



The REGISTER

Fall 2017

RESERVE FORCE OFFICER MEETING



The Navy Reserve Selective Service System (SSS) Detachment 125 conducted its Semi-Annual Unit Readiness Meeting on 27-29 October 2017 at the SSS National Headquarters and Navy Operational Support Center, Washington, DC. More than two dozen RFOs and support personnel from across the United States gathered for this busy event that was led by the Navy Reserve Augment Unit Commanding Officer, Captain Keith Branner. Friday's agenda consisted of welcoming remarks from the SSS Director, Mr. Donald Benton, and the Associate Director for Operations, Mr. Adam J. Copp, as well as briefs from the SSS Operations Department regarding RFO management, the Veterans Affairs Military Services Coordinator regarding VA benefits, and the Secretary of Defense Compensation Directorate regarding Non-Regular Retirement and Survivor Benefit Plan. Saturday and Sunday consisted

of mandatory general military training and completion of unit/individual readiness requirements to include medical and physical fitness assessments. Professional gatherings such as this are important, not only to keep personnel current on their responsibilities to the SSS and U.S. Navy, but also to maintain mobilization readiness, morale and unit cohesion for a detachment of RFOs geographically dispersed throughout the country.



SSSRegistration



@SSS_gov



SelectiveServ

DIRECTOR INTERVIEWED ON C-SPAN WASHINGTON JOURNAL

C-SPAN Washington Journal hosted Director Benton on November 1, 2017. He talked about the mission of the Selective Service and the Pentagon's recommendation to expand registration to include women.

The entire broadcast can be seen at:
<https://www.c-span.org/video/?436626-4/washington-journal-don-benton-discusses-selective-service>



STATE DIRECTOR SMITH MEETS NEW ALABAMA ADJUTANT GENERAL

On July 28, 2017 Alabama State Director, MG (Ret.) Ivan Smith, attended the Alabama Adjutant General Change of Command Ceremony. The event took place in Montgomery at the Alabama National Guard Joint Forces Headquarters.

The ceremony included the passing of the colors, a tradition that goes back to the earliest chronicles of military history. This represents the transfer of command from the outgoing to the incoming Adjutant General. This symbol ensures a continuation of the spirit and tradition of the Alabama National Guard. The colors were passed from the State Command Sergeant Major, the keeper of the colors, to the outgoing Adjutant General to the Honorable Governor Ivey who passed it to the new Adjutant General, Major General Sheryl E. Gordon. The Selective Service System appreciates the close partnership we hold with both the Governor's office and The Adjutant General.



Alabama Adjutant General, Major General Sheryl E. Gordon, Governor of Alabama The Honorable Kay Ivey & Alabama State Director MG (Ret.) Ivan Smith

DC OUTREACH EFFORTS IN OUR NATION'S CAPITAL

The Agency would like to extend a special thank you to Washington, DC Mayor Muriel Bowser who proclaimed September 2017 as Selective Service Month. This Fall, Selective Service completed approximately 30 successful outreach briefings in our Nation's capital to boost registration awareness. Thank you to all the groups and organizations who met with Selective Service staff to increase registration compliance in DC.

Included among the many people and places that SSS staff visited were: Councilmembers Anita Bonds, Elissa Silverman, Kenyan McDuffie; DC Parks and Recreation; Several DC High Schools; Edgewood Brookland Family Support; the State Adult Ed Agency; and the DC JROTC Program. Mr. Adam J. Copp, Mr. Brian McHugh, and Mr. Jonathan Lomax met with the DC JROTC Program. Mr. Copp briefed the Manager of the program, COL Martin Compton and the instructors on the importance of young men registering as they are the future leaders of our country. Mr. Brian McHugh and Washington D.C. State Director Barbara Pittman briefed the staff of Brother's Keeper.

Ms. Irish Lewis-Massey attended the Ward 5 Community Day at Langdon Park, hosted by DC Councilmember Kenyon McDuffie. Over 700 people were in attendance. She thanked Mayor Muriel Bowser, for her Proclamation. The Mayor said, "this is a very important initiative and I am glad to help."



