

SUCCESS STORY

SBA AWARDS 2024

CONNECTICUT VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESS OF THE YEAR:

Small Business Winner: [Arrowhead Leadership Consulting LLC](#)

**CONNECTICUT SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
(CTSBDC)**

CTSBDC BUSINESS ADVISOR: MARY KAY DE LA CAMERA

Colonel (Retired) Eric Lopez graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1996. He served as an infantry officer in the Army for 25 years.

Eric and his family moved from Indiana to Connecticut in 2022. He began working with Mary Kay Della Camera, business advisor with the Connecticut Small Business Development Center. Eric's team is comprised of five Army Veterans who serve businesses through keynote speaking, facilitating team-building events, and coaching leaders to help those organizations develop their leaders and build a positive workplace culture.

Eric has received ongoing technical support/business advising from the CT Small Business Development Center and CT APEX. These organizations have been vital in assisting Eric to establish his LLC in Connecticut, remain compliant with Federal, state, and local regulations, and obtain his Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business certification in order to compete for government contracts.

Arrowhead Leadership Consulting has grown each year since it was founded in 2020. In 2021, it added a Regional Associate in Colorado Springs, CO. In 2022, it added Regional Associates in Indianapolis, IN and Raleigh, NC. In 2023, it added a Regional Associate in Topeka, KS. Each of these Regional Associates are responsible for developing business and coaching clients.

As a Veteran small business owner, Eric is very involved in helping other Veterans start their businesses and helping them on their journey after their military service. Eric's ethical standards and integrity remain exemplary.

Even though he has retired from the military, Eric is passionate about developing the junior leaders in our nation's military.