NEXTGEN AGENDA

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9

08:00 – 09:00 **Registration & Breakfast** (breakfast is provided)

09:00 – 10:05 **Opening General Session**

10:05 – 10:30 **Refreshment Break**

10:30 – 11:30 **Breakout Sessions #1**
How to Be a Government Influencer | ECQ 5: Building Coalitions
How do you effectively manage a project or team when everyone is equal? Being an influencer and gaining engagement for a project is often one of the most difficult jobs when you want to lead, but technically don't have the authority. In this interactive session, we'll share the best ways to motivate and inspire your peers in an effective and efficient way.

Interpersonal Skills – How to Build Great Relationships | ECQ 2: Leading People
Projects are almost always accomplished by working together. However, creating lasting and useful relationships can be challenging. In this session, we'll use interactive activities, self-assessments, and discussions, to gain awareness of their communication styles and learn strategies to resolve conflict and strategies for communicating effectively with those whose styles are unlike their own.

Mindful Leadership | ECQ 2: Leading People
Mindful leadership involves engaging in your work skillfully in the moment. Mindfulness will help you create personal well-being and transform workplace culture, one conversation at a time. In this session, we're going to talk about how to bring presence to your interactions, the importance of building trust within yourself, and how to cultivate a sense of meaningful connection at work.

Understanding Your Personal Productivity | ECQ 4: Business Acumen
Today's government worker is no stranger to the countless requests, mammoth projects, and increased workload that is the result of having to do more with less. There just isn't enough time in the day. But there are those productive folks who seem to get everything done with time to spare. How do they do it? What's their secret to increased productivity? In this interactive session, we will give you the insider tips to becoming a more effective and efficient worker.

Using Data to Brief Your Boss | ECQ 3: Results Driven
Edwards Deming said, "Without data, you're just another person with an opinion." Well, these days government is swimming in zettabytes of data. And regardless of your job, there's data you can use to make your case, whatever it may be. Whether you're running a project and need to make the case for more funding, or if you're in HR and need to report on hiring metrics, you must learn how to leverage data to brief your manager and your team. In this interactive session, we'll show you how to take a data set and use it as leverage to strengthen your case.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9

11:30 – 12:10   **Lunch Break** (lunch is provided)

12:10 – 01:20   **Lunch General Session**

01:20 – 01:45   **Refreshment Break**

01:45 – 03:15   **Breakout Sessions #2**
Build Your Strengths | Fundamental Competency
One of the keys of career growth is to develop your strengths, and not just focus exclusively on improving your weaknesses. Your strengths can improve faster, especially once you have identified what they are. Plus, if you know your own strengths you can better position yourself to stand out!

Creativity & Design: Insights from the Cockpit to the Corner Office
From Forbes and the World Economic Forum, to TED, Adobe, GOOGLE, and the Harvard Business Review, these organizations and outlets have all positioned creativity, creative thinking, and creative problem solving as essential 21st century thinking skills. Join current Defense Legislative Fellow and United States Air Force Major, Gregory "Fangs" Farrell (F-16 / F-35) and Mr. Nathan Schwagler (Dali Museum Innovation Labs & US Special Operations Command, Joint Special Operations University) as they facilitate a hands-on, minds-on, workshop to introduce seminal research, insights, case examples and practical exercises that will help you think about the ways in which you can invite and ignite innovation in your personal and professional life.

Crucial Conversations | ECQ 2: Leading People
It's impossible to avoid difficult conversations at work. How many times have you run into a conflict with a colleague? In a one-on-one meeting with your supervisor? Working as a team with your peers? Or even been publicly questioned? In order to succeed you have to know how to have difficult conversations. In this interactive session, we'll give you the tools you need to have these courageous conversations.

Make Your Meetings Matter | ECQ 3: Results Driven
Everyone has been to them, most hate them and few are done well. What are we talking about? Meetings! In fact, studies show that poorly run meetings are a multi-billion-dollar problem in U.S. organizations. It's time to make the most of meetings and make them truly impactful. Meetings are meant to keep people in the loop, involved in the conversation and overall useful for people attending them...so let's make them positive, engaging and efficient.

