

TRAILBLAZERS

LITIGATION

ERIC GANG
GANG & ASSOCIATES



What was the genesis of the path that has made you a trailblazer?

The medical-military connection has always been part of my life because my father, uncle, and grandfather all served as medical providers during Vietnam and WWII. Once I became a lawyer and represented my first veteran's disability case, I knew it was what I wanted to devote my life to. Nothing is more gratifying than winning a case that has been on appeal for 10+ years, especially when I am making a real impact on my clients' lives.

I believe I have a track record of success because I have a deep understanding of the other-than-honorable (OTH) discharge cycle: thrown into the stress of active duty, vulnerable service members struggle with mental health challenges that cause them to engage in irrational behavior. As a result, they're discharged dishonorably and barred from receiving VA benefits. Their mental health issues go untreated, leading to PTSD, homelessness, substance use, and chronic disease. I have a personal mission to help victims of this cycle receive the benefits and justice they deserve.

What sort of change has resulted from the concept?

I have helped hundreds of veterans recover benefits to pay for medical expenses and mental health care. I have taken on major cases that garnered national media attention, such as an appeal on behalf of a veteran who was exposed to Agent Orange while stationed at Camp Garcia in Vieques, Puerto Rico. My track record also includes several legally significant reported decisions.

What bearing will this have on the future?

My hope is that the VA will take my cases as a sign that they must do better for veterans. The VA healthcare system must start focusing on preventative medicine to avoid tragic outcomes that hurt our veterans, our military, and our society.