

LANON BACCAM

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Biden for President, Des Moines, IA

Iowa Deputy State Director for Trips, Surrogates, & Operations

July 2020 – November 2020

- Managed the trips, surrogates, and operations teams. Planned, prepared, and executed several safe and socially distant in-person principal and surrogate campaign schedules and events for Vice President Joe Biden, Dr. Jill Biden, Doug Emhoff, and Senator Amy Klobuchar. Coordinated the detailed schedules between headquarters and state staff. Managed venues, vetting, movements, site layout, diagrams, invitations, confirmations, program structure, staff roles, principal memos, comprehensive staff/principal schedule overlay, and event execution.
- Managed virtual events with national surrogates. This included requesting and managing the confirmed schedule of surrogates. Drafted, edited, finalized, and submitted event memos. Coordinated with headquarters and managed state staff for event execution.
- Managed state operations including a \$450,000+ non-personnel budget. Coordinated with headquarters, processed approvals, identified and vetted vendors, tracked itemized expenses and payments. Managed the ordering and distribution of campaign materials and chum including over 35,000 lawn and large (barn) signs.

Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Iowa, Des Moines, IA

General Consultant

May 2018 – July 2020

- Conceived, designed, negotiated, planned, executed, and managed a multi-tiered workforce development program as a public-private partnership between the Iowa National Guard (IANG) and AGC. Managed industry briefing events for recruits from across the state as well as for members of actively drilling IANG units.

Production Management and Logistics Consulting, Des Moines, IA

General Consultant

July 2019 – March 2020

- Planned, prepared, and executed dozens of presidential-level campaign forums and events. Clients included AARP with the Des Moines Register, the U.S. Conference of Mayors and Accelerator for America, the 2019 Polk County Steak Fry, and the presidential campaign for Senator Amy Klobuchar.

Palantir, Washington, DC // Des Moines, IA

General Consultant

April 2017 – May 2019

- Served as an advisor on Palantir's business portfolio with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Conducted a strategic review of key agencies and programs primed for potential software deployment. Served as a liaison between Palantir and USDA staff and executives to facilitate meetings and communication.

Farmer Veteran Coalition (FVC), Washington, DC

Deputy Director

February 2017 – July 2017

- Served as the liaison between FVC and federal government partners in the executive and legislative branches, key benefactors, and stakeholder groups. Drafted and advocated for federal and state policies to benefit veteran farmers and ranchers. Promoted inter-agency coordination on programs, policy, and earned media.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Washington, DC

Deputy Under Secretary, Farm & Foreign Agricultural Service (FFAS)

October 2015 – January 2017

- Served as the senior executive responsible for management, oversight, and leadership of two domestic agencies – the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Risk Management Agency (RMA). Managed oversight of budgets, operations, farm programs, farm loan programs, disaster programs, and risk management products.
- Managed office staff and served as a liaison between agency leadership and the under secretary. Conducted weekly meetings with agency leadership for oversight and to coordinate initiatives. Organized agency teams to respond to key industry issues.
- Maintained an active security clearance.

USDA Military Veterans Agriculture Liaison

October 2015 – January 2017

- Served as the top executive providing strategic guidance, management, and policy development for veterans' issues across the USDA. Expanded outreach to veterans and served as the key liaison for veterans' issues between USDA and federal/state/local governments, veteran-serving organizations, and private sector partners.
- Initiated a Memorandum of Understanding with Hiring Our Heroes (HOH). Created and launched agriculture-focused workshops at HOH transition summits around the country. Launched the "Fast Track" web portal to connect agriculture industry employers with service members and veterans seeking employment.

- Created and launched the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) agricultural commodity grader apprenticeship, a Department of Labor Registered Apprenticeship program, targeted to veterans.

White House Presidential Advance

March 2010 – January 2017

Advance Team Member for Travel by the President of the United States – Domestic & International

- Managed production and execution of select domestic and international events outside the continental U.S. for President Barack Obama. Coordinated with local venue and event hosts, the Secret Service, White House Communications Agency, and White House staff to build and execute events to achieve Administration goals.
- Managed equipment needs, the bidding process for vendors, equipment load-in and site build timelines, various staff and labor teams, to ensure events were produced to Administration and presidential standards.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Washington, DC

Director of Scheduling and Advance, Office of Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack

June 2013 – October 2015

- Managed five full-time staff in the Office of Scheduling and Advance who planned, prepared, and executed the Secretary's schedule. Management included controlling workloads, assigning and overseeing specific projects, conducting final reviews of all work products, and maintaining a clear chain of command for decision making.
- Managed and organized complex timing and logistical sequences for major trips and schedules such as multi-city/state and multi-country international travel. This included deployment of advance staff, management of traveling staff manifests, coordination of military air support, and serving as trip director during execution.

Confidential Assistant to Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack

April 2012 – June 2013

- Managed the daily schedule execution for Secretary Vilsack, including coordination of meeting attendees, domestic and international phone calls, and day-of unscheduled activities and movements. Managed the daily briefing book process to prepare the Secretary for daily meetings, events, interviews, and phone calls.

Operation Enduring Freedom, Kandahar, Afghanistan

January 2004 – July 2005

United States Army Combat Engineer

- Project manager for on-site construction at the Kandahar, Afghanistan provincial reconstruction team (PRT) base. Managed, designed, and built reinforced perimeter defenses and buildings. Managed local labor teams.
- Managed explosive demolitions for the PRT base, including collection of highly volatile unexploded ordinances, weapons caches, improvised explosive devices, and mass quantities of confiscated drugs.
- Managed inventory for a multi-million dollar property book. Identified, logged, and tracked key sensitive items such as communications devices, satellites, and vehicles, to office supplies and maintenance equipment.

EDUCATION

Drake University, Des Moines, IA

August 2008 – May 2011

- Graduated with a B.A. in Political Science and a minor in Economics

American University, Washington, DC

January 2011 – May 2011

- Enrolled in "Washington Semester on International Studies" at American University. An immersive study course in foreign governments, international non-governmental organizations, and think tank policy makers.

Language Skills

- Laotian – spoken
- Tai-dam – spoken

AWARDS, MEDALS, AND LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

United States Army / Iowa National Guard

April 1998 – April 2006

- Army Achievement Medal
- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
- Army Good Conduct Medal
- Afghanistan Campaign Medal
- National Defense Service Medal
- Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M Device
- Army Service Ribbon
- Driver and Mechanic Badge with Driver-W Bar
- National Guard, Sidewinder Challenge, Participant
- Cadet Platoon Leader, Advanced Individual Training
- Cadet Squad Leader, Basic Training