The AI Revolution: What You Need to Know About Governing in the Digital Age | ECQ 1: Leading Change
The hype about Artificial Intelligence is reaching fever pitch, but what impact will AI and other related technology trends really have on the US government and my agency? What can government do to harness these new technologies to transform government and improve services to citizens and what do I need to know about them? In this session, you will be introduced to the fundamentals of applied AI, and understand the Digital Value Chain framework, which connects data, cloud computing, software development, machine learning, artificial intelligence, organizational strategy, and human capital.

03:15 – 03:30   **Refreshment Break**

03:30 – 04:30   **Closing General Session**

04:30 – 06:30   **Networking Reception** (appetizers and drink tickets are provided)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10

08:00 – 09:00   **Registration & Breakfast** (breakfast is provided)

09:00 – 10:00   **Opening General Session**

10:00 – 10:30   **Refreshment Break**

10:30 – 11:30   **Breakout Sessions #3**
Building Your Own Personal Resilience | ECQ 1: Leading Change
How do you respond to the unpredictable? How about when obstacles emerge? Sometimes in life and in your career, things don't go as planned. At its core, resiliency is the ability to bounce back from adversity. In today's world, there is no shortage of adversity ingredients: you might not like your boss, your project or maybe even an executive action. For some, this is an equation for burnout or withdrawal. For the resilient, these factors ignite motivation, optimism and creativity. To stay focused and adaptive to our changing surroundings, resilient leaders develop "strong backs" of mental determination, grit and hardiness. They also cultivate "soft fronts" comprised of emotional intelligence and agility. If these qualities do not describe you right now, there is good news. Resiliency can be cultivated and strengthened. In this session, we will build both mindset and tactical skill to bounce back while retaining your personal beliefs – and fast – through five sure-fire steps.

How Gov Can Embrace Diverse Experience, Backgrounds and Thinking | ECQ 2: Leading People
The government is a diverse organization. So how do you work together? And how can you, as a government leader, continue to invest in diversity? One answer is empathy – the ability to understand and share the feelings of another. Empathy doesn't mean you agree with everyone; it does mean you assume a curious mindset and make an effort to truly understand. In this session, we will explore the neurological and behavioral sciences underpinning empathy, its vital role in effective government leadership and provide practical tools to enhance individual and collective empathy across differences in your workplace.

Map Your Own Career by Building Your Personal Brand | Fundamental Competency
Your professional development plan can help you focus on needed skills, promote continuous learning, further your office's mission, and achieve your career goals. Despite many organizations requiring them (i.e. IDP, PDP), professional development plans are often done quickly and poorly without much thought or follow-through. Plus, there are hundreds of certifications, advanced degrees and details you could try. So how do you know when and what to do to better your career? In this session, we'll tell you how to create an awesome plan and how it can enhance your performance review. Plus, we'll show you how to take ownership of your government career.

Project Planning and Project Management Tips and Tricks for Non-PMs | ECQ 3: Results Driven
Raise your hand if you've ever worked on a poorly managed project. Everyone? Most likely. And it's because project management is hard and most people don't plan. But here's the thing: you don't need to have project manager in your title to plan and help lead a project. And you don't have to be a PM in order to make a project work more effectively. In this session, you will get the inside scoop on how to plan and project management best practices from those who have survived successful projects.

Upping Your Political Savvy | ECQ 5: Building Coalitions
Part of being a government employee means navigating difficult political waters. Administration changes can often cause uncertainty. So how do you navigate the dicey political climate effectively? And get ahead? In this session, you will hear from career government folks who have successfully made political savviness a priority.

11:30 – 12:10	**Lunch Break** (lunch is provided)
12:10 – 01:20	**Lunch General Session**
01:20 – 01:35	**Refreshment Break**
01:35 – 02:35	**Breakout Sessions #4**

Change Management Frameworks | ECQ 1: Leading Change

We know from studies that 90 percent of change management strategies fail. So how do you institutionalize change in your team or department successfully? One potential solution is to use a proven change management framework. In this workshop, we will show how different change management frameworks have been successfully implemented at agencies and provide tips and tricks for deploying similar solutions for you.

