**Derek Fronabarger, Chief Operating Officer**

Derek Fronabarger serves as the Chief Operating Officer at Student Veterans of America. Prior to joining Student Veterans of America, Derek worked as the Director of Government Affairs at Wounded Warrior Project specializing in VA benefits, toxic exposures, caregivers, and education.

Prior to joining Wounded Warrior Project, Derek worked on the Joining Forces Initiative at the White House and served as the Deputy Director of Government Affairs at The American Legion.

He is a U.S. Army veteran and served as an Air Defense Intelligence Tactical Operator in both the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions. He served a 16-month combat tour in Afghanistan and obtained the rank of sergeant before separating in 2008.

Derek holds an MBA from University of South Carolina- Columbia, and a BA from College of Charleston where he used his VA education benefits obtain via his service. He is a native of the Great State of South Carolina.