



# The REGISTER

## Spring 2017

### SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM WELCOMES THE AGENCY'S 13TH DIRECTOR

Senator Donald M. Benton was appointed by President Donald J. Trump to be the 13th Director of the United States Selective Service System on April 11, 2017. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito administered his oath of office in the Supreme Court two days



later on April 13. Prior to the Director's appointment to lead the Selective Service, President Trump named him as a Senior White House Advisor. The President directed him to lead the transition team at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) where he managed the seamless transition of power to the new administration until the new EPA administrator was confirmed by the U.S. Senate. He continued as Senior Advisor to the President at the EPA until his swearing-in for the new appointment.

The Director is the son of a WWII Retired Naval Officer and served the citizens of Washington State for 20 years in the Washington State Senate. He also served in the State House of Representatives from 1995 to 1997 prior to his election to the Senate. He was elected Chairman of the Washington State Republican Party in 2000. Director Benton also served as the Clark County Director of Environmental Services where he managed a \$40 million budget. During his tenure he was able to

reduce expenditures dramatically while at the same time doubling citizen participation in some of their programs. He was responsible for preserving more acres of critical habitat in one year than any other year during the program. All of these records were accomplished while reducing taxpayer cost by more than 30 percent. A prolific entrepreneur, Director Benton started his first company with his sister Nancy when he was 17 years old. Over the years since, he has built and sold several successful companies and provided countless jobs to Americans.

A staunch supporter of veterans and veterans affairs, Director Benton is most proud of the fact that he is the author of and the driving force behind, the legislation that built the magnificent WWII Memorial on the state capitol campus in Washington State. Additionally, he is a past-President of the Jaycees and was an American Red Cross volunteer and Board Chairman for many years. He has been an Assistant Scout Leader and Merit Badge Counselor in the Boy Scouts of America for the last ten years and has two sons who attained the rank of Eagle Scout.

Director Benton and his wife of 35 years, Mary, have four children.



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# MR. BENTON'S FIRST DAYS AS DIRECTOR

One of Mr. Benton's first actions as Director of Selective Service System was to have an "All Hands" meeting with all employees to introduce himself and to thank everyone for the warm SSS welcome he received. He told the employees he was honored and humbled to be the agency's new Director and stressed the importance of the Selective Service's role in national preparedness. He explained that as a Boy Scout Leader he takes the Boy Scout Motto seriously and applies it to everything he does.....BE PREPARED. He went on to say that as a team, SSS will be working hard to make sure the agency is better prepared than ever before and to do our duty if we are called upon to do so.



MR. BENTON'S FIRST OFFICIAL ACT AS SELECTIVE SERVICE DIRECTOR WAS TO MAKE A SPECIAL VISIT TO THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY. IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO HIM TO HONOR ALL THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE SERVED OUR COUNTRY AND ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE FOR THE FREEDOMS WE CHERISH TODAY.



DIRECTOR BENTON ADDRESSES THE AUDIENCE SHORTLY AFTER TAKING THE OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED BY ASSOCIATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICE SAMUEL ALITO.

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AS SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED WITH THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA FOR MANY YEARS, MR. BENTON WAS PLEASED TO SEE A GROUP OF SCOUTS AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY. HE TOOK THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BRIEFLY TALK TO THEM ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF PUBLIC SERVICE.



DIRECTOR BENTON AND MR. DICK PATTEN, PRESIDENT OF THE DC CHAPTER OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION LAID A WREATH AT THE JEFFERSON MEMORIAL COMMEMORATING THOMAS JEFFERSON'S 274TH BIRTHDAY.



# WORLD WAR I DRAFT LOTTERY BOWL

The Minnesota Historical Center in St. Paul recently unveiled their new World War I (WWI) Exhibit. One of the highlights of the exhibit is the original Draft Lottery Bowl used during WWI draft lotteries. Mr. Adam J. Copp, Acting Deputy Director, accompanied by Mr. Brian McHugh, Public Affairs Specialist, were in attendance for the opening. Mr. Copp addressed the audience and discussed the important significance of the Draft Bowl. He explained that the first draft drawing took place July 20, 1917 in the public hearing room of the Senate Office Building. Three lotteries were held during WWI, totaling nearly 2.8 million American inductees into the Armed Services. WWI was considered to be "the war to end all wars" and at the end of the United States involvement in the war, there were over 300,000 U.S. casualties.

During his visit, Mr. Copp and MN State Director Bill Barbknchet had a chance to meet with Maj. Gen Larry Shellito, Ret., MN Commissioner of Veteran Affairs; Maj. Gen. Richard Nash, MN Adjutant General-Commander of the State's Military Forces; and Brig. Gen. Jon Jansen, Commander of the 34th INF Division. Mr. Copp and Mr. Barbknecht explained Selective Service's mission both in peace time and in the event of a mobilization; and some of the agency's current challenges.



