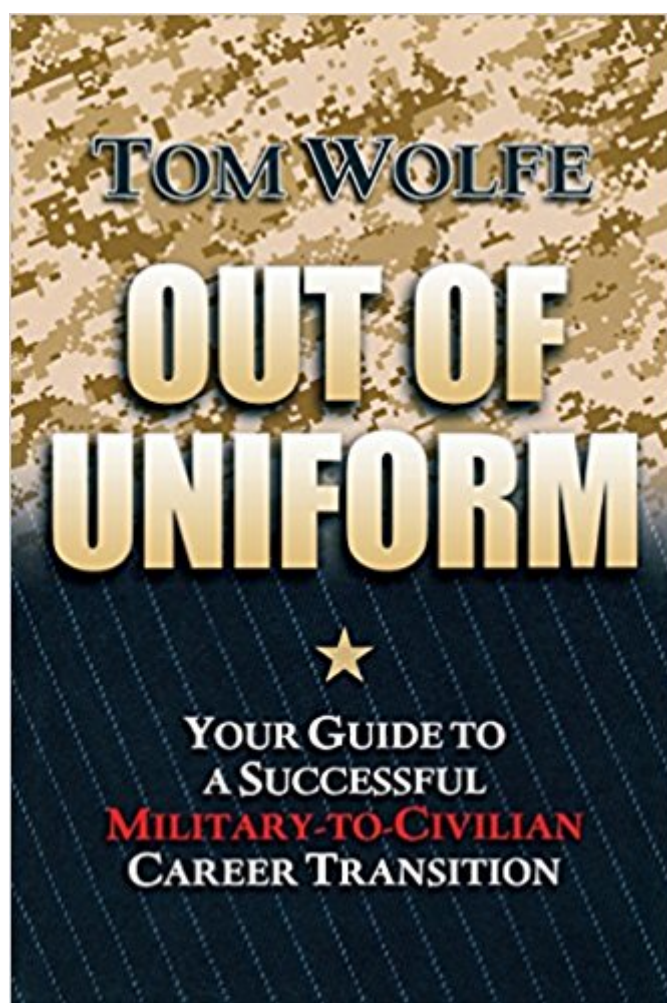


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# Out Of Uniform: Your Guide To A Successful Military-to-Civilian Career Transition



## Synopsis

After completing military service, veterans can have a difficult time finding employment upon returning to civilian life. *Out of Uniform* is designed to help all transitioning military personnel, regardless of service, branch, rank, rating, time in service, time in grade, or specialty. Although all service members share many common denominators, each individual brings something unique to the job market. The parameters of the search may vary, but the target is the same—land the right job the first time. The information in this book will enhance the odds of hitting that target. This book is divided into eight sections, covering matters in roughly the same order that they occur in the military-to-civilian transition process. Another useful feature is the Keyword Index, which allows the reader to locate specific information throughout the book, regardless of the part or chapter. In addition to all of the technical guidance, readers will also discover important information in the anecdotes based on actual experiences of soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines. *Out of Uniform* is an invaluable resource for veterans who want to make the most out of their civilian career opportunities.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Tom Wolfe is a recognized expert in the field of career transition. Prior to serving as the candidate strategies editor and career coach at Bradley-Morris, Inc., he was a senior partner at Career Development Corporation, where he provided guidance to separating military personnel. Wolfe

graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy, served as a surface warfare officer in the navy, and completed tours of duty as a flag aide, communications officer, and administrative department head. His work is regularly featured in such publications as Civilian Job News, Stars and Stripes, and G.I. Jobs. Wolfe lives in North Carolina with his wife, Julie, and their Chesapeake Bay retriever, Maggie.

