



THE REGISTER

July 2018

American Immigration Lawyers Association's Annual Conference

Director Benton spoke at the 2018 American Immigration Lawyers Association's (AILA) Annual Conference in June. The AILA has over 15,000 attorneys and law professors as members, and has 39 chapters and over 50 national committees.

The Director discussed the U.S. Selective Service federal registration requirement for young men and the impact it has on jobs, education and U.S. citizenship. Virtually all male U.S. citizens and male immigrants, whether documented or undocumented, residing in the United States, who are 18 through 25, are required to register with Selective Service. Director Benton 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.

A very special thank you to AILA and to Ms. Michelle L. Saenz- Rodriguez for providing this excellent opportunity to increase awareness of the federal registration requirement. Ms. Saenz- Rodriguez is member of AILA and serves as a member of the Board of Governors. She is the co-founder of Saenz-Rodriguez & Associates in Dallas, Texas, where she and her husband George represent immigrants from all over the world.



Ms. Michelle L. Saenz-Rodriguez and Director Benton.

LTC William O'Donnell, staffed the Selective Service exhibit at the AILA conference, shown here with Director Benton.
Not Pictured: Major Shannon Terry

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You can also visit us at:   

Alternative Service Program Outreach Webinar

The Selective Service System hosted its semiannual Alternative Service Program (ASP) webinar for members of the Conscientious Objector (CO) community. Shown below are Agency leadership and ASP staff discussing SSS operations, legislative updates, and answering questions from the CO community and their advocates.



Back Row: Thomas Devine
Front Row - L to R: Craig Brown, Carlos Perez, Jorene Massey, Wadi Yakhour and Matthew Tittmann.
Not Pictured: Gail Simmons

Sailors Reunited

Blaine Character (LO Services) and LCDR Jonathan Lance (SSS HQ DET125) served together on the USS *Theodore Roosevelt* and deployed together in 2008-2009. Both part of the Selective Service team, they ran into each other for the first time in 10 years while working at National Headquarters.

Bravo Zulu to these two shipmates!



Presentation of the Selective Service Award to Mary Martin



Ms. Mary Martin and State Director Brad Willette.

Ms. Mary A. Martin was awarded the Selective Service Honored Patriot Award. Ms. Martin served for 20 years as a local board member in the state of Ohio on AO 001 LB 73, in Lucas County, from October 10, 1989 until October 13, 2009. Not only does she continue to serve her community and the Nation as a Selective Service System state resource volunteer, but also volunteers helping cancer patients at a local hospice center. Her tireless efforts speaking and distributing registration information throughout her community to young males ages 18 - 25 and visiting post offices are representative of her diligent commitment to serve. Ms. Martin is an epitome of a volunteer. The presentation was made on June 28, 2018, with Ms. Martin's fellow staff members who work in the County Courthouse. She was very pleased to receive the award presented by Ohio State Director Brad Willette.

Honored Patriot Award

The SSS Honored Patriot Award was posthumously awarded to Mrs. Linda Houldin who served the SSS honorably from February 2003 to September 2017. The award ceremony was held on May 30, 2018, at the Delaware County Veterans Memorial, where LTC Drew Techner, Pennsylvania 1-15 Reserve Force Officer, presented the award to Mr. John Houldin, who accepted on behalf of his wife. As a board member for Pennsylvania Area Office 6, Local Board 58, she promoted the Selective Service mission in raising registration compliance through awareness efforts throughout her community. Mrs. Houldin was an inspiration and encompassed the spirit of community service – in addition to her more than 14 years of service supporting the Selective Service, she devoted much of her time contributing to various community service ventures including a keystone member in founding the Delaware County Veterans Memorial in Newtown Square,

Pennsylvania. We are grateful to have had the privilege of Mrs. Houldin's service, support, and commitment. We further would like to recognize Mr. Jerry Sweeley, a fellow board member, and Senior Vice Commander of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars who assisted in the ceremony's coordination. To celebrate this occasion, the following were also in attendance: Mrs. Houldin's daughter, Ms. Kimberly Cichanowsky of West Chester, Pennsylvania; Ms. Karyn Confere, Delaware County High School Education Director; and Dr. Tina Kane, Principal of Paxton Hallow Middle School, MNSD.



L to R: LTC Drew Techner, Pennsylvania 1-15 Reserve Force Officer, Mr. John Houldin, Ms. Kimberly Cichanowsky.

State Director of Maine Sworn-In

Mr. Jeffrey Morton was nominated by Maine Governor Paul R. LePage and sworn in by Selective Service Deputy Director John Prigmore as the Maine State Director for Selective Service System. Attending the swearing-in ceremony were Mr. Morton's family, friends, Maine Governor LePage, and



L to R: Governor LePage, State Director Morton, Deputy Director Prigmore, MG Farnham.

Major General Douglas Farnham, Adjutant General, Maine National Guard.

