



REPATRIATE OUR PATRIOTS

NO VETERAN LEFT BEHIND

DANITZA G. JAMES, M.S.W.

Danitza “Dee” James is the Chief Executive Officer at Repatriate Our Patriots (ROP). A U.S. Army Combat Veteran, military spouse and a passionate Macro Social Worker specializing in Military Programs & Policy.

Danitza was born and raised in Sonora, Mexico. In 1996 she became a U.S. Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) and she and her family moved to Yuma, AZ. There, she graduated High School and attended one year of community college. In June of 2001 she enlisted in the U.S. Army as a Heavy Wheel Vehicle Operator (88M). Danitza had planned on serving the three-year term of her contract, obtain the U.S. citizenship the recruiter promised and use the military education benefits to finish her college degree. Instead, after the tragic events that happened on September 11, 2001, she was assigned to her duty station in Mannheim, Germany from where she was deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 and Operation Enduring Freedom in 2005.



Danitza served on active duty for six years completing two combat tours as a M50 caliber machine gunner conducting patrols and escort missions throughout Iraq. Due to the ongoing high mission tempo and continued deployments and training, Danitza was unable to become a U.S. Citizen while in service. After suffering several physical and psychological injuries, Danitza left the military as a non-citizen and later applied for Naturalization as a military spouse. Her military career and journey as a combat veteran an immigrant have fueled her passion to help servicemembers and their families on every aspect of military life and civilian transition.

Danitza volunteers as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for [Repatriate Our Patriots](#), a 501c3 non-profit organization that focuses on bridging the gaps for deported servicemembers and those at risk of deportation. Repatriation and prevention of future deportation serves as the main focus as well as successful reintegration into their communities.

Danitza’s passion lies within, Human Rights Advocacy, Mental Health, Prevention and Repatriation of Deported Veterans, Suicide Prevention, Sexual Assault & Harassment Prevention. Her passion extends to the development and advocacy for programs, policy and legislation that affect the military as a whole. Danitza was instrumental in the passing of [The Brandon Caserta Act](#) and the lobbying and introduction of key articles of the [Military Justice Improvement and Increasing Prevention Act](#) in the 2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that will begin the work on how Military Sexual Assault & Harassment cases are handled in the Military.

[Repatriate Our Patriots](#)

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