

Title: Ethics of Technology: A DARPA Perspective  
Speaker: Mr. Joseph Whited, Chief of Staff, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)  
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POC: Dr. Tom Creely

## **SYNOPSIS:**

DARPA's programs push the leading edge of technology and are sometimes society's first notable encounter with the societal dilemmas associated with new capabilities. DARPA pursues these technologies because of their promise, and the Agency is committed to exploring domains that could leave the Nation vulnerable if not pursued. DARPA's leadership and team members understand that, in this pursuit, the Agency's work will at times raise ethical, legal, security or policy questions that cannot and should not go unaddressed. This brief will discuss DARPA's commitment to build ethical, legal, and societal considerations into the research and development process, providing context and technological examples for consideration.

## **BIOs:**

Mr. Joe Whited provides management support and strategic advice to the director and deputy director of DARPA. He also guides, supervises, and coordinates the agency's planning and operations, ensuring the smooth operation of the 1300-person organization and the execution of the agency's \$3.5 billion annual budget.

Prior to joining DARPA, Mr. Whited served as a senior advisor to the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (USD(R&E)). In this role, he advised the Under Secretary on research, development, and test and evaluation related matters as they intersect with policy, regulation, and statute.

Mr. Whited began his career in the U.S. Navy. Over his 10 years of service in the Navy and Navy Reserve, he served as a shipboard intelligence analyst, an airborne reconnaissance planner, and finally, as an advisor to the Iraqi National Police. While on active duty he supported combat operations in Kosovo, Afghanistan, and Iraq, as well as humanitarian operations in Turkey.

His service as a Department of Defense Civilian began at the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) where he served as an intelligence advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Defense of International Security Affairs, a military forces analytic team lead, and later as the chief of congressional liaison for the agency.

Mr. Whited departed DIA to join the staff of the House Armed Services Committee as the committee lead of intelligence matters, supporting the chairman and the committee members in the exercise of oversight of the intelligence activities of the Department of Defense and the military services. He later transitioned to the private sector, serving as a consultant at the Missile Defense Agency and in the office of the USD(R&E) before returning to public service.

Mr. Whited holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Georgetown University and is a graduate of the U.S. Naval War College. He has been awarded the Secretary of Defense Exceptional Civilian Service Award and is a two-time recipient of the DIA's Director's Award.