Mr. Brian McHugh and D.C. State Director Barbra Pittman



Mr. Copp with COL Martin Compton, DC JROTC Manager



DC Mayor, Muriel Bowser and SSS NHQ Staff, Ms. Irish Lewis-Massey

DIRECTOR SPEAKS AT THE AMERICAN LEGION CONFERENCE, ANAVICUS BREAKFAST, AND THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

On August 19, 2017, Director Benton addressed American Legion's National Security Committee at the 2017 American Legion National Conference in Reno, NV. In his speech, the Director explained why Selective Service System is a necessary and inexpensive insurance policy that ensures the availability of trained and untrained personnel to the Department of Defense in the event of a national emergency. Mr. Benton closed his speech by saying, "Thank you American Legion for your strong support of the U.S. Selective Service System. With your resolution of support you show Congress, DoD and the American people that you support the need to maintain our agency for a stronger America and as an important tool to defend our freedom".

Later on that day, the Director, a member of the Sons of the American Legion (SAL), was presented his SAL cap at the SAL national convention held concurrently with the American Legion's convention. Mr. Benton made remarks to the members and thanked them for their ongoing support.

On Sunday, August 20, 2017 the Director was a guest speaker at the ANAVICUS Breakfast. Mr. Benton praised the long time common link



Director addressing the American Legion's National Security Committee.



Director Benton speaking to the Sons of the American Legion

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between ANAVICUS, the Legion, and the Selective Service System. Mr. Benton remarked, "We share a purpose - promoting and supporting national security, honoring our Veterans, and concerning ourselves with the future of today's youth."

In addition to his speaking engagements, the Director rounded out his trip by attending the National Convention Parade and visiting the SSS exhibit booth that was staffed by Region III. While at the exhibit, the Director discussed with many attendees the importance of serving as a local board member volunteer.



Director Benton being presented with his SAL cap.



Greeting attendees at the SSS Exhibit Booth.



Director Benton addressing the ANAVICUS breakfast.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Director Benton is committed to ensuring that all young men are made aware of the Selective Service registration requirement as well as the many federal and state benefits linked to that requirement. In the past, local board members had expressed an interest in going out to their communities to raise awareness about Selective Service. We are trying to determine how many of our board members, if given the opportunity, would volunteer to increase awareness of Selective Service in their communities. If you would be like to speak at local organizations, youth sports clubs, the Boys Scouts, schools, places of worship etc. please contact us at information@sss.gov or email your Region office.

BISHOPS OF THE EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA MENNONITE CHURCH VISIT SELECTIVE SERVICE

On Thursday, October 5, 2017, four bishops of the largest group of conservative Mennonites in the country traveled to meet with staff at National Headquarters. A long-time member of the agency's conscientious objector constituency, the Eastern Pennsylvania Mennonite Church is distinguished from other Mennonite groups by its preference for restrictions on the use of radio, television, and worldly amusements, including participation in organized sports.

The Bishop's requested the meeting to discuss the Church's concerns with the developing landscape of the country and the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) Commission objectives. They also wanted to ask questions about the future of the Alternative Service Program, it's current manager, Cassandra Costley, prepares to retire in early 2018. The four bishops, Harold Good, Lynn Martin, Melvin Burkholder, and Daryl Bair represented the concerns of congregations in eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Missouri, Vermont, Texas, Ohio, Maine, Wisconsin, Indiana, Washington, Virginia, Michigan, Massachusetts, Manitoba, and British Columbia.

Ms. Costley gave opening remarks, welcomed everyone and facilitated the introduction of each attendee. In his welcome, Associate Director for Operations Adam J. Copp stressed the important role of the Agency's dual mission and the responsibility of ensuring the Alternative Service Program continues. Also representing the agency at the meeting were Executive Officer Wadi Yakhour; Alternative Service Program Analysts Jonathan Lomax and Irish Lewis Massey; Preparedness Manager, John Longshore; and Registration Program Analyst, Tom Devine. In response to specific and general concerns, all present assured the Church representatives of the agency's commitment to effectively and efficiently running a fair and equitable draft and Alternative Service Program if ever required.

Selective Service staff often meet with historic peace churches and conscientious objector advocacy groups at their behest, both at National Headquarters and when invited to speak locally or around the country. These meetings provide opportunities for the Agency to develop relationships with one of its permanent constituencies and to advocate for compliance with our Registration requirement. These meetings also allow the Agency to build and strengthen relationships on which it will rely in a mobilization. Finally, these meetings are an opportunity to get out our message, unfiltered by the media or interest groups.

The overall meeting was a great success. Both sides left with a renewed understanding of and confidence in each other.

SELECTIVE SERVICE COMMEMORATES NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

President Donald Trump proclaimed September 15, 2017, as National POW/MIA Recognition Day as a day when "our Nation recognizes all American prisoners of war and service members missing in action who have valiantly honored their commitment to this great country". To embrace the Presidential Proclamation, Director Benton asked the staff at the Selective Service to hold a remembrance ceremony. Acting Chief of Staff, Roderick Hubbard, set a POW/MIA Table, symbolic of all those soldiers who never returned home from war but hope for their return is never ending.



Associate Director for Operations Adam J. Copp opened the commemoration with heartfelt remarks about those service members, as well as civilians, who remain missing from the Vietnam War, the Korean War, the Cold War, and World War II. Mr. Roderick Hubbard, Acting Chief of Staff, followed with a call stand for a moment of silence. He went on to explain the symbolism of each item of the POW/MIA Table.

Mr. Hubbard explained, "that the table, set for one, was reserved to honor our missing fellow Americans in arms. The white tablecloth draped over the table represents the purity of their response to our country's call to arms. The empty chair depicts an unknown face, representing no specific Soldier, Sailor, Airman, or Marine, but all who are not here with us. The table itself is round to show that our concern for them is never ending. The Bible represents faith in a higher power and the pledge to our country, founded as one nation under God. The black napkin stands for the emptiness these warriors have left in the hearts of their families and friends. A Purple Heart medal can be pinned to the napkin. The single red rose reminds us of their families and loved ones. The red ribbon represents the love of our country, which inspired them to answer the nation's call. The yellow candle and its yellow ribbon symbolize the everlasting hope for a joyous reunion with those yet accounted for. The slices of lemon on the bread plate remind us of their bitter fate. The salt upon the bread plate represent the tears of their families. The wine glass, turned upside down, reminds us that our distinguished comrades cannot be with us to drink a toast or join in the festivities of the evening".

As written in the President's proclamation, "We also remember our heroes who never returned home. ... We are steadfastly committed to bringing solace to those who wait for the fullest possible accounting of their loved ones."

<http://navylive.dodlive.mil/2014/10/06/the-powmia-table-a-place-setting-for-one-a-table-for-all/>

SELECTIVE SERVICE VISITS HOLMES COUNTY, OHIO

August found Selective Service personnel once again in Holmes County, Ohio, home of the largest Amish community in the United States. Mr. Adam J. Copp, Associate Director for Operations, and Ms. Cassandra Costley, Alternative Service Program Manager were in Holmes County to speak to the Conservative Anabaptist Service Program (CASP) governing board meeting on the 23rd and a contingent of Old Order Amish leadership on the 24th. Ms. Costley was there to say farewell and to introduce Mr. Copp.

The Alternative Service Program has a standing invitation to attend the CASP board meeting in Berlin, Ohio, and whenever possible, has used this occasion to introduce agency staff to this important part of its conscientious objector constituency. Mr. Copp was warmly welcomed and a special prayer was said for the well-being of Ms. Costley as she departs the agency in retirement. Questions were respectfully posed by the CASP board to the Selective Service visitors. The last activity of the day was Mr. Copp's first visit to Behalt, the Amish and Mennonite Heritage Center where he viewed with interest the 265 foot-long cyclorama detailing Amish and Mennonite history and other exhibits.

On August 24th, Mr. Copp and Ms. Costley met with Old Order Amish leaders from around the country at the Dalton, Ohio, home of Old Order Amish State Director Wayne Wengert. Once again the Selective Service representatives were peppered with questions about the future of the Program, the Selective Service, and the work of the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service. Mr. John Beiler, the newly elected chairman of the Old Order Amish Steering, seemed to echo the sentiments of others when he said that he was satisfied that the Alternative Service Program was in good hands.

SELECTIVE SERVICE STATE DIRECTOR ELECTED TO AMERICAN LEGION POSITION

Mr. Byron Callies, State Director for South Dakota, was elected National Vice Commander of the American Legion during its national convention in Reno, Nevada, in August 2017. He has been the State Director since 2006 when President George W. Bush appointed him to the position after his retirement from the National Guard. Mr. Callies has served in the American Legion as Adjutant, Americanism Chairman, first Vice Commander and Commander. Congratulations Mr. Callies!



CALIFORNIA OUTREACH

In September, 2017 the Director embarked on an outreach trip to California to meet with influencers and legislators and discuss California's registration rate, which is well below average. Men that fail to register before the age of 26 puts them at a great disadvantage because they are then unable to receive many government benefits. Selective Service is committed to working with all communities to ensure every young man gets the message about registration and the importance of keeping their future opportunities open.

During his two day trip, the Director had a very full schedule which included meeting with Senator Connie Levya; Senator Pat Bates, California Senate Minority Leader; Ms. Denni Ritter, Legislative Director for Assembly Majority Leader Calderon; Ms. Ashley Rachelle Labar (Medina), Chief of Staff, for Assemblymember Cristina Garcia; Mr. Trevor Taylor, Legislative Aide to Senate Majority Leader Senator William W. Monning; Ms. Keely Bosler, Cabinet Secretary and Mr. Michael Martinez, Deputy Legislative Secretary, to Governor Jerry Brown; BG Laura Yeager and Major Shannon Terry, California Military Department. The following day, the Director presented an Honored Patriot Award to Ms. Mona Pasquil, Appointments Secretary and to the Special Assistant for Appointments Ms. Anita Kung. Mr. Benton officially swore-in the Selective Service System's new California State Director, Mr. Paul J. Villegas.



Director Benton with Senator Pat Bates

CALIFORNIA STATE DIRECTOR VILLEGAS SWORN-IN

Mr. Paul Villegas was sworn-in as the California State Director for the Selective Service System by Director Donald M. Benton. State Director Villegas was nominated by California Governor Jerry Brown. Mr. Villegas has over thirty years of military service and is a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the Army Reserves. He joined the Selective Service in 2001 and served in a variety of positions including Detachment Commander. He has volunteered and served on Active duty to assist with a variety of missions Post 911.

In his civilian career, Mr. Villegas serves as the Director of the STEM Connections Collaborative Project at California State University, Chico (CSUC) and has more than twenty-five years working with students in the STEM fields. He has been a Director or Principal Investigator on several National Science Foundation (NSF), Department of Education and the University of California projects/grants.



Mr. Villegas being sworn-in by Director Benton

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CALIFORNIA OUTREACH *(continued from the previous page)*

He grew up in the Bay Area and received his commission in the Army while at the University of California, Berkeley. He earned his Master's Degree in Political Science at California State University, Chico.

Mr. Villegas said, "It is a privilege to be able to serve the Selective Service System. I'm proud to be able to work toward improving registration rates and increasing local board membership in California. Registration is a civic duty and it's the law. It also conveys numerous benefits to individuals who register and to the nation."



Mr. Villegas with his parents and Director Benton

MS. MONA PASQUIL, HONORED PATRIOT

During Director Benton's outreach trip to California, he met with Ms. Mona Pasquil, Appointments Secretary in the Office of Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. and presented her with the Selective Service Honored Patriot award for outstanding meritorious service from February 1, 2011, to September 1, 2017. During this period, Ms. Pasquil oversaw the filling of 350 vacancies on Selective Service's local boards throughout the state of California.



MS. ANITA KUNG, HONORED PATRIOT

Ms. Anita Kung, Special Assistant for Appointments, Office of the Governor, State of California distinguished herself by outstanding meritorious service from February 1, 2011 to September 1, 2017. During this period, Ms. Kung processed nearly 400 potential board member candidates which resulted in over 350 appointments to local boards.