How to be a Poor Man's Hacker | ECQ 4: Business Acumen

Every day you probably are annoyed with some routine task that you're certain some technology has to exist (or should) to make it easier. But you probably think you need permission from your boss or an advanced degree to make it happen. Think again. In this session, Abhi Nemani, former CDO of LA, CIO of Sacramento, and self-described "poor man's hacker," will show you how you can use sometimes unexpected, usually free, and always easy tools to simplify your job and impress your office.

How to Give and Receive Feedback | ECQ 2: Leading People

Let's be very clear: getting negative feedback is not easy. No one wants to hear that they're not excelling. However, providing impactful feedback is key to an effective workforce. Knowing how to receive feedback will help take your career to the next level, and be the change agent your agency needs. We'll host an interactive session where you both learn to provide and receive feedback that is useful and actionable.

Learning to Have Flashes of Genius | ECQ 1: Leading Change

The standard view of creativity is one of constant brainstorming punctuated by sudden flashes of genius — it is not something you can be intentional or methodical about. This talk will disprove this, explain how flashes of genius actually happen and provide ways anyone can increase their odds of having one.

You're a Manager, Now What? The Realities of Management | ECQ 2: Leading People

Congrats: you are now a manager in government. Wondering what to do now? You're not alone. Most first-time managers inherit their teams. In this session, we will help you figure out how to navigate a first-time management role, garner respect and create space for your team to innovate.

02:35 – 02:50	**Refreshment Break**
02:50 – 03:50	**Breakout Sessions #5**

How Problem-Making Can Drive Public Sector Problem Solving | ECQ 5: Building Coalitions

One way to redefine public sector innovation is through problem-making: we have to create problems to solve problems. As the general path to progress accelerates, enabled by technology and new social habits, government agencies, departments, and teams face challenges that are too complex to be fully solved. Under these new circumstances, problem-making challenges assumptions and takes advantage of gaps and grey areas that may develop into new solutions. Reconciling methods and approaches that may seem incompatible, antagonistic even, is a way to explore new innovation landscapes that build the trust relationship between citizens and government by redesigning the practice of delivering public value.

02:50 – 03:50   **Breakout Sessions #5 (Continued)**
How to Deal with an Unmotivated Team | ECQ 1: Leading Change
We've all been there. Whether it was at school, with friends or now at your job, sometimes you can get put on a team where you feel like you are pulling all the weight. So how do you adapt? How do you motivate your team to do more? In this session, we will talk through strategies for how to deal with difficult coworkers and motivate them to pull their weight.

How to Communicate Effectively Across Personality Types | ECQ 2: Leading People
Have you been looking for ways to communicate better, lead more effectively and strengthen relationships in the workplace? This interactive session provides effective tools to improve communication and leadership using the principles of emotional intelligence.

How to Negotiate Ethically | ECQ 4: Business Acumen
What constitutes a proper ethical decision? It's not as easy as one may think. All too often we are faced with 'right v right' decisions. How do we handle this challenge? This session introduces participants to the question of integrity and the challenges of leading with integrity. It begins with the premise that the most precious thing you have is your reputation for treating people fairly, and for creating meaningful relationships. Discussion, debate, and engagement will drive our discussion as we help leaders make sense of these quandaries to arrive at informed, sound decisions.

How to Unlock Government's Entrepreneurial Spirit | ECQ 2: Leading People
Since 2012 the White House Presidential Innovation Fellows (PIF) Program has welcomed more than 125 top innovators, entrepreneurs, and startup founders to serve as government "entrepreneurs-in-residence" to address the nation's biggest challenges. These Fellows work alongside other talented civil servants and government change makers to strive for results in months, not years. In this session, hear stories of how existing and former PIFs have worked to drive change and results to address the biggest challenges leaders are facing at "startup speed".

03:50 – 04:10   **Refreshment Break**

04:10 – 05:00   **Closing General Session**

05:00 – 06:00   **Networking Reception** (appetizers and drink tickets are provided)

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