



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Gustavo Rivera

## Keith Rivera

GUSTAVO RIVERA May 20, 2016

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Born and raised in the Bronx, Keith Rivera began his journey to success by joining the Army at the age of 18. After completing basic training, he continued serving his country until 2006, achieving the rank of Sergeant while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. For his bravery, courage and dedication, Sergeant Rivera was awarded the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal and National Service and Defense Medal.

Sergeant Rivera is a graduate of Monroe College with an Associate Degree in Information Technology and Bachelor of Business Administration. He has been recognized academically

on both the Dean's and President's Lists. As the founding president of the Monroe College Student Veterans of America, he helped create a military friendly environment on the campus, where he selflessly and tirelessly volunteers his time as a spokesman for the veteran community. Sergeant Rivera's military service and work in the community continues to be recognized; he has been awarded a proclamation from New York State Senator Jeff Klein, a Citation from New York City Councilmember Jose Rivera and a Certificate of Appreciation from the Bronx Chamber of Commerce President Lenny, all in November 2011.

Recognizing the importance of helping his fellow veterans, Sergeant Rivera has remained active since completing his tour of duty. He served as a veterans benefit advisor and veterans admission counselor at Monroe College from 2010 to 2013. After leaving that position, he joined the Department of Veterans Affairs as a service officer for paralyzed veterans and now serves as a medical support assistant in the Vet Center for Readjustment Counseling.

Sergeant Rivera continues to serve his community as a dedicated advocate for veterans, and makes himself regularly available to assist veterans in navigating and understanding the benefits they are entitled to receive for their service to our country.