Jason Johnson Selected as one of IAOTP's Top 50 Fearless Leaders by IAOTP

The International Association of Top Professionals (IAOTP) will honor Jason Johnson at their Annual Awards Gala in NYC at the Plaza Hotel



NEW YORK, NY, UNITED STATES, September 14, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Jason Johnson was recently selected as one of IAOTP's Top 50 Fearless Leaders by the International Association of Top Professionals (IAOTP), recognizing his outstanding leadership, dedication, and commitment to his industry. IAOTP is a leading global professional organization known for its prestigious annual awards gala and exclusive vetting process, honoring a select group of accomplished and influential professionals each year.

Membership in the International Association of Top Professionals is an honor in itself, with only a select number of professionals in each discipline chosen for this distinction. Being selected for inclusion in IAOTP's Top 50 Fearless Leaders Publication is an even more exclusive honor, reserved for 50 of the world's most brilliant, courageous, and inspirational professionals.

These distinguished honorees are hand-selected for their remarkable stories of perseverance, resilience, passion, and strength. Each has made meaningful contributions to society, influenced their respective industries, and earned the respect of their peers and communities. A dedicated chapter will highlight each honoree's journey, accomplishments, and impact. Volume 6 of IAOTP's Top 50 Fearless Leaders Publication will be released in 2027, celebrating the extraordinary individuals who continue to lead with courage, purpose, and vision.

http://www.iaotp.com/award-gala

With more than three decades of experience spanning military service, law enforcement,

nonprofit leadership, and the global K-9 industry, Jason Johnson has built his career around one unwavering mission: to Protect Those Who Protected Us.

As Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Project K-9 Hero, Jason leads one of the nation's foremost nonprofit organizations dedicated to ensuring the highest quality of life for retired Police K-9s and Military Working Dogs. What began as a deeply personal calling has evolved into a nationally recognized movement. Project K-9 Hero provides 100 percent medical coverage for accepted program members, including office visits, surgeries, prescription medications, rehabilitation, medical equipment, and specialized prescription food. When a K-9 reaches their End of Watch, the organization also provides dignified end-of-duty services and a custom memorial portrait for the handler.

The organization's mission is simple yet powerful: to serve those who protected our families, our communities, and our nation. Its vision extends even further, working to reshape how society views retired working dogs by ensuring they are honored, respected, and cared for long after their service ends. Through its 177-acre Rehabilitation & Rehoming Facility, Project K-9 Hero provides a safe haven for retired K-9s who have nowhere else to go, may be facing euthanasia, or whose owners are no longer able to meet their specialized needs.

In addition to leading Project K-9 Hero, Jason serves as CEO of HaloLights, LLC, where he oversees the Canine Health Analytics Monitoring Platform (C.H.A.M.P.), supporting the global K-9 community through advanced health-monitoring solutions. He is also CEO of BlackBird Armament, providing innovative weapons systems and solutions to the United States military, government, and law enforcement agencies. His leadership extends to several other organizations, including his roles as Board President of the Global Working Dog Consortium, Service Animal Advisory Committee Member with the National Service Animal Monument Organization, Chairman and Partner at Blue Star Valor, and CEO of K-9 Solutions International, Inc., where he manages domestic and international contracts, training programs, and consulting services for civilian and government agencies worldwide.

Before founding Project K-9 Hero, Jason served as a Field Canine Coordinator for the Department of Homeland Security, providing subject-matter expertise and oversight to federal and law enforcement canine teams nationwide. Prior to that, he served as a K-9 Trainer,

Instructor, and Course Developer for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), where he planned and led explosive-detection courses for federal agents, law enforcement professionals, and military personnel both domestically and internationally.

His operational experience also includes serving as an Explosives Detection K-9 Handler, Trainer, Kennel Master, and Protective Security Specialist for the U.S. Department of State in Iraq and Afghanistan. Earlier in his career, he served as a Police Officer for the cities of Puyallup and Yakima, Washington, where he specialized as a K-9 Handler, SWAT Officer, K-9 Trainer, and Certifying Official. Jason also honorably served in the United States Army as a Military Police Officer and is a proud Veteran.

Before embarking on his current career path, Jason earned a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in Security Management from Bellevue University. His academic focus included homeland security, critical infrastructure protection, emergency management, cybersecurity, and risk analysis, providing a strong strategic foundation for the leadership roles he would later assume.

Over the course of his distinguished career, Jason has trained and certified personnel across dozens of federal agencies worldwide. He worked directly with the Pentagon's Military Working Dog program, providing homemade explosives detection training to more than 1,000 dogs before their deployment to the Middle East. He also helped develop and instruct the ATF's first Special Response Team Dual-Purpose Patrol and Explosives Detection Canine Program, as well as its off-leash Search Enhanced Evidence K-9 Program.

Throughout his distinguished career, Jason has received numerous awards and accolades and has earned international recognition for his contributions to the K-9 community. In 2026, he will be considered for inclusion in TIP (Top Industry Professionals) Magazine. In December 2026, he will be honored at IAOTP's Annual Awards Gala at the iconic Plaza Hotel in New York City for his selection as Top CEO and Advocate for K-9 Heroes and his inclusion in IAOTP's Top 50 Fearless Leaders publication.

Beyond his operational and executive leadership, Jason is also a published author of three children's books, K-9 Flash Becomes a Hero and K-9 Flash: A Hero's Hero, inspired by his own K-9 partner, Flash, and Just Yoube, inspired by Project K-9 Hero's third National Ambassador, K-9 Yoube. In 2018, Flash was named Law Enforcement Hero Dog of the Year by American Humane. Jason is also a former Master's Course University Instructor, published academic author, and Executive Producer of television and film projects centered on the K-9 profession. Today, he continues to advocate at the national level, working with members of Congress in Washington, D.C., to advance the K-9 Hero Act, legislation designed to create lasting, positive change for the K-9 community and the heroes who have dedicated their lives to serving alongside us.

Looking back, Jason attributes his success to his determination, work ethic, and mentors along the way. When not working, he enjoys traveling and spending time with family. At the heart of

Jason Johnson's career is not simply leadership, but loyalty. His life's work reflects a deep belief that service deserves honor, and that the heroes who once stood on the front lines deserve dignity, care, and protection in return.

For more information, visit: https://projectk9hero.org/

About IAOTP
The International Association of Top Professionals (IAOTP) is an international boutique networking organization that selects the world's most distinguished and accomplished professionals across a wide range of industries. These elite professionals are provided opportunities to collaborate, share insights, serve as keynote speakers, and inspire others within their fields. Membership is not open to the general public. Candidates must be personally invited by the President or nominated by an esteemed honorary member following a brief interview.

IAOTP's experts have provided thousands of top-tier professionals worldwide with the recognition and credibility they deserve, helping them strengthen their personal brands and expand their influence. The organization prides itself on being a one-of-a-kind boutique network that handpicks only the most exceptional individuals and brings them together on a premier platform designed to foster meaningful connections and professional growth. IAOTP remains one of the most elite and highly respected professional recognition organizations in the world.

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Annette Natoli
IAOTP
+1 212-634-4427
email us here
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