Mr. Morton has more than 37 years of military service and is a retired Colonel. His service extends from platoon leader to European Combatant Command staff with command through Brigade. His last assignment was at the U.S. Army War College, Office of International Students, as an Instructor/Facilitator. In his civilian career, Mr. Morton is currently the Director of Security Operations and Incident Management for the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation – a Maine state agency.

RFOs Meet Governor at American Legion State Convention



L to R: LCDR Troy Emmerich, Governor Scott Walker, CDR Alex Flakas.

Wisconsin RFOs CDR Alex Flakas and LCDR Troy Emmerich participated in the 100th Anniversary of the American Legion's State Convention on July 13, 2018, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. While recruiting for local board members, the RFOs were able to meet Governor Scott Walker at the State Convention. Governor Walker addressed the attendees at the American Legion State Convention commending them for their commitment to Wisconsin's communities. The Governor also presented the American Legion with a \$100,000 Veterans Service Organization Grant for their claims office, which provides veterans with help navigating federal laws regarding veteran benefits. The American Legion also sponsors Badger Boys State each year which provides young men the opportunity to learn more about state and local government.

New SSS State Director for Alabama

On May 30, 2018, Director Benton was joined by Alabama's Governor Kay Ivey and Acting Region II Director Mike Corbin at the Selective Service System Change of Command in Montgomery, AL. After brief remarks in support of the SSS mission, Governor Ivey presented the outgoing State Director, Major General (Ret.) Ivan Smith, with a commendation for his service to the State. Following, Director Benton presented the SSS Distinguished Service Award to MG (Ret.) Smith for his service to the Agency and the Nation. Brigadier General (Ret.) Paul Jacobs was then sworn in by Director Benton as the new State Director of Alabama and presented with the official SSS Certificate of Appointment.



L to R: Former SD MG (Ret.) Ivan Smith, SSS Director Donald Benton, The Honorable Kay Ivey – Governor of Alabama, and BG (Ret.) Paul Jacobs – incoming State Director.

Region III Operations Manager Retires from NORAD and US Northern Command

Region III Operations Manager Brett Williams retired from the United States Army Reserve with 30 years of service. LTC Brett Williams was commissioned as a Military Police 2nd Lieutenant in the Louisiana National Guard and served in the 5th Infantry Division at Fort Polk, Louisiana, and later served in the Signal Corps for 2nd Armored Division. Additionally LTC Williams served as a Liaison Officer to the Governor of Louisiana for Hurricane Readiness and Support as well as Commander for SSS 2LA as well as 2-9

in Region II. His last assignment was Staff Duty Officer and Interagency Coordination Center Deputy Commander for the J-9 NORAD and United States Northern Command.



L to R: William Redmond, SES, Director, NORAD and USNORTHCOM/ J9 presents LTC Brett Williams Defense Meritorious Service Medal for his service to the Command.

Hawaii State Director Aboard Missile Frigate

Hawaii State Director Andrew Pepper was a guest aboard the Indonesian Guided Missile Frigate, Raden Eddy Martadinta, during a port call at Pearl Harbor on July 8, 2018.



Center: Andrew Pepper with his daughter.

Milestones



DMC Welcomes Marla Gilbert

Ms. Marla Gilbert joined the Selective Service System on June 25, 2018, and works in the Registration Information and Research Branch (RI/R) as a Bilingual Contact Representative. She has traveled to many places due to her father proudly serving 20 years in the United States Navy. Ms. Gilbert also works part-time for T-Mobile as a Mobile Expert. She resides in Great Lakes with her parents.



DMC Welcomes Alicia Griffin

Ms. Alicia Daniell Griffin has joined the DMC team as a Contact Representative in the Registration Information & Research Branch. She started her federal career as a Claims Assistant with the Veterans Healthcare Administration (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) in August 2013. In August of 2017, she transferred to the Veterans Benefit Administration where she began working as a Veterans Service Representative. Alicia holds a master's degree from Alverno College and a bachelor's degree from Lakeland College.



DMC Welcomes Clarimarie Mullen

Ms. Clarimarie Mullen joined the DMC on May 13, 2018, as a Bilingual Contact Representative with experience in telemarketing and customer service. She recently moved back to the United States from Japan, where she was working as a Medical Support Assistant for the Department of Defense.



DMC Welcomes Luis Vazquez

The DMC welcomed Mr. Luis Vazquez on May 13, 2018, as a Bilingual Contact Representative. Mr. Vazquez is originally from Mexico and currently resides in Zion, Illinois, with his wife and two sons. Before coming to Selective Service System, Mr. Vasquez owned and operated a small business for 11 years. He sold everything from household items to religious items. He also works for H&R Block as a seasonal tax preparer.

Contributors

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The Register welcomes any news of interest to the Selective Service System employees. Send article submissions to Editor, The Register, Selective Service System, National Headquarters, Arlington, VA 22209-2425