

RYAN A. STARZYK, CIPM, CSM

Innovative Research Scholar | Leadership Advisor Community Organizer | Change Agent

About

Ryan Starzyk is a proven business and community leader, with a substantial background in management, analysis, research and strategic planning.

Military Service

From 2003-2007, he served honorably in the United States Air Force and was decorated for meritorious service while on deployment in Iraq as a part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Background

Ryan's previous experience includes work in the legal profession, hospitality industry, public accounting and financial services. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Paralegal Studies, Master's degree in Legal Studies from Arizona State University and Doctorate in Business Administration from Georgia State University.



Community Service

No stranger to community service, Ryan currently serves on the board of directors of Phoenix Pride, and he is a longtime advocate for LGBTQ rights.

He has been a vocal supporter of repealing Arizona laws that seek to further stigmatize already marginalized communities, and a proponent of strong policies that seek to ensure that the rights and equity of all individuals are protected at the Local, State and Federal level.

Ryan currently resides in Central Phoenix with his partner, and is active in his local neighborhood and community, as well as in Democratic Party politics where he is seeking to be the Democratic nominee for the Arizona Senate in 2020.

It was Phoenix Pride that inspired my venture into public office. Change happens when you step up, and I plan to fight for the long-overdue change our community needs and deserves.



Career

Following his military service, Ryan transitioned to a successful career in business leadership, serving as a legal analyst, researcher and compliance advisor for large-scale corporations.

He is currently starting up a new company providing technology and business research consulting focused on small to medium size businesses and non-profit organizations. He is an International Association of Privacy Professionals Certified Information Privacy Manager (CIPM) and a Scrum Alliance Certified Scrum Master (CSM®).

A former intern for the Arizona Democratic Party, Ryan's passion for public policy and his experience as a combat veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces have led him to a desire to continue his public service in the Arizona Senate.



Personal Story

Serving in the military was the best and worst experience of my life. Nearly every day I was bullied for being gay. Something I know so many still struggle with, and an issue I will never give up fighting to stop.

After the military, I struggled with substance abuse. It was the lowest point of my entire life. My struggles are not unique, we all have different life events that shape who we are today. It was my Partner of over 10-years, Ivan, who pushed me to become a better person, go back to school, and fight to serve a higher purpose. Education changed my life; made me realize how important it is to ensure everyone has the same opportunity available to them, that was for me. Serving the community is a passion that drives my heart, especially when awarding over \$100k per year in community grants and student scholarships. Awarding student scholarships is deeply personal, and immensely rewarding.

Over 10-years later, I worked relentlessly to become better, and proudly stand here, reflective of what is possible, ready to keep fighting for our community.

- Ryan A. Starzyk -

