

Leonard B. Casiple

Leonard Casiple is a first-generation American who joined the Army with a GED and a Green Card. For most of his 21-year career, Leo served in the US Army Special Forces Regiment. He failed Special Forces Selection twice, and on the third attempt earned the Green Beret – the only US Military headgear issued by Presidential Decree. Through hard work, Leo became the only Green Beret in the entire Special Forces Regiment with a multi-year, superior, simultaneous language proficiency rating in Arabic and in Tagalog. His experience includes linguistics, area and cultural studies, strategic planning, counterterrorism, operations and intelligence fusion, cross-regional logistics, and strategic community outreach.

Leo's education include: California Lutheran University (Master of Public Policy and Administration); ASU Thunderbird School of Global Management (MBA in Global Management); Excelsior College (BS in Liberal Arts); Academy of Competitive Intelligence (Competitive Intelligence Professional, CIP-I, and Master of Competitive Intelligence, CIP-II) where he won two analytical awards; Defense Language Institute (Modern Standard Arabic Linguist); US Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School (Special Forces Qualification Course and the Psychological Operations Specialist Course). Leo is currently a doctoral student in Northeastern University's Doctor of Law and Policy program where his policy focus is Global Water.

His military awards include: Bronze Star; Special Forces Tab; Combat Infantryman Badge; Meritorious Service Medal (3rd Award); Army Commendation Medal (4th Award); Joint Service Achievement Medal; Army Achievement Medal (4th Award); Meritorious Unit Commendation; Valorous Unit Award; Army Good Conduct Medal (7th Award); National Defense Service Medal (2nd Award); Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Humanitarian Service Medal; Iraq Campaign Medal w/ Campaign Star; Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (3rd Award); Army Service Ribbon; Overseas Service Ribbon; Philippine Republic Presidential Unit Citation; Parachutist Badge; Air Assault Badge; Canadian Parachutist Badge; Bronze German Armed Forces Efficiency Badge; Silver German Armed Forces Efficiency Badge; Chilean Parachutist Badge; Royal Thai Army Airborne Wings; 1st Place out of 157 (1st Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) Warrior Stakes Contest; and the Arabic Linguist Certificate.

Despite multiple issues post-medical retirement that included not being able to walk for years, Leonard continues to strive for excellence. In 2022, Leo graduated from the San Diego Public Leadership Institute, a program that identifies, selects, and trains qualified citizens for elected or appointed office. In March 2022, Leo made it to the halfway point of Toastmasters International's World Championship of Public Speaking. In 2021, Leo became the brainchild of the Filipino American Special Forces Society and served as a member of the 2021 Lions Club Veteran of the Year Selection Committee. Also in 2021, Leo became a contributing member of the inaugural issue of the 28 COE global network of influencers and leaders. Leo's May 2021 LinkedIn post about his successes and failures became viral with over 267,000 views and ~8,800 reactions.

Leonard has been married to Cecile, a career Nurse (BSN, RN, CMRSN, PCCN, Oncology), for 23 years and has three sons (Christian, Lance, and Brandon). He is the President of *Public Value LLC*, a globally oriented company that focuses on developing and implementing policies in economic development, diplomacy, defense, and community. To pay it forward, Leo volunteers his time throughout the community and helps fellow veterans heal from their trauma.

Personal Quote:

The greatest blessing is a kind heart.

The best credential is GP (Good Person).

The greatest gift is the ability to give 100% effort.