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Jay joined Bechtel from another engineering and construction company, where he was the senior vice-president for government relations. Prior to that position, Jay worked at the Washington policy-oriented think tank, The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), where for five years he was the Senior Vice President for External Relations. Before his work at CSIS, he was the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs at the Department of Defense, Director of Legislative Affairs for the National Security Council at the White House, and Legislative Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Mr. Farrar served 23 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, where he specialized in public affairs and political/military affairs. During his Marine Corps tenure, he also taught at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a recipient of the Department of Defense Award for Exceptional Public Service. A native of Milwaukee WI, he is a graduate of Marquette University and has a Master's degree from Central Michigan University.