airborne Division, the XVIII Army Airborne Corp, and the Joint Staff. He is a graduate of the US Naval War College, and he completed fellowships at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government in 1997 and at the Council on Foreign Relations in 2000.

From 2003 to 2008, Gen. McChrystal commanded Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) - responsible for leading the nation's deployed military counterterrorism efforts around the globe. His leadership of JSOC is credited with the 2003 capture of Saddam Hussein and the 2006 location and killing of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the leader of al-Qaeda in Iraq. In June 2009, Gen. McChrystal received his fourth star and assumed command of all international forces in Afghanistan.

Since retiring from the military, Gen. McChrystal has served on several corporate boards of directors, that include Deutsche Bank America, JetBlue Airways, Navistar, Siemens Government Technologies, Fiscal Note, and Accent Technologies. A passionate advocate for national service, Gen. McChrystal is the Chair of the Board of Service Year Alliance, which envisions a future in which a service year is a cultural expectation and common opportunity for every young American. He is a senior fellow at Yale University's Jackson Institute for Global Affairs, where he teaches a course on leadership. Additionally, he is the author of the bestselling leadership books, My Share of the Task: A Memoir, Team of Teams: New Rules of Engagement for a Complex World, Leaders: Myth and Reality, and Risk: A User's Guide. Gen. McChrystal founded the McChrystal Group in January 2011. Recognizing that companies today are experiencing parallels to what he faced in the war theater, McChrystal established this advisory services firm to help businesses challenge the hierarchical, "command and control" approach to organizational alignment.

▶ Featured Speaker: General (Ret.) Raymond "Tony" Thomas III

General (Ret.) Raymond "Tony" Thomas III | Former Commander of U.S. Special Operations Command; Chairman of Special Operations Warrior Foundation

General Raymond A. Thomas III previously served as the 11th Commander of U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) headquartered at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. Prior to assuming command of USSOCOM, Gen. Thomas served as Commander, Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC), Fort Bragg, N.C.

Gen. Thomas' other assignments as a general officer include: Associate Director for Military Affairs at the Central Intelligence Agency; Commanding General, NATO Special Operations Component Command – Afghanistan; Deputy Commanding General, JSOC; Deputy Director for Special Operations, The Joint Staff in the Pentagon; Assistant Division Commander, 1st Armor Division in Iraq; and Assistant Commanding General, JSOC.

Prior to being promoted to brigadier general, Gen. Thomas also served as the JSOC Chief of Staff and Director of Operations. His other formative and key, joint and special operations assignments include Commander, Joint Task Force – Bravo, Soto Cano, Honduras; Commander, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Savannah, Ga.; and Commander, B Squadron, 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment – Delta, Fort Bragg, N.C.

He is a graduate of the US Army War College, Carlisle, PA, and the Naval Command and Staff College, Newport, RI. Gen. Thomas is a native of Philadelphia, PA. He attended the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY, and was commissioned an infantry second lieutenant upon graduation in 1980.

Gen. Thomas and his wife Barbara have two sons, both of whom are United States Military Academy graduates, Tony (Class of 2007) and Michael (Class of 2008).

Gen. Thomas retired from the United States Army in March 2019. He served for 39 years. He has been on the Special Operations Warrior Foundation Board of Directors since April 2019.

Discussion Panels

▶ Building the Agentic Ecosystem: Policy, Infrastructure, and Trust Panel

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Bryce Petty | CTO, Dark Wolf Solutions
Bryce Betty is the CTO of Dark Wolf Solutions, where he leads initiatives focused on data engineering, secure cloud operations, and modern data platforms. He drives the development of high-performance data mesh platforms and secure analytical tools for enterprise, defense, and intelligence clients.

DARK WOLF SOLUTIONS

David Spirk | Senior Consultant, Palantir
Dave is a Senior Counselor at Palantir, where he focuses on assisting across the US Government, Allied/Partner, and Commercial business. He is the AI Commissioner for the Global Tech Security Commission. Dave is a Governing Board Member at Performance Drone Works (PDW) and Andromeda and Advisory Board Member at Fortem Technologies, Shift5, and Colossal Biosciences. He serves as a Senior Advisor to US Innovative Technologies, Beowulf AI, and Fulcrum Autonomy.

