

Lauren Wittenberg Weiner is the author of <u>Unruly: Deconstruct the Rules, Defy the Norms, and Define Your Success</u>, speaker and business therapist. As an entrepreneur, Lauren found success in the field of military contracting by changing the rules of the game.

Lauren started WWC Global when she could not get a job as a military spouse stationed overseas. What started as a way for Lauren to do some part time consulting work until she could move back to DC and re-start her career, instead turned into one of the largest privately-held government contracting firms in Tampa Bay. Under Lauren's leadership, WWC Global won one of the largest awards to a small business in US Special Operations Command Headquarters history, a \$200 million contract to provide training and military exercise support with Special Operators (Navy SEALs, Green Berets, and others) around the world.

Over the course of almost 20 years, she and her team built the company to almost \$100 million in annual revenue before the company was acquired in 2022. Since the original founding of the firm in 2004, WWC Global employed over 250 military spouses, and kept dozens of them employed through multiple military moves, some for over 15 years.

Lauren also co-founded the very first non-profit organization, In Gear Career, focused exclusively on military spouse employment at the professional levels, which merged with the US Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Hiring Our Heroes program. Lauren also cofounded Homefront Rising, a program to train military spouses to engage in the political process as candidates and elected officials, political and policy staffers, and advocates.

Lauren is an authentic leader, speaker, and mentor who routinely shows "behind the curtain" to the reality behind her success. In addition to her professional duties, Lauren has an undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and a PHD in Psychology from Dartmouth College. She lives in Tampa Bay with her family, where she sits on the Board for Baycare Health System (a \$5.2B not-for-profit), the Tampa Bay WAVE technology incubator, and the Tampa Bay Chamber of Commerce. She is the primary caregiver for her aging parents and a loud and proud hockey mom.

Learn more about Lauren at: <u>LaurenWittenbergWeiner.com</u>