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U.S. ARMY MANEUVER CENTER OF EXCELLENCE



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DATE: March 6, 2015

MEDIA ADVISORY: Fort Benning to host Soldier for Life Job Transition Summit

FORT BENNING, Ga. – Deputy Secretary of Labor Christopher P. Lu will present a keynote address to kick off the Soldier for Life Transition Summit at 4 p.m. March 11 at the Benning Club. The Soldier for Life Transition Summit, along with other Hiring our Heroes events, will be held through March 14 here.

The summit includes a free hiring fair for service members, veterans and military spouses; business and career presentations by top entrepreneurs of American Dream U; and one-on-one workshops that will help Soldiers, veterans and Family members to hone their job-seeking skills.

The Soldier for Life Transition Summit will feature informative and interactive panel events, recruiter training and discussions on improving competitive employment for service members, veterans and military spouses, in addition to a networking reception for employers, senior leaders and job seekers.

Soldiers, veterans, retirees and family members can participate in the following summit events:

March 12

9 a.m. – Job seeker registration at Freedom Hall

10 a.m. - Welcome remarks, keynote address and perspectives on transition from the national level

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Employment workshops

1-4 p.m. - Hiring Fair and Veteran Service Org Expo

March 13 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. - American Dream U presentations in Marshall Auditorium

March 14 from 9 a.m. until complete – One-on-one sessions at the Soldier for Life Transition Center featuring the tactics of finding a dream job and how to start a business

Media opportunities include:

March 11 – Interview opportunity with Deputy Secretary Lu at 10 a.m. and coverage of his keynote speech at 4 p.m. (bio attached)

March 12 – Opportunity to cover the Job Expo and speak with representatives from Soldier for Life, American Dream U, job seekers and employers at noon.

March 13 – Opportunity to cover American Dream U speakers in Marshall Auditorium.

- 9 a.m. - Phil Randazzo, founder of American Dream U
- 9:15 a.m. - Nick Nanton, award winning director, agent, and author
- 9:35 a.m. - Grant Cardone, international sales expert, *New York Times* best-selling author, and radio show host of The Cardone Zone.
- 10:20 a.m. - Lou Nemeck, active duty Soldier, Veteran Ambassador Program Director for Team RWB
- 10:30 a.m. - Ari Meisel, developer of Less Doing, a way of dealing with the daily stresses of life by optimizing, automating and outsourcing all the tasks of life and business.

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- 10:55 a.m. - Erik Kerr, co-founder of The Draw Shop, LLC, a whiteboard animation company focused on sales and marketing videos and 20-year veteran of marketing.
- 11:15 a.m. - Anthony Melchiorri, U.S. Air Force veteran with 25 years in the hotel industry, creator and star of the cable TV series, *Hotel Impossible*
- 11:45 a.m. - Josh Mantz, HR business partner at Tesla Motors
- 12:50 p.m. - Jason Barros, purveyor of online educational awesomeness and Udacity Program Manager
- 1 p.m. - Jody Hall, COO of MAC Presents, a music experiential agency that negotiates high profile sponsorships between the world's leading brands and artists
- 1:20 p.m. - Anthony Trupiano, founder of The Trupiano & Associates, Safe Money Solutions and a Certified Family Business Specialist; also a lifetime member of the Million Dollar Round Table
- 1:50 p.m. - Brian Kurtz, executive vice president of Boardroom Inc., a newsletter and book publisher
- 2:20 p.m. - Jason Fladlien, CEO of Rapid Crush and one of less than 200 people in the U.S. who are first-generation, self-made millionaires under the age of 35 without a college degree
- 2:50 p.m. - Philip McKernan, speaks around the world about the importance of overcoming personal obstacles, gaining clarity, and cultivating the confidence to believe in yourself
- 4:05 p.m. - Clay Hebert, entrepreneur, marketing advisor and crowd-funding exper.
- 4:35 p.m. - Steve Blank, SiliconValley serial-entrepreneur and academician recognized for developing the Customer Development methodology, which launched the Lean Startup movement

Media interested in covering any part of this event should contact the MCoE Public Affairs Office to coordinate a media escort.

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Deputy Secretary of Labor – Christopher P. Lu



Chris Lu was sworn in as the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Labor on April 4, 2014, after being confirmed unanimously by the U.S. Senate. He serves as the chief operating officer of a 17,000-employee organization that works to create greater opportunities for all Americans.

During his career in public service, Lu has worked in all three branches of the federal government. From 2009 to 2013, Lu served as the White House Cabinet Secretary and Assistant to the President. In this role, he was President Obama's primary liaison to the federal departments and agencies, helping to coordinate policy and communications strategy.

As one of the highest-ranking Asian Americans in the Obama Administration, Lu was also the Co-Chair of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Prior to his service in the White House, Lu worked for then-Senator Obama, first as the Legislative Director, and then as the Acting Chief of Staff. After the 2008 Presidential election, Lu was the Executive Director of the Presidential transition planning efforts.

Lu's government experience includes eight years working for Rep. Henry Waxman as the Deputy Chief Counsel of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, and serving as a law clerk for Judge Robert E. Cowen on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. He began his legal career as a litigation attorney at Sidley Austin in Washington, D.C.

In addition to his government service, Lu has been a fellow at the Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy, the University of Chicago Institute of Politics, and the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress. He is also the co-editor of the book, *Triumphs and Tragedies of the Modern Congress*.

Lu is a *magna cum laude* graduate of Princeton University and *cum laude* graduate of Harvard Law School, and the recipient of an honorary doctorate degree from MacMurray College. He is married to Katie Thomson, the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation.