



SOVEREIGN MILITARY HOSPITALLER ORDER
OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM OF RHODES AND MALTA

PERMANENT OBSERVER MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN NEW YORK



Deborah O'Hara Ruskowski

Special Advisor on Human Trafficking and Child Protection

For over thirty years Deborah O'Hara Ruskowski has been a Critical Care Registered Nurse. In 2014 she earned her Master's in Theology from Boston College with a focus on bioethics. She earned her BSN and MBA from Northeastern University in Boston in 1982 and 1994 and has held several healthcare marketing positions at Marquette Electronics, HP, Agilent, and Philips.

Mrs. O'Hara Ruskowski spent 4 years on the Board of Directors for the American Heart Association, and 5 years on the Board of Boston's Healthcare for the Homeless Program. She is a member of the Federal Disaster Medical Team and was deployed to NYC on 9/11/01, where she worked at Ground Zero and in the Cornell Burn Unit for two weeks after the tragedy. She has been on missions to Bosnia and the Dominican Republic. Furthermore, she has been actively involved in mission work in Haiti for the last 13 years, where she also spent several weeks after the 2010 earthquake, as well as on the USNS Comfort ship for Project HOPE. She continuously assists in the opening of new clinical facilities there. What's more, in 2007 she initiated a nursing educational program at CRUDEM's Hôpital Sacré Coeur, where she continues to work on improving nursing education and standards, as well as human trafficking awareness and education in Haiti. She recently founded 'Nurses With Global Impact Inc.', an organization which connects nurses with non-profits in need around the world.



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As a member of the Order of Malta she has served two terms on the Board of Directors for the American Association and has participated on the annual pilgrimage to Lourdes with the medical committee for almost two decades.

She moved to New York in 2014 with her husband, Steve, where she worked for three years at the UN on the Committee to Stop Trafficking in Persons (CSTIP). In 2016 she became a Delegate for the Order of Malta at the United Nations.