

Bob Delaney – Biography

Bob Delaney's riveting life story has been told by HBO's Real Sports, ESPN and ABC, in dozens of newspaper and magazine articles throughout the United States and Europe and now in his critically acclaimed book, *Covert: My Years Infiltrating the Mob*.

Delaney has risen to the top of two elite organizations – in law enforcement as a highly decorated Trooper with the New Jersey State Police, and as one of the National Basketball Association's most respected referees and most recently as NBA Vice President Director of Officials. His NBA referee career began his career in 1987 (more than 1,700 regular season games, 200 playoff contests and nine Finals. Delaney worked the 1998 and 2011 All-Star Games, and the 1994 Opening NBA Games in Yokohama, Japan and the 2010 NBA China games. He received the prestigious Gold Whistle Award from the National Association of Sports Officials in 2003.

Delaney has made a major contribution away from the game as well. He testified before the United States Senate on Organized Crime in 1981 detailing his perilous 3year undercover for the Jersey State Police – putting his life on the line for nearly three years infiltrating the Genovese and Bruno Crime Families. *Covert*, co-authored by Dave Scheiber, was launched in February 2008 by Sterling Publishing/Union Square Press. It was named one of USA Today's "Best Books of the Year" and called "An undercover memoir for the Sopranos Age" by the New York Times. The trade paperback version was released in June 2009 and film rights have been optioned. His second book, *Surviving the Shadows...A Journey of Hope into Post Traumatic Stress* 2010 Sourcebooks opened even more opportunities to present world wide on the subject of resiliency.

For the past 35 years Delaney has provided training before Federal, State, County and Local law enforcement officers and agents throughout the United States, Canada and Europe. He has helped many to understand and identify symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and the impact it has on the individual and the ripple effect to family and friends.

For more than a quarter of a century, Delaney was a fixture as a referee on the hardwood courts of the National Basketball Association (NBA). But what Delaney did—and has done—off the courts defines his true legacy: It is his less visible, life-saving work of the last four decades, helping active members and veterans of the U.S. armed forces, law enforcement, fire fighters, and first responders—the often under-appreciated heroes who put their lives on the line for the rest of us every day—cope with the devastating effects of post-traumatic stress.

Delaney comes by his healing wisdom from hard-won experience. He learned about PTSD first-hand, developing the condition after emerging from his grueling and prolonged undercover work. Helping others suffering from the debilitating effects of post-traumatic has been a driving force in his life.

Former President Barack Obama and senior-ranking military leaders have honored Delaney for his contributions to PTSD awareness—stemming from his multiple visits with U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan, and throughout Europe, Asia, and the United States.

In addition, Delaney was twice awarded the U.S. Army Outstanding Civilian Service Medal. In 2020, the NCAA bestowed its highest honor on him: the Theodore Roosevelt Award and more recently, Delaney has become deeply involved with the prestigious Harvard Global Mental Health initiative, which focuses on traumas and psychological burdens experienced throughout the world.