PUERTO RICO HOLDS ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S DAY



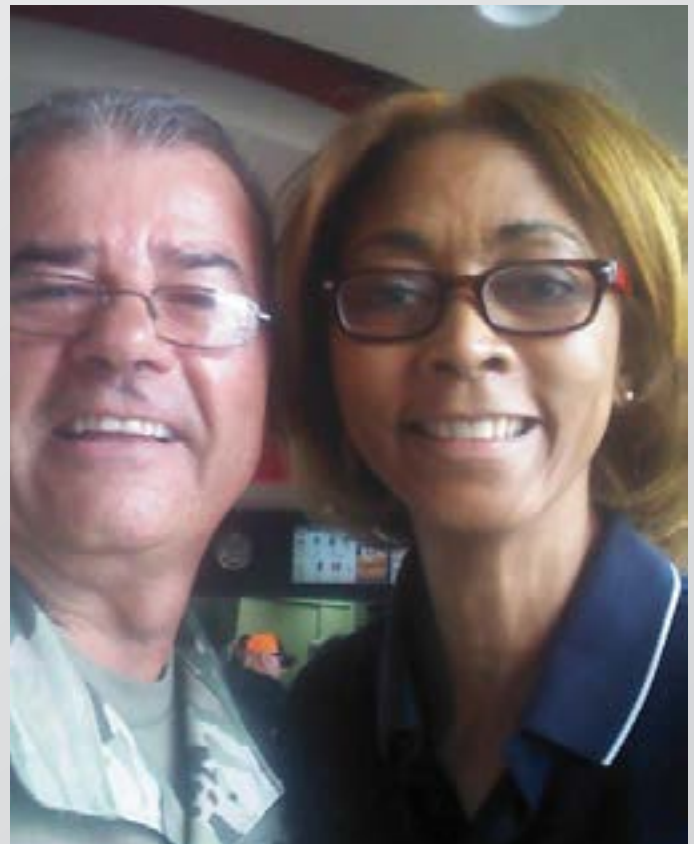
The Honorable Governor Ricardo Rossello Nevares & LTC Andres Ausua, Puerto Rico National Guard

In July, COL Michelle Fraley, Region II State Director for Puerto Rico, attended the Annual Governor's Day celebration at Camp Santiago in Salinas, Puerto Rico. The event is a dedication ceremony for the Commander-in-Chief to the Governor at the end of the military annual training.

During the event COL Fraley met with Governor of Puerto Rico, Dr. Ricardo Rossello Nevares. Puerto Rico RFO, Lieutenant Colonel Ausua, Puerto Rico Army National Guard and Commander Amelia Stringer, U.S. Navy Reserve, were also in attendance to lend their support.



COL (Ret.) Michelle Fraley, RII SD and LTC Ausua



LTC Ausua and CDR Stringer

MAJOR HARRIS GIVES SUPPORT TO HARVEY'S VICTIMS



MAJ Stephanie Harris, Texas Detachment 2-21

On August 25th, Harvey, a category 4 hurricane with wind gusts of approximately 130 miles per hour tore through the state of Texas. The storm left behind a trail of devastation.

Major Stephanie Harris, Region II, Texas Detachment 2-21, answered the call without hesitation by lending her support to local shelters. She said, "when we arrived the convention center had 9,000 evacuees sheltering there and more at the Houston Food Bank. We packed 2,600 meal boxes in one night to send to families". We thank MAJ Harris for her service outside of the Agency.



RFO LENDS SUPPORT TO HURRICANE

Puerto Rico RFO, Lieutenant Colonel Ausua, Puerto Rico Army National Guard, was activated in order to support the relief efforts after hurricane Marie devastated the island of Puerto Rico.

LTC Ausua is serving as the OIC of the shelter in his home town of Peñuelas. The shelter currently houses over 55 residents whose homes are uninhabitable.

LTC Ausua, like many other citizen-soldiers from the Army Reserve and the Puerto Rico National Guard, are activated in support of the people of Puerto Rico.



LTC Ausua, second from right

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARINES

In honor of the 242nd U.S. Marine Corps Birthday, The Selective Service had a cake cutting ceremony for all NHQ employees, many of whom are retired Marines. The beautiful birthday cake was made by our Mrs. Lakeisher Wright, Military HR Specialist, Human Resources and a retired Marine.

Mr. Adam J. Copp, Associate Director of Operations opened the ceremony. He explained the history and traditions of the U.S. Marine Corps Birthday, read the Birthday wishes from General Robert B. Neller, Commandant of the Marine Corps, shared a moving letter from a close friend and former Marine, and spoke poignantly about what it meant to him to be a Marine and serve his country. Prior to joining Selective Service Mr. Copp served over thirty years in the U.S. Marine Corps retiring as a Colonel. Following Mr. Copp was Mr. John Longshore, Preparedness Division Manager, who detailed the meaning of the cake cutting. He cut the cake and gave the first piece of cake to the guest of honor, Director Benton. He gave the second piece of cake to the oldest Marine, Ms. Annie Boyd and she in turn gave a portion of her cake to the youngest Marine, Ms. Laura Chavez.

