



**Aaron M. Leonard, USA (Ret)**

Chief Executive Officer

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**To the 1st Responder Conference Selection Committee,**

I am honored to write this letter in support of George Sichler's application to speak at an upcoming 1st Responder Conference. As a leader at Guardian Revival, a nonprofit supporting military, veterans, and first responders through trauma-informed peer support and wellness programming, I have had the privilege of working closely with George and witnessing the impact of his work firsthand.

George has represented Guardian Revival at mental health and wellness events throughout New York City and the Hudson Valley, speaking to fire departments, EMS personnel, and law enforcement agencies alike. His presentations are grounded in lived experience, cultural competence, and his unwavering compassion for first responders. He helps those on the frontline and leadership alike recognize that taking care of your mental health isn't a weakness but an imperative.

What makes George stand out is his ability to bridge the gap between personal narrative and professional insight. His sessions offer practical tools, peer-informed perspectives, and deeply human stories that encourage honest reflection and dialogue, precisely the kind of connection your conference is known for cultivating.

George is not just a speaker; he's a trusted voice in the first responder community. I strongly recommend him for this opportunity and am confident that he would contribute meaningfully to your mission of supporting the total wellness of those who serve.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

With gratitude,

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