*Ms. Kristen Froehlich of the Philadelphia History Museum and Mr. Adam Copp reaching into the Draft Lottery Bowl*

Other areas discussed included Minnesota's registration compliance and Local Board Member vacancies. The main message conveyed to these influential state leaders was the important role that Selective Service plays in keeping the nation prepared for an uncertain tomorrow.



*Pictures from the Minnesota Historical Center WWI Exhibit.*



*Brian Horrigan of MHC and Kristen Froehlich of PHM*

[MORE PHOTOS ON FOLLOWING PAGE.](#)

# WORLD WAR I DRAFT LOTTERY BOWL

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*Pictures from the Minnesota Historical Center WWI Exhibit.*



ABOVE: From left to right are MN State Director Bill Barbknecht, MG Nash, BG Jansen, and Mr. Adam Copp



## CONTINUATION TRAINING



Front row L to R: Raymond "Duke" Bland, Richard Raskin, Harry Shovlin, RC Gamble, David Kaplan, Adam Copp (SSS Acting Deputy Director), Robert Flores (VA State Director), Michael DePiro (RFO), Brian Kim (RFO), Stephen Brophy  
Back row L to R: Nate Solloway, Daniel Balck, Bo Lee, Mary Keeser (not pictured taking photo)

On May 13, 2017, RFO Brian Kim hosted a Continuation Training (CT) session in Falls Church, VA, at American Legion Post 130. Annually, RFO Kim hosts this no-cost, in-person CT during his two week Annual Training at this venue. Many of the local board members really appreciate the opportunity to meet face-to-face and undergo annual training together beyond the minimally required web-based or CD/DVD based

training. Everyone enjoys the camaraderie and spends time catching up on the latest Selective Service System news.

Special thanks to Harry Shovlin, retired Local Board Member and Post 130 Finance Officer, for allowing Selective Service to use the venue for CT and IBMT for the last 10+ years.



## SELECTIVE SERVICE ACT ANNIVERSARY



This month is the 100 year anniversary of President Woodrow Wilson signing the Selective Service Act. Shown below is an excellent article written by Mr. Jerome Greer Chandler, titled "Selective Service System is Guardian at the Gate" and reprinted with permission

from the VFW. It is also published in the May 2017 issue of the VFW magazine. You can view it at:

<https://www.vfw.org/news-and-publications/vfw-magazine>

ARTICLE ON FOLLOWING PAGES

# SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM IS GUARDIAN AT THE GATE

BY JEROME GREER CHANDLER



President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs the Selective Service Act of 1940 on Sept. 16, 1940, in Washington, D.C. The original Selective Service Act was signed on May 8, 1917, by President Woodrow Wilson.

**In war and peace, this 100-year-old institution is primed to jump-start a draft of men into the armed forces.**

**M**ay 8, 2017, marks the 100th anniversary of President Woodrow Wilson's signing of the *Selective Service Act of 1917*. In the study *The Selective Service System and Draft Registration: Issues for Congress*, Kristy N. Kamarek, of the Congressional Research Service (CRS), found much of the motivation for the original draft was preservation of this country's industrial capacity.

Having enough folks laboring on the home front was as critical to winning WWI as finding enough troops to fight.

There were more than 2.8 million men inducted into the military in WWI. They made up nearly 60 percent of the 4.7 million "participants" in government parlance.

WWI induction numbers far exceed the 168,649 conscripted by the Union during the Civil War. They comprised just 6 percent of the nearly 2.7 million men who served in Union

blue. According to the CRS, "(The Civil War) marked the first instance of the federal government calling individuals into voluntary service through conscription."

Civil War conscription was contentious, even bloody.

The 1863 *Enrollment Act* was laced with loopholes, inundated by inequities and fraught with fraud. The 1863 New York City draft riots occurred as a result and was sparked by deep social chasms in mid-19th Century America. A young man of means could literally buy himself out of service. Working class men couldn't afford the \$300 needed to purchase a substitute.



## MORE THAN 10 MILLION INDUCTIONS

World War II brought growth in inductions. During the WWII era more than 10 million were inducted; and more than 16 million participated, either through conscription or volunteering. Almost 63 percent of those who served were



conscripts. The draft was conducted by lottery.

Service and sacrifice are the operant words. Those who went to Vietnam might be deployed for one year, while many WWII draftees didn't see their loved ones for years.

*The First Report of the Director of Selective Service*, which was issued in 1940, stated: "The Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 is based on the principle that the obligation and privileges of military training and service should be shared generally in accordance with a fair and just system of compulsory military training and service."

In June 1941, Gen. George Marshall said, "I believe the Selective Service provides the only practical and economic method of maintaining the military force ... I think, with all my heart, that Selective Service is necessary to the maintenance of a true democracy."

At that time, Adolf Hitler was eviscerating Europe and the Japanese were all over China. The Selective Service System proved pivotal in preserving freedom.

*The Selective Service Training and Service Act* was set to expire in 1945. It was extended in 1945 and 1946. In 1947, with the nation focused on peace, it was repealed.

All the duties of the Selective Service System were transferred to the Office of Selective Service Records. The U.S. armed forces withered to 1.