"Today, as we celebrate our 242nd birthday, we must remember who we are, where we came from, and why we're here. We must remember the past, honor those who are no longer with us, focus on today's battles, and get ready for tomorrow. We can and will prevail as we always have, in any clime and place. But we must prevail together, united by the unyielding spirit in each of us that makes our Corps unique – that willingness to put our Corps and fellow Marines ahead of ourselves. Victory in battle comes through the integrated efforts of many – teamwork. We value the sacrifices and contributions of every Marine and Sailor, as well as our family members without whose support we would not be able to accomplish our mission. And we remain committed to being our Nation's Expeditionary Force in Readiness that sets the standard for honor, discipline, and courage. I am proud of each and every one of you. Happy Birthday, Marines!" (Excerpt from A message from the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Neller)



Mr. Adam J. Copp



Marines Birthday Cake



From Left to Right: Mr. John Longshore cutting cake, Director Benton, Ms. Annie Boyd, Ms. Laura Chavez, and Deputy Director Prigmore

LIEUTENANT JAMES R. GOODSON AWARDED THE JOINT SERVICE COMMENDATION MEDAL

Director Benton presented Lieutenant James R. Goodson, United States Navy Reserve, with the Joint Service Commendation Medal. LT Goodson was a member of the Selective Service System Navy Reserve Augment Unit Operational Support Department from February 2013 to August 2017. His efforts as the Unit Reserve Pay Officer, Supply Officer, Information Technology Officer, and Medical Representative were pivotal in maintaining the high state of readiness for 33 Naval Officers providing Selective Service System contributory support throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. Lieutenant Goodson successfully transitioned the entire unit to an electronic pay system well ahead of Navy Reserve Forces Command guidelines. He personally managed over 1,500 Inactive Duty Training requests each year that resulted in 792 total man-days and an average of over \$375,000 of Navy Reserve Force Officer capability during Fiscal Years 2014 through 2017. Lieutenant Goodson's leadership directly ensured all Navy Reserve Force Officers were



Director Benton, Lt Goodson, and CAPT Branner

100 percent mission capable for potential mobilization recall to active duty as Individual Augmentees.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER TIMOTHY J. COOPER AWARDED THE JOINT SERVICE COMMENDATION MEDAL

Lieutenant Commander Timothy J. Cooper, was presented the Joint Service Commendation Medal by Director Donald M. Benton. LTC Cooper, United States Navy Reserve, served as a member of the Selective Service System Navy Reserve Augment Unit Operational Support Department from August 2014 to September 2017. His efforts as the Unit Training Officer and Manpower Officer were pivotal in maintaining the high state of readiness for 33 Naval Officers providing Selective Service System contributory support throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. As the Training Officer, Lieutenant Commander Cooper facilitated all unit training sessions, meticulously tracked completion of over 500 training requirements each year, and ensured all Naval Officers were 100 percent mission capable for potential mobilization recall to active duty. As the Manpower Officer, he was responsible for the routing and disposition of more than 150 travel orders each year in direct support of over 1,100 total man-days and \$600,000 of Navy Reserve



CAPT Branner, Director Benton, LTC Cooper, and Associate Director of Operations Adam Copp

Force Officer capability during two years at zero cost to the Selective Service System annual budget of \$22.7 million.

DIRECTOR BENTON PRESENTS COMMANDER STRINGER WITH AWARD

Director Donald M. Benton presented Commander Amelia Stringer, United States Navy Reserve, with the Joint Service Commendation Medal. From December 8, 2012 to November 30, 2017, she was assigned as Detachment Commander and Area Office Coordinator in the Selective Service System Joint Service Detachment 2PR, Ft. Buchanan, Puerto Rico. Her exceptional performance, dedication to duty, and superior leadership greatly enhanced the readiness posture of Puerto Rico and increased the capability for the Selective Service System to provide manpower to the Department of Defense in the event of a national emergency. Her detachment maintained one of the highest training and staffing levels for Local and District Appeal Boards and exceeded both regional and national goals in both areas. She achieved a superb 91 percent strength for Local Boards and a perfect 100 percent strength for District Appeal Boards with zero inoperable boards. Further, due to her community outreach efforts, High Schools in Puerto Rico enjoy an outstanding 97 percent High School Registrar participation rate.