Palantir

Ali Reza Manouchehri | CEO + Co- Founder, MetroStar
Ali Reza Manouchehri is the Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of MetroStar, a venture-backed, AI-enabled solutions company redefining how modern solutions scale across Defense and National Security. He launched MetroStar in 1999 while studying at George Mason University and has since grown it from a small startup into a 500+ person force of engineers, designers, and innovators supporting the federal mission.

MetroStar

Adam Lurie | CEO, Knexus
Adam brings to Knexus experience from the technology industry. His previous roles include chief strategy officer of Torch.AI, president of Exiger Federal Government Solutions, CEO of Convergent Solutions and vice president at General Dynamics' (NYSE: GD) information technology business. Under Lurie's leadership, Knexus and its team of scientists and AI experts will continue developing and deploying software in support of the government enterprise.

KNEXUS

Moderated by: Morgan Higgins | Partner, Blue Delta Capital Partners

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Greg Harrison | CTO, Expediton Technology

Greg Harrison is CTO at Expedition Technology where he joined as a founder in 2014. Prior to Expedition, Greg was Chief Engineer and Technical Fellow at SAIC/Leidos where he held multiple software engineering roles from 2005-2014. Prior to a career in industry, Greg was an acquisitions officer in the USAF, focusing on software acquisitions for NRO and AFRL.

Dr. Joseph Norton | Chief Product Officer, LMI

Dr. Joe Norton brings over a decade of experience delivering mission-focused technology solutions to government. He has led high-performing teams in developing enterprise platforms powered by AI, advanced analytics, and systems engineering, built to scale and designed for impact. As Chief Product Officer at LMI, he guides net-new innovation and the ongoing management of the company's technology platforms, driving their development and delivery to ensure long-term value for customers and the business.

Michael Davenport | SVP, Booz Allen Hamilton

Mike Davenport leads Booz Allen's Army command, control, computers, communications, cyber, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (C5ISR) business based in Aberdeen, Maryland. Mike has 25 years of experience in managing and leading complex C5ISR programs and teams. Prior to joining Booz Allen, Mike was a captain in the U.S. Army Signal Corps where he held numerous leadership and engineering positions for tactical communications supporting Armed Forces Command, Southern Command, and several deployed Joint Task Forces around the world.

Rich Briggs | Founder, Chairman & CTO
Research Innovations Inc

Rich Briggs is an entrepreneur and thought-leader who has built successful defense technology companies that develop transformative products integrated into enduring programs of record for high-priority national defense missions. In 2009, he founded Research Innovations Inc. (RII), focused on creating cutting-edge software and hardware solutions across CJADC2, Offensive Cyber and EW/SIGINT markets. Today, Rich is focused on delivering agentic AI-enabled products to its customers that accelerate human-machine teaming and enable kinetic and non-kinetic kill chains at machine speed. Prior to RII, Rich co-founded Virtual Technology Corporation (VTC) in 1994, building it into a leading joint C2 and simulation company, culminating in its acquisition by Raytheon in 2006.

Moderated by: Andy McEnroe | Senior Vice President, GRVTY

GRVTY

Autonomy in the Physical World : Multi Domain unmanned systems, robotics and battlefield agent's panel

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Bob Pudney | President, BlackSea Technologies

Bob Pudney brings over 25 years of experience to his role as President of BlackSea Technologies. The former U.S. Navy officer spent 21 years in the service's surface and special operations forces before transitioning to corporate leadership in 2019. That year, Mr. Pudney took the helm as President of Blue Tide Marine, a maritime logistics firm specializing in government services, undersea and aviation operations, and test and evaluation services. Guiding BlackSea's maritime missions today, he draws from his U.S. Naval Academy BS in Political Science and Troy University MA in International Relations.

Josh Knight | COO and Co-Founder, Integer Technologies

Joshua Knight currently serves as Chief Operating Officer at Integer Technologies LLC since January 2021, leading a team focused on innovative solutions for defense and national security, particularly in power and energy systems, unmanned systems, and advanced manufacturing. Prior to this role, Joshua was Vice President of Technology Development at Navatek LLC from 2014 to 2021, where significant contributions included managing DARPA TTO proposals and advancing research in artificial intelligence and robotics.

