

# 51 Vets: Grant Thornton's newest Purple Paladin

## Transcript

**00:00:11:20 - 00:00:38:16**

**ZACH WALTERS:**

We thrive in ambiguity. We are the calm in the storm. We have a will to win that is greater than 99% of the population. I was in the special operations community for around ten years. Leadership in special operations is a unique experience. It is mission and team before self and at all costs. And leaving that is innately challenging.

**00:00:38:18 - 00:00:45:13**

**ZACH WALTERS:**

Every atom of your being is wrapped up in that identity. And then you wake up one day and it's no longer there.

**00:00:45:15 - 00:01:11:21**

**JORDAN SELLECK:**

Imagine being in a team that you have been in for years and years, operating at the highest levels of human performance, and then the next month, you're no longer part of that team, and now you're going to go find a job. You have no idea how to navigate that. I read a book called "Extreme Ownership" — super inspired by the community of lead veterans, and went on LinkedIn, typed in Navy SEAL, connected with people.

**00:01:12:01 - 00:01:34:10**

**JORDAN SELLECK:**

I just wanted to help out a few veterans who I knew. A number of the people that I connected with didn't really have an answer to what they were doing after they transitioned, and so just wanted to connect them with people from my industry doing investment banking. The mission of 51 vets is to transform veterans from elite communities to private sector leaders.

**00:01:34:15 - 00:01:35:17**

**JORDAN SELLECK:**

It's that simple.

**00:01:35:19 - 00:01:56:01**

**LINDSEY SCHIRO:**

51 vets provide many different facets and areas of support for our members. We offer City Summits, which we do three times per year. It's an all-expense-paid trip to a major metropolitan city and learn more about the sector that they're interested in going into. We offer a one-on-one mentorship and then the last part is the community that we serve.

**00:01:56:01 - 00:02:06:02**

**LINDSEY SCHIRO:**

And so, we have a closed channel where all of our nearly 400 members are a part of. And so they have a community of members around them as they transition out of the military.

**00:02:06:04 - 00:02:15:18**

**ZACH WALTERS:**

Finding a meaningful career in the private sector is everything. 51 Vets helped my transition in every possible facet.

**00:02:15:20 - 00:03:09:18**

**JORDAN SELLECK:**

51 Vets today has hundreds of members, employers, sponsors. But it started with a simple phone call helping one veteran out and just being present. What does it mean for 51 Vets to be part of the Purple Paladin

program through Grant Thornton? It is a breath of fresh air to have an organization that is able to bring decades of experience to an organization like ours, as we are scaling and trying to impact the lives of transitioning veterans from elite communities.



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