Director Benton, CDR Stringer, and CAPT Banner

COMMANDER DANIEL J. CLABBERS AWARDED THE DEFENSE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

Associate Director of Operations, Mr. Adam J. Copp presented Commander Daniel J. Clabbers, United States Navy Reserve, with the Defense Meritorious Service Medal. CMDR Clabbers served as the Executive Officer of the Selective Service System Navy Reserve Augment Unit from December 1, 2013 to November 30, 2016. During this period, his outstanding leadership directly resulted in the enhanced capability of the Selective Service System to provide necessary manpower to the Department of Defense in the event of a national emergency. He restructured support functions for the Navy Reserve Force Officer cadre to efficiently produce 531 total man days and over \$270,000 of contributory support throughout the United States at zero cost to the Selective Service System annual budget of \$22.7 million. His coordination and management of the preparedness efforts for the National Headquarters, 3 Region staffs, 50 State Directors, 175 Reserve Force Officers, and over 10,000 volunteer draft board



CMDR Clabbers and Associate Director Copp

members increased mission readiness and the overall registration of eligible individuals to 92 percent, the highest rate in Selective Service System history.

GEORGIA'S RFOs RECEIVES MEDALS



Region Manager Carlos Perez, Lt Col Earl Tingle, LTC Jonathan Adams, and Dr. Larry Stewart

On August 5th, Lieutenant Colonel Earl Tingle, United States Air Force Reserve and Lieutenant Colonel Jonathan Adams, Georgia Army National Guard, Region II RFOs were both presented the Joint Service Commendation Medals by the Region II Manager Carlos Perez and State Director Dr. Larry Stewart. Lt Col Tingle has been assigned to Region II since 2008 and is currently the Detachment Commander for Detachment 2-7. LTC Adams will be leaving the Agency soon for deployment. During his tenure LTC Adams has shown full support to the mission of the Selective Service System. He will be missed as we wish him a safe journey back home. These awards are well deserved!



LTC Jonathan Adams and Dr. Stewart



Lt Col Earl Tingle and Dr. Stewart

CWO4 ARBOGAST RECEIVES AWARD

On behalf of Director Benton, State Director of California, Paul Villegas, presented RFO CWO4 Arbogast the Joint Service Commendation medal for Meritorious Service. Congratulations CWO Arbogast!



LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS

Congratulations to the following Selective Service Staff for receiving their length of service awards. Awards are given for every five years of service. Together the employees listed below have over 300 years of dedicated public service.

5 YEAR

Brent Williams	Region III
Robert Solava	DMC
Andy Gonzalez	DMC
Denise Byer	DMC

10 YEAR

William C. Neely	NHQ
Thomas J. Birchmeyer	Region I
Jeffrey S. Scrase	DMC
Felicia Y. Ben-Yisrael	DMC
Francisco X. Morales	DMC

15 YEAR

Liuba C. Lockhart-Garcia	NHQ
John E. Miller Sr.	DMC

20 YEAR

Scott C. Jones	NHQ
Velma L. Kidwell	Region III
Shaquita M. France	DMC

25 YEAR

Margaret A. Stilke	Region 1
Angelia D. Grayden	DMC

30 YEAR

Vernetta M. Fields	NHQ
Blanca R. Rivera	DMC
Helen S. Vines	DMC



Mr. Brett Williams and Mr. John Wilber



Mr. Charles Neely, Ms. Liuba Lockhart-Garcia, Mr. Scott Jones, and Ms. Vernetta Fields



From Left to Right: Ms. Blanca Rivera, Ms. Helen Vines, Ms. Angelia Gayden, Mr. John Miller, Mr. Francisco Morales, Ms. Felicia Ben-Yisrael, Mr. Jeffrey Scrase, Ms. Denise Byers, Mr. Robert Solava (Mr. Andy Gonzalez, Mr. Brent Downs and Ms. Shaquita France are not pictured.)

MR. JONATHAN LOMAX, ASP/OPs DEPARTS SELECTIVE SERVICE

SSS bids Mr. Jonathan Keith Lomax a fond farewell on October 13, 2017. Jonathan began his career at the agency in July, 2015 as a Program Analyst with the Alternative Service Program (ASP), Operations Directorate. While in ASP Mr. Lomax worked closely with the Peace Church constituency, providing outreach and support. The agency wishes him well as he becomes the newest Management Analyst at the Womack Army Medical Center at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. We will miss him.



