



**RICK KNOP**  
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF ADVISORS

Rick Knop is the Chairman of the Board of Advisors for the Global and National Security Institute at USF, assuming his duties in January 2023.

Rick is a lawyer turned investment banker and private equity principal. After working on Capitol Hill (as a legislative assistant to two Congressmen) and practicing international corporate law Rick co-founded The Windsor Group in 1992. The Windsor Group was the first investment bank focused on the government/defense contracting industry. As CEO he built Windsor into the premier investment bank for that industry and led many M&A transactions.

In 2005 BB&T Bank (now Truist) acquired Windsor. After the acquisition of the Windsor Group, Rick was Co-head of BB&T Capital Markets until 2009. In 2010 Rick, with his wife Leslee Belluchie (a senior executive in the defense industry), cofounded FedCap Partners - private equity fund that invested in Federal technology, cy

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## *GNSI BIO*

Rick also served as the President of the National Chapter of the Association for Corporate Growth, Vice Chairman and member of the Board of the World Affairs Council of Washington DC.

He is currently an Emeritus member of the Board of Advisors for George Washington University Law School, member of the Board of Advisors of the McCrary Institute for Cybersecurity & Critical Infrastructure, member of the Board of Advisors of Cyber Florida, member of the Board of Trustees of the London Town Foundation, and a board member of several government/defense companies.

Rick has won numerous awards including The Greater Washington Technology Financier of the Year, the Association of Corporate Growth Dealmaker of the Year, the Technology Good Scout Award from the Boy Scouts of America, and the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award from The George Washington University. Rick received a JD with honors from GW Law School, an AB from Indiana University, and was a First Lt in the US Army.

He is a member of The Cosmos Club, the Annapolis Yacht Club, the Mar-a-Lago Club, the Breakers Ocean Club, the Palm Beach Yacht Club, and Chartwell Country Club. He is married to Leslee Belluchie, has three grown children, and six grandchildren. He and his wife have homes in Palm Beach, Florida and Annapolis, Maryland. He and his wife have endowed scholarships and professorships at The George Washington University and Auburn University.