Paul Benfield | Head of Strategy, Forterra

Paul Benfield is Head of Strategy at Forterra, leading engagements with the US. Department of Defense and other customers. Prior to Forterra, Paul was a director at Pallas Advisors, assisting innovative companies navigating go-to-market strategies for commercial success in the national security sphere, and at Pallas Ventures where he leveraged his expertise in venture capital and emerging dual-use technology within the national security ecosystem. Before transitioning to the private sector, Paul served over 20 years in various roles in the U.S. Army and his final role was as Military Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Carmel Fiscko | Strategic Leader, General Atomics

Dr. Fiscko is a Machine Learning Engineer for General Atomics Aeronautical Systems. Her work focuses on data-driven decision making via novel machine learning algorithms, control systems, and statistical analysis. Before General Atomics she was a postdoctoral associate in Systems Engineering at Cornell University. She holds a PhD and Master's in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University and a Bachelor's in Electrical Engineering from the University of California, San Diego.

Moderated by: Michael Robbins | President & CEO, Association for Uncrewed Vehicle System Intl (AUVSI)

5:25 PM – 6: 05 PM
Bridging the Valley of Death: Defense technology
from startup to deployment panel

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Patrick Zeitouni | Chief Strategy Officer, Hawkeye 360
Patrick is the Chief Strategy Officer for HawkEye 360, driving company growth and product strategy in a rapidly expanding RF data and analytics market. Before joining HawkEye 360, he led Blue Origin's Space Mobility program, creating a new business with 200+ engineers to deliver a game-changing new spacecraft. He also led Blue Origin's Lunar Landing program and won NASA's first phase contract for a human landing on the Moon and helped establish and lead Blue's Advanced Development Programs.

Tim Newberry | Operating Partner, Razor's Edge
Tim has been building successful and high performing teams and companies in the National Security technology and engineering industries for almost twenty-five years. Tim is an Operating Partner at Razor's Edge focused on next generation technologies and teams in support of national defense priorities. He is a Veteran and has been a security entrepreneur, operator, submariner and nuclear engineer since 2000.

John "JD" Parkes | CEO & Co-Founder, Parry Labs
JD Parkes founded Parry Labs in 2016 out of a desire to help the Department of Defense achieve its modernization goals and after serving as an adviser to the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Engineering on airborne intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance efforts. He has extensive experience in operational leadership and business development in government and commercial markets.

Mike Stoffregen | Head of Finance, TurbineOne
Mike Stoffregen is the Head of Finance at TurbineOne, where he oversees the financial strategy and corporate development required to deliver mission-critical AI to the tactical edge. He brings a deep pedigree in global technology finance, having previously spent 17 years at Intel Corporation progressing through multiple roles leading teams across operations finance and corporate development.

Moderated by: Andy Lustig | Partner, Cooley LLP

Cooley

Participants

▶ **Building the Agentic Ecosystem: Policy, Infrastructure, and Trust Panel**

Dark Wolf Solutions is a leading provider of cybersecurity, DevOps, and digital transformation for commercial, civilian, defense, and IC clients. The company combines innovative emerging technologies with deep federal domain expertise through cutting-edge intelligence services, agile software development, information operations, penetration testing, and applied research & prototyping.

Panelist: Bryce Petty, CTO

MetroStar is a leading provider of secure digital transformation and AI-driven solutions that advance some of the nation's most critical missions. With decades of public-sector experience, the company empowers federal leaders with innovative technologies that enhance operational effectiveness, improve public service delivery, and help agencies stay ahead of emerging threats.

Panelist: Ali Reza Manouchehri CEO + Co- Founder

Palantir Technologies builds advanced software platforms that help organizations integrate and analyze complex data to support faster, smarter decision-making. Its solutions are used by government, defense, healthcare, and commercial enterprises to improve operations, enhance security, and drive strategic insights. By connecting disparate data sources and applying advanced analytics and AI, Palantir enables users to understand critical information in real time and act with greater confidence.