MS. VELMA KIDWELL, REGION III, RETIRES

Mr. Brett Williams presenting Ms. Velma Kidwell's Retirement Award; Meritorious Service Award with Bronze Medal for 20 years of faithful Government service



Ms. PEGGY J. NICHOLS, DMC, RETIRING

Ms. Peggy J. Nichols, the Supervisory IT Specialist at the Data Management Center (DMC) will be retiring from Federal service effective December 3, 2017. She has been with the DMC since it first opened its doors in August 1981. During her tenure at the DMC, she served in many different positions, starting as a Data Transcriber. Ms. Nichols positions have included: Lead Data Transcriber, Supervisory Data Transcriber, IT Specialist and currently the Supervisory IT Specialist.

Her dedication and impressive work ethic has earned her the respect of her fellow employees. She was one of the original team members on one of the DMC's largest achievements, migrating the RCV from mainframe technology to server environment. Ms. Nichols institutional knowledge on driver's license legislation, Department of Education files, SSS database and the 2020 database modernization project is extraordinary.

Everyone will miss her expertise, leadership and teambuilding skills. After retiring, Ms. Nichols and her husband, John, will travel. During the cold months in Wisconsin, they plan on migrating west to Nevada or Arizona. She and her husband look forward to spending more time with their daughter, Cassandra and with her great-nieces and nephews. Ms. Nichols is involved with various charities and plans on taking a more active role with these organizations. In her free time, she plans on reading, yoga, and visiting friends. Everyone at the DMC and the Selective Service System wishes her a fond farewell and hopes she has a happy, healthy, and long retirement. She will be greatly missed!



Mr. STEVE WINSTON, DMC, RETIRES

Mr. Steve Winston, Contact Representative at the Data Management Center (DMC), has retired. His last day at DMC was September 4th.

He joined the DMC on March 2, 2008, and has been a constant source of smiles, laughs, and outstanding service for over nine years. Whether telling a joke to a colleague, or patiently going through the requirements of a transaction with a customer, Steve could be relied on to hit the right tone.

Mr. Winston says he plans to be busy most of the time, and that he and his wife of 49 years plan to eat out a lot because there are so many restaurants that "require" his financial support!

We will miss Mr. Winston, and DMC wishes him only the best in his retirement.



MR. ROBERT SOLAVA, DMC, DEPARTS

Mr. Robert Solava, Management Services Assistant at DMC, has accepted a position with the Social Security Administration as a Claims Specialist. Prior to joining the Selective Service System-Data Management (SSS-DMC) team in October 2016, he worked as a police officer for 20 years, and most recently worked at the Captain James Lovell Federal Health Care Center (FHCC) in North Chicago as the Time & Leave Coordinator for a segment of the medical staff.

Mr. Solava was born and raised in Chicago and now lives in Gurnee, IL. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Northwestern University. He served on active duty with the US Air Force.

Mr. Solava made a big impact during the last year, and he will be missed. All of us at DMC wish him well, and hope for his continued success in his new position.



MR. FREDRICH J. REYNOLDS, DMC, DEPARTS

Mr. Fredrich J Reynolds joined the Selective Service System-Data Management Center (SSS-DMC) family as an intern on July 10, 2017 in the Mail and Logistics (M/L) Branch. Since assigned, Mr. Reynolds provided needed support to clear M/L backlogs by sorting mail, performing quality control on scanned Compliance Letters and Form 1s for accuracy. In addition, he spent some time familiarizing himself with the different types of mail machinery used within the branch to achieve mission and branch goals. He has enjoyed working with our team, with keen interest on how the mailroom works, how information is collected, distributed and processed in order to register with SSS, and above all meeting new people.

Mr. Reynolds would love to return and work for SSS-DMC as a full time employee. His last day with SSS-DMC was October 30, 2017, and he plans to continue his master's degree in Information Systems while searching for fulltime work.



CONTRIBUTORS

KEITH BRANNER
JENNIFER BURKE
CASSANDRA COSTLEY
BRENT DOWNS
JOAN GREEN
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