Out of Uniform; Your Guide To A Successful Military To Civilian Career Transition by Tom Wolfe covers various angles that one has to look at when striving to make a seamless transition to the civilian sector. The following are some of the subject areas that are discussed in the book; how the job search is both about educating yourself and finding a job (page 39), an example of a resume using a sample of someone who has a Norfolk, Virginia address (page 103), and alumni associations/veteran organizations (pages 119-120). For anyone that is getting out that happens to see this review I have two more things that I learned the challenging way that I must pass on; 1) Try to hold on to your car if possible even if you are moving to an area where public transportation is available. I say this because I lost out on two different jobs due to not having a car (one job with Walt Disney world back in 2009 that would have allowed me the chance to be a travel planner and a second job around summer 2013 that was part of a program for military veterans and a decent starting salary but required a car). Additionally, trying to get a second job is not impossible but tricky due to the car situation. So whatever you do try to hold on to the car if possible. The second thing I would gently advise is to try to stay living in the vicinity of where you left the military if possible. My husband and I both experienced unnecessary upheaval after I left the navy because I cared too much of the potential of what some of my former co-workers would think if they saw me in the same area, and was still searching for a job comparable to the pay I had when I left the military. Additionally, I saw stars in my eyes and the potential to pursue my dreams of working in the travel industry of Orlando Florida while overlooking the economic goldmine in Virginia that I was moving away from and moving away so soon after leaving the military. I was granted my remaining vacation time to use up the beginning of April 2009 while still in Norfolk Virginia, and left for Orlando Florida with my husband less than two weeks later. In retrospect, I now realize that the transition would have been much smoother for my husband and I if I would have set my pride aside and settled for living in Virginia after leaving the navy. There is so much more that I could share on what I learned the hard way of what to do, but I will leave that to the paid military transition experts.

I was fortunate to meet Tom Wolfe in 1990 when I was a young Army Captain leaving the service and he was the senior partner of Career Development, a leading Junior Military Officer recruiting

firm. Tom quickly seized up my talents and most importantly, my weaknesses and did a complete make over of me, my resume, and my interview and job search preparation. It surely paid off as I received several job offers in both Sales/Management and Operations positions at a national hiring conference. I ultimately ended up in Biomedical Sales with a Fortune 50 company, and Tom continued to be helpful in the salary and benefits negotiations as well as in helping me get a position favorable for my wife's career. His preparations for interviews have served me especially well throughout my entire career whether being interviewed or interviewing potential employees. As an interesting small-world story, years later Tom and I met again randomly at a family and neighborhood birthday party where Tom had relocated into the same community as my parents! This meeting and Tom's book have been a great help to me as a reference I used extensively in preparing a series of 'Job Search and Interview Preparation' seminars that I conduct around the country and internationally at Veterinary Medical Colleges. The seminars are for new and recent veterinary school graduates entering private and corporate practice. This book is not full of parlor room 'tricks' or 'gimmicks' to get a job, but instead is a wealth of very practical, sincere, genuine advice from a former warrior who knows the transition business from uniform service to civilian success. Whether you're a mid-career NCO, junior officer or 'lifer' wondering how you can contribute to the workforce after retirement, this is the reference you need! I also recommend it to those non-military job seekers as a fresh alternative to the stale 'here's how to get a job' books out there. Hooahhh, Tom!

I wrote WOW notes on almost every page of this book. As a former US Navy Officer I made my transition years ago. Like Tom, I found myself in the placement industry for many years. I had many clients that strongly preferred to hire vets. But there are many who don't really understand what it takes to help them in the onboarding process. Employers and human resource workers need to read this to gain insight into the uniqueness of the veteran hire. As I read this book, I saw great thoughts and experience that were clearly expressed. The author's passion for helping vets navigate their career transition is obvious. Wolfe has given me new insights into the process of helping my clients find their career direction. This book is filled with great information on the mindset of the veteran. That alone is worth the read. But Wolfe did not stop there. He gives us a toolkit of practical mechanics to put that knowledge to work. The end result is a neat package and plan of action to tackle the confusion of the current job search process. If you want to help vets find career direction, this book is for you!

I was recommended and read Mr. Wolfe's book approximately six months before my separation date. My only regret is that I didn't read it sooner! For transitioning military personnel, this is a must read. Laid out in a clear and concise manner, Mr. Wolfe takes you through the process of initial job search all the way to long term career success. As a former Surface Warfare Officer (SWO), Naval Academy graduate, and Junior Military Officer (JMO) consultant, Mr. Wolfe knows what it takes to make a successful transition. This book has been by far the most helpful to me in career transition. Lastly, and while not part of the book, Mr. Wolfe offers one on one consulting to help military personnel in their job search. I enlisted his services and found them invaluable. I would not be where I am today without his help.

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