Panelist: David Spirk, Senior Counselor

KneXus is a technology company focused on accelerating secure, AI-driven decision advantage for government and defense organizations. The company specializes in advanced data integration, machine learning, and mission-focused software solutions that help analysts and operators rapidly synthesize complex information and act with confidence. By combining deep technical expertise with an understanding of national security challenges, KneXus delivers tools that enhance situational awareness, operational efficiency, and mission success.

Adam Lurie, CEO

Expedition Technology is an advanced technology company that designs, develops, and deploys innovative signal, image, and multi-intelligence solutions for the defense and intelligence communities. Leveraging artificial intelligence, machine learning, and advanced algorithms, the company helps government customers address complex C5ISR challenges, enhance situational awareness, and support critical national security missions.

Panelist: Greg Harrison, CTO

LMI brings together mission-ready technology, federal deployment expertise, and a culture that thrives on solving complex challenges. We support defense, space, homeland, healthcare, and intel missions with teams who understand the stakes and work in true partnership with our customers. Headquartered in Tysons, Virginia, we deliver solutions that strengthen federal operations and create lasting impact.

Panelist: Dr. Joseph Norton, Chief Product Officer

Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc. (NYSE: BAH) is an international management and technology consulting firm. The company provides services in strategy, systems, operations, and technology. The company's clients include most of the largest industrial & service corporations in the world, the departments & agencies of the US federal government, and major institutions & government bodies across the globe.

Panelist: Michael Davenport, Senior Vice President

Research Innovations, Inc. is a leader in national security technology, bringing together operational experts and technologists to solve some of the government's most complex information, cyber, and data challenges. With cutting-edge solutions and a collaborative approach, the company empowers mission partners with the tools needed to operate faster, smarter, and more securely in dynamic environments.

Panelist: Rich Briggs, Founder, Chairman and CTO

Autonomy in the Physical World: Multi-domain unmanned systems, robotics, and battlefield agent's panel

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BlackSea Technologies, a portfolio company of Razor's Edge, is a premier naval technology solutions platform enabling new asymmetric strategies for U.S. military forces. The company has expertise in innovative naval platforms and autonomous systems from ocean surface to the seabed.

Panelist: Bob Pudney, President

Forterra is a leader in autonomous technology, developing mission-ready driverless systems that transform ground transportation for defense and industry. By combining cutting-edge software with proven operational expertise, the company helps organizations modernize logistics, reduce risk, and operate with greater efficiency in dynamic environments.

Panelist: Paul Benfield, Head of Strategy

Integer Technologies is a defense technology and digital engineering company dedicated to transforming innovative research into fieldable solutions for national security and industry customers. By combining data, physics, and artificial intelligence, the company develops advanced capabilities—from autonomous systems to cyber-physical resilience—that empower both humans and machines to make better decisions faster in complex operational environments.

Panelist: Josh Knight, COO and Co-Founder

General Atomics General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc., is the world's foremost builder of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS). Logging more than 9 million flight hours, the Predator® line of UAS has flown for over 30 years and includes MQ-9A Reaper®, MQ-1C Gray Eagle®, MQ-20 Avenger®, and MQ-9B SkyGuardian®/SeaGuardian®. The company is dedicated to providing long-endurance, multi-mission solutions that deliver persistent situational awareness and rapid strike.

Panelist: Carmel Fiscko, Strategic Leader

HawkEye 360 is a geospatial analytics company delivering space-based radio frequency (RF) data and insights that support defense, intelligence, and national security missions worldwide. Using a constellation of satellites to detect, characterize, and geolocate RF signals, the company helps organizations uncover hidden activity, strengthen situational awareness, and make faster, more informed decisions in complex operational environments.

Panelist: Patrick Zeitouni, Chief Strategy Officer

Razor's Edge is a venture capital firm that seeks to find, fund, and foster technology companies that solve significant challenges in national security and high-growth commercial markets. They are interested in global enterprise technology sectors such as cybersecurity, data science & infrastructure, emerging device & sensor technologies, and new space technologies.

Panelist: Tim Newberry, Operating Partner

Parry Labs is a defense technology company delivering open, modular digital systems that accelerate the development and deployment of mission-critical capabilities for defense and aerospace customers. Focused on advanced software, communications, and integrated platforms, the company enables faster innovation, strengthens interoperability, and supports operational readiness in rapidly evolving environments.

