

## **Steve Partello, J.D.**

Advisory Board Member

Steve Partello is the Founder and Principal of Partello Consulting LLC, where he advises organizations on federal contracting strategy, industrial security governance, export controls, and regulatory compliance within the U.S. Government and Department of Defense ecosystem. His advisory work focuses on acquisition discipline, contractual risk mitigation, security modernization, and structured oversight frameworks supporting advanced national security programs.

Steve brings more than twenty-five years of senior leadership experience across major defense and advanced technology organizations including L3Harris Technologies, Draper Laboratory, BAE Systems, Digital Equipment Corporation, and Compaq. Throughout his career, he has supported programs involving electronic warfare systems, advanced sensing technologies, high performance computing environments, artificial intelligence-enabled capabilities, and other mission-critical defense technologies.

He spent more than eighteen years at L3Harris Technologies as Senior Manager of Contracts within the Law Department, supporting electronic warfare and countermeasure programs for Department of Defense and civilian agencies. In that role, he led contract strategy, proposal development, classified program governance, and compliance oversight for highly sensitive mission systems operating within complex technical environments. He was awarded the corporation's Presidential Medal Award for Program Execution and Performance in recognition of exceptional leadership and disciplined program delivery.

Steve also served in a senior contracts leadership role at Draper Laboratory, supporting specialized research and development programs within a federally regulated research environment historically associated with advanced computing, navigation systems, and emerging technologies.

Throughout his career, Steve has operated at the intersection of acquisition compliance and classified security governance, providing full-spectrum oversight across the contract lifecycle. His leadership ensures that programs remain audit-ready from proposal strategy through closeout, capable of withstanding federal and international scrutiny at the highest levels. By integrating NISPOM security standards with FAR and DFARS financial governance requirements, he safeguards both operational execution and institutional eligibility to compete in highly regulated national security markets.

In addition to serving as Facility Security Officer and Export Controls Empowered Official, Steve has structured compliance architectures that protect classified environments, manage regulatory exposure, and reinforce enterprise-level risk discipline across cost-type, fixed-price, T&M, IDIQ, and Other Transaction Agreement portfolios. He has managed and negotiated complex programs exceeding thirty-five million dollars in award value and has consistently maintained full contractual compliance across direct and subcontract portfolios supporting DoD

and Intelligence Community customers. He has held a U.S. Government Top Secret security clearance.

Steve holds a Juris Doctor degree from the Massachusetts School of Law and a Bachelor of Science from Boston College. He is a member of the National Contract Management Association and the NCMS Society of Industrial Security Professionals and has served in civic leadership roles including Justice of the Peace in New Hampshire and Board Member of the Southern New Hampshire YMCA.

As a member of the Advisory Board, Steve provides governance oversight and strategic guidance on federal acquisition integrity, classified program compliance, industrial security modernization, and structured risk frameworks supporting advanced technologies across cyber, artificial intelligence, high performance computing, and emerging quantum environments.