Robert Rivera

SUMMARY

Motivated professional with military and emergency services experience seeks a career position in academia.

+1 (908) 420 3421

🗹 robrivera01@gmail.com

📀 Syracuse, NY USA

LinkedIn.com/in/robrivera1

🗒 RobRivera.com

EDUCATION

Master of Science | Public Relations, Crisis Communications (GPA 3.5), Spring '19 S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications

Master of Arts (Executive) | International Relations, Global Security (GPA 3.5), Spring '19 Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs

Certificate of Advanced Study | Public Administration (GPA 3.5), Spring '19 Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs

Certificate of Advanced Study | Conflict & Collaboration (GPA 3.5) Spring '19 Program for the Advancement of Research on Conflict & Collaboration

Certificate of Advanced Study | Security Studies (GPA 3.5), Fall 2'18 Institute for Security Policy & Law at Syracuse University

Bachelor of Science | National/Professional Security Studies (GPA 4.0), Spring '15 College of Professional Studies at New Jersey City University

AA| Education & AS | Criminal Justice (GPA 3.7), Spring '14, '15 Middlesex County College, New Jersey

- PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Independent Security Strategist & Consultant

August 2015 - Present

- Created policy, information technology security guidelines, and strategic marketing recommendations, including training programs for employees, vulnerability testing, and response techniques in crisis
 - communications to address individual organizations' stakeholders.
- Composed evaluation reports to identify risks, devised access security solutions, and formulated mitigation strategies, including internal and external responses to incidents.

Emergency Services / Tactical EMS - Numerous Agencies

June 2001 - December 2010

- Selected as Training Officer for Edison Township Emergency Medical Services' Squad #1. Instructed both new and experienced members in current tactics and methods. Also, coached members to prepare for the state EMT practical and written examinations.
- Provided 911-based emergency service response implementing modern pre-hospital techniques & practices, including tactical response and integration with law enforcement in active shooter situations. Also, coordinated state, county, and local resources consistent with FEMA's incident command structure. Credited with seven documented CPR saves.

Transportation Security Officer - Dept of Homeland Security

June 2006 - August 2006

- Interacted with thousands of passengers from numerous national origins on a daily basis at the international arrival/departure terminal of a Category X transportation hub, performing passenger and baggage screening using various methods.
- Participated in counter-terrorism efforts at Newark-Liberty International Airport to ensure the safety and well-being of the travelling public in an efficient and effective manner. Identified, resolved, and prevented vulnerabilities by means of covert testing of personnel & systems.

United States Army Reserve & NJ Army National Guard

September 1998 - March 2010

- **Geospatial Intelligence Imagery Analyst:** Maintained a Top Secret SCI government security clearance. Responsible for analyzing overhead and aerial imagery developed by photographic and electronic means. Provided critical information about enemy forces, potential battle areas, and combat operations support.
- **Military Police Officer:** Protected the lives and property on Army installations by enforcing military laws and regulations. Additionally, controlled traffic, prevented crime, and responded to all emergencies.
- Chemical, Biological, Radioactive, & Nuclear Specialist: Responsible for defending against the threat of chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear weapons of mass destruction. Tasked with the evaluation of air, liquid, and solid samples.
- Infantry Soldier: Performed as a member of a fire team, aided in the mobilization of vehicles, troops, and weaponry, assisted in reconnaissance missions, and operated various weapon systems. Was selected, trained, and served with the New Jersey Army National Guard State Honor Guard Team, subsequently appointed a trainer for incoming soldiers.

NOTABLE AWARDS

 President's Lifetime Achievement Award

(By President Obama for Volunteer Service)

 9/11 Commendation
 (For actions taken in Manhattan on 9/11/01)

SCHOLASTIC AWARDS

- SoldierScholar Recipient
- NJCU College President's
 Scholarship Award
- Rosemary Estevez Memorial
 Scholarship

SCHOLASTIC HONORS

- Gamma Beta Phi
- Sigma Alpha Pi
- National Society of Leadership & Success
- Golden Key
- National Society of Collegiate Scholars
- Tao Sigma
- Phi Theta Kappa



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🕽 RobRivera.com

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

- Advanced Writing for Digital Platforms
- Communications, Media, Criminal, Contract, Property, & Tort Law
- Crisis & Disaster Management
- Crisis Communications
- Executive Managerial Leadership
- Negotiating for Lawyers
- Non-Governmental Organization Management
- Public Administration & Democracy
- Public Relations Agency Management
- Public Relations Research, Campaigns, Theory, & Management
- U.S. Defense Planning, Strategy, & Execution
- U.S.-Latin American Relations
- Visual Communication Theory & Practice

- ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- Conflict Resolution Instructor Course (Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs)
- Certified in Human Subjects & Social/Behavior Research (CITI)
- Advanced Google Analytics & Hootsuite Platform Certification
- Certified BLS Provider, Emergency Telecommunicator (ETC), & Medical Dispatcher (EMD)
- Audio production & editing experience in Ableton Live Suite, ProTools, & Logic
- Video production & editing experience in Final Cut Pro, iMovie, & Vegas
- Advanced knowledge of digital photography and imaging
- Experienced in all primary social media platforms
- Proficient with MS Suite, OSX, & Adobe (Ps/Id/Br)
- Completed Public Information Officer Awareness, Social Media in Emergency Mgt., & Effective Communications FEMA courses

- MAJOR INCIDENT RESPONSES

- 9/11 Terror Attack, NY, NY | Edison Fire/EMS
- Tropical Storm Sandy, NJ | Salvation Army E.D.S.
- Flooding Houston, TX | T.R. Region VI
- Blizzard Erie, PA | T.R. Region II
- Flooding Baltimore City, MD | T.R. Region III
- Flooding Harlingen, TX | T.R. Region VI
- Hurricane Michael Panama City, FL | T.R. Region IV
- Hurricane Dorian Mclean's Town Cay, Bahamas | T.R. International

-RECOGNITIONS & ROLES

Graduate-level Activities

Teaching Assistant for COM101-Practical Grammar in Communications (Spring 19), Syracuse University Student Veteran Organization Public Affairs Officer, Selected for the "#BeOrange" international marketing campaign, Law School Ambassador, Latin American Law Student Association, PAD Law Fraternity, Student Association on Terrorism & Security Analysis, Registered Student Organization Review Board, Academic Integrity Panel, Graduate Program Faculty Search Committee

Undergraduate-level Activities

Tutor for students in Criminal Justice courses, Task Force for Persons with Disabilities, Student Government Association, Veterans Service Association, Joint Leadership Collaborative, New Jersey Press Foundation Journalistic Photography Award (x3)

United States Army

Honor Guard Trainer, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Army Service, National Defense, Global War on Terrorism, Outstanding Volunteer Service (x2), Army Reserve Good Conduct, Army National Guard Good Conduct (x2), NJARNG Honor Guard Award (with silver star)

Emergency Services

Training Officer (Edison Twp. EMS - Squad #1), Public Affairs Liason (Salvation Army's NJ Emergency Disaster Services), CPR Lifesaver Award x7, New Jersey State EMT of the Year (runner-up), Recruitment Officer