Panelist: John "JD" Parkes , CEO & Co-Founder

TurbineOne is a defense technology company delivering AI-powered software that helps government and national security partners rapidly identify, analyze, and respond to emerging threats. Its secure, mission-ready platform enables organizations to integrate data, surface critical insights, and accelerate decision-making in complex operational environments.

Panelist: Mike Stoffregen, Head of Finance

Katie Selbe | Chief Executive Officer, GRVTY
Katie Selbe is the Chief Executive Officer of GRVTY, a national security company, where she leads the organization's strategic direction and long-term growth. Under her leadership, GRVTY is cultivating a culture defined by ingenuity, dedication, and high performance – positioning the company for transformative impact across the national security landscape. With over 25 years of experience spanning executive, operational, and engineering leadership roles, Selbe has a proven track record across large enterprises, mid size firms, and emerging defense innovators.

Phil Root, Ph.D. | Chief Technology Officer, GRVTY
Dr. Phil Root is Chief Technology Officer. He sets and drives the company's technology vision. A retired Army Lieutenant Colonel and MIT-trained aerospace engineer, Root is a distinguished research and development leader with decades of operational and technical experience. He joined GRVTY from DARPA, where he served as Director of the Strategic Technology Office and previously as Deputy Director and Acting Director of the Defense Sciences Office.

Jason Rigoli | Partner, Enlightenment Capital
Jason is a Partner of Enlightenment Capital and brings decades of experience in both operational roles and as a principal investor in the aerospace, defense, security, and government contracting industries. Prior to joining Enlightenment, he served as a Principal and Washington, DC office lead for LLR Partners, a private equity firm where he led aerospace, defense, security, and government services related deal activity.

GRVTY is a national security company delivering effects in cyber, space, spectrum. Every day, its dedicated employees answer the challenge to rapidly deliver mission and technical expertise to deter threats and keep America safe and secure.

Enlightenment Capital, a Washington, DC area based private investment firm, makes control and strategic, non-control investments in middle market companies in the Aerospace, Defense, Government & Technology (ADG&T) sector.

Market Presentations

State of the Debt Capital Markets
12:20 PM – 12:35 PM

Carolyne Pelton
Regional President
Pinnacle Financial Partners

State of the M& A Market
12:35 PM – 12:50 PM

Ryan Hoffman
Managing Director
Lincoln International LLC

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ACG Information

The Power of ACG

Founded in 1954, ACG has grown to 14,500 members worldwide. ACG serves over 90,000 investors, executives, lenders, and advisers to growing middle market companies. ACG's mission is to drive middle market growth.

75% of ACG members report that they have done business with fellow members.

This return on investment has made ACG the most trusted and respected resource for middle market dealmakers and business leaders who invest in growth and build companies.

ACG National Capital

Established in 1988, ACG National Capital is the chapter of ACG located in Washington, DC, Northern Virginia, and Southern Maryland.

ACG National Capital proudly serves nearly 400 members who are directly involved in building corporate growth and value.

Our chapter has become the leading authority on corporate growth in the region by providing unparalleled opportunities for networking, deal making, and professional development for individuals involved in building corporate value.

Why Join ACG?

Access a global network of over 14,500 members from all areas of middle market M&A

Over 1,200 networking events world-wide, including DealMAX —one of the largest M&A conferences

Expert intelligence with Middle Market Growth magazine, webinars, podcasts, and more

Andy McEnroe
Senior Vice President
GRVTY

Matt Robinson
Principal
RAZOR'S EDGE

Morgan Higgins
Partner
BLUE DELTA CAPITAL PARTNERS

Aaron Binstock
Partner
Cooley

Chrissy Cox
Vice President
Booz | Allen | Hamilton

Jason Rigoli
Partner
ENLIGHTENMENT CAPITAL

Jenn Wappaus
First Vice President
RBC Wealth Management

Joshua Dearmon
Managing Director
Capital One

Michael Lopes
Managing Director
J.P.Morgan

Ryan Hoffman
Managing Director
LINCOLN INTERNATIONAL

Carolyne Pelton
Regional President
Pinnacle FINANCIAL PARTNERS