



## **Erica Jeffries Purdo '98**

Erica Jeffries Purdo is the Vice President of Strategy, Transformation, and Analytics for Global Corporate Affairs at Johnson & Johnson. In this role, she leads the development and execution of integrated strategies that shape, amplify, and evolve the Global Corporate Affairs organization. Her team is also responsible for measuring Enterprise brand reputation. Erica began her tenure at J&J in 2018.

Erica is a proud member of the Class of 1998 (“Ninety-Great”). Commissioned in the branch of Aviation, Erica was a UH-60L Blackhawk pilot in the 4th Aviation Brigade, 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood, Texas. Erica spent five years on active duty before being medically retired in 2003. Erica’s passion for service led her to a management consultant role that took her to Iraq, where she served in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Even as a civilian, Erica has always sought to serve the military and ultimately worked in the Defense sector, supporting U.S. government agencies with assignments in Europe, Asia, and the Middle East.

In 2010, Erica was privileged to receive an appointment to serve as a White House Fellow and later a Senior Advisor in the Obama administration. In addition to working at the federal level of government, Erica also served at the state level as the Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans’ Affairs, where her team supported over 700,000 veterans and their families across the state of Illinois.

Erica is an ardent supporter of military service members and their families. In 2017, Erica was sworn in by the Secretary of the Army to serve as a Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army (CASA) for the state of Illinois. Following her relocation to New Jersey, the Secretary re-appointed Erica in November 2019 to serve as a CASA for her new home of record, where she proudly serves today. Erica has served on several non-profit boards for veteran-serving organizations, including President George W. Bush’s Military Strategic Initiative Council, Bunker Labs, and Volunteers of America Illinois. She also is an advisory board member for the Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation.

The challenges of today require thoughtful and impactful solutions. Erica’s goal is to unite graduates building upon the common thread that binds us all—the Long Gray Line. Erica earned a Bachelor of Science in international relations from the United States Military Academy, a Master of Arts in security studies from Georgetown University, and a Master of Business Administration from Virginia Tech University. Erica lives in Westfield, New Jersey with her husband, Derek, and her daughters: Talia (8) and Brielle (6).