MORE ABOUT OUR EXPERT PANELISTS

STEVE SHARKEY

DIRECTOR, BALTIMORE CITY
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

From intern to Cabinet Member, Director Sharkey had risen through the ranks of City government. Currently, Director Sharkey leads the Department of General Services for the City of Baltimore. He manages over three hundred employees while consistently improving operational efficiency in fleet management, facilities maintenance, and capital design and construction. The Department of General Services has operated under budget for 3 consecutive years under Mr. Sharkey's leadership.

Named one of the Top 40 Leaders under 40 by the Baltimore Business Journal, The Daily Record's VIP List - Successful by 40, and The NextGen Public Service Award in 2016, Director Sharkey holds a BA in Political Science from McDaniel College and A Master's in Public Policy from UMBC.

FRANK JOHNSON

CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICE,
BALTIMORE CITY OFFICER
OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

As the City of Baltimore's Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Chief Digital Officer (CDO), Mr. Johnson leads all digital transformation programs and supports the Mayor in her ongoing efforts to modernize the City of Baltimore's IT capabilities. This also includes scaling the local IT ecosystem to drive awareness & tech investment in the City.

He is an electrical engineer by trade. Since joining Intel as a field engineer in 1990, he has been actively involved in the massive technological shift from the early days of PCs and servers to the digital economy of today, where technology has become not just a tool, but a truly pervasive strategic enabler for competitive advantage and socioeconomic development. Mr. Johnson holds a BS from the University of Toledo and a Master's in Computer Science from Johns Hopkins University.
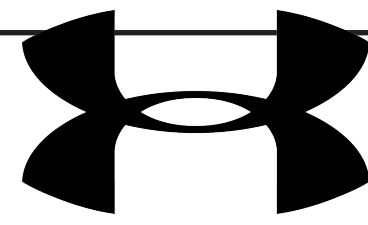
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TJ GRAVEN
VP OF GLOBAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
UNDER ARMOUR

UNDER ARMOUR.

DR. BRIAN COATS
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT,
TECHNOLOGY OPERATIONS + PLANNING,
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND BALTIMORE

Brian Coats is the Assistant Vice President of Technology Operations and Planning for the University of Maryland at Baltimore, a $1.1 billion institution. Over the last 20 years, Dr. Coats has held a variety of leadership positions in the University System of Maryland. In addition to his extensive experience leading large, complex research computing environments, his academic research in security, privacy, and governmental compliance in healthcare has been published and presented both domestically and internationally.

Dr. Coats has Bachelor of Science degree in aerospace engineering, a Master of Science degree in information technology, an advanced Graduate Certificate in information technology, and a Doctor of Science degree in applied information technology.

UNIVERSITY
of MARYLAND
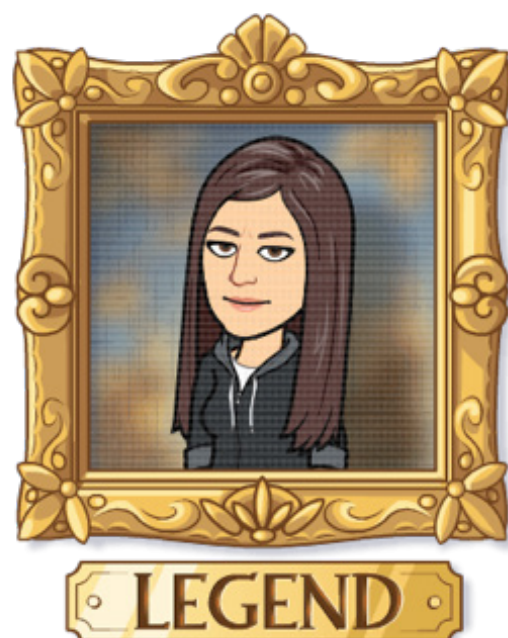BALTIMORE

MORE ABOUT OUR EXPERT PANELISTS

JOHN FOSTER
PARTNER + PROGRAMS MANAGER, FEARLESS SOLUTIONS

John is a Partner and the Director of Programs for Fearless Solutions. He is responsible for the delivery of technical services and solutions to various customers within the Federal Government and the Intelligence Community. He personally engages on some projects as a hands-on leader and oversees software development, Agile training, coaching, and program management. With more than 15 years of experience working in software for both commercial and Government customers, he has become an advocate and enthusiast for Agile delivery and helping the Government to get stuff done!

John is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP), a certified Scrum Master, obtained his B.S. in Computer Science from UMBC and his MBA from Loyola University Maryland.

fearless

MALLORY ZIMMERMAN
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, LINQ SERVICES

Starting at a Startup and up and up. Her journey began in 2007 as a receptionist at LINQ, a small startup company out of Baltimore, MD. Within a few years she rose to Manager, Director, Vice President and today she is running the company as Chief Operating Officer hand-in-hand with the CEO. Fostering a uniquely positive company culture and keeping focused on client satisfaction have been the keys to her success.

Growing steadily from day one - today LINQ boasts an impressive 93% customer retention rate with under 50 employees and revenues over $20 million a year. The company has been included on the INC 500, Baltimore Business Journal Fastest Growing Companies, TECH 200, Smart 25 B2B and the list goes on. Today, Zimmerman is based in Pittsburgh, PA where she opened LINQ's second office location in 2012. She resides in Mt. Lebanon with her husband and two daughters.

LINQ