

# **THE SANDER GROUP, PLLC**

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## **Press Release**

**Alexandria, VA – October 16, 2023** – The Sander Group, PLLC is pleased to announce the addition of Thomas (Tom) Modeszto to the Firm’s Contracts Practice Group. Tom focuses his practice on federal government contracts, compliance, litigation, and suspension and debarment actions.

Prior to joining The Sander Group, Tom served as a civilian attorney with the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA)’s Office of General Counsel (OGC) from October 2015 until this past year when he retired from civilian Federal Service. During Tom’s tenure with DLA OGC, he led the Acquisition Branch, and also the Procurement Fraud Branch, where he presided as the Hearing Officer in DLA’s first ever Suspension and Debarment Fact-Finding Hearing. Tom’s acquisition duties were extensive and involved several high visibility, high dollar procurements from the acquisition strategy planning stage, to resolving contentious post-award issues and interpreting regulations as it applied to fluid events, such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prior to joining DLA OGC as a civilian attorney, Tom served as an Active Duty Colonel with the U.S. Army’s Judge Advocate General’s (JAG) Corps, where he held numerous Acquisition-related positions. Tom also held numerous leadership positions within the Army JAG Corps, including as a Staff Judge Advocate and Command Counsel, where he helped train, lead, and mentor many of the current Army Judge Advocates within the contracting community. After 24 years of uniform service to the Nation, Tom retired out of his last assignment as the Division Chief of the Army’s largest Civil Litigation Branch – the Contract and Fiscal Law Division, which has since been renamed the Contract Litigation and Intellectual Property Division.

“Tom is often referred to as ‘The Former Dean of the Army Contract Attorney Corps.’ There’s not too many people who know Government Contract law, especially as it pertains to the Defense Department, better than Tom.” said The Honorable Robert J. Sander, Founding Partner of The Sander Group.

In addition to the aforementioned assignments, Tom served as the Chief, Contract and Fiscal Law, Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq and a Professor in the Contract and Fiscal Law Department at The Judge Advocate General’s Legal Center and School (TJAGLCS) in Charlottesville, Virginia. For his military service to the Nation, Tom has been awarded the Legion of Merit (2 Awards), the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal (5 Awards), the Army Commendation Medal (3 Awards), and the Iraq Campaign Medal, amongst

other awards. In his civilian capacity, Tom has been awarded the Meritorious Civilian Service Award and the Distinguished Career Service Award.

Tom received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Illinois (UoI) College of Law in 1989, and as part of a joint program also received his Masters of Business Administration in the same year. He received his Bachelor of Business Administration Degree in Economics from Rutgers University in 1985. Tom previously held a Top Secret/Sensitive Compartmented Information (TS-SCI) Security Clearance.

“The Sander Group prides itself on The Three C’s of Hiring – Character, Competence, and Compatibility. Tom and I have known each other for years and worked together through our various Army and DLA roles both in and out of uniform and civilian attire. Tom is one of those high-quality people that exemplifies these characteristics.” said Sander. “The Sander Group and our clients are fortunate to have Tom come on board as this latest addition to the Firm!”

### **About The Sander Group**

The Sander Group, PLLC is a National Security and Government Contracts Law Firm that was formed in September 2023 by the Honorable Robert J. Sander, who was the Former General Counsel of the Navy and the only person in U.S. History to have served as the Chief Legal Officer of both the Army and the Navy. The Sander Group provides legal services and consulting focusing primarily on National Security, government contracts, compliance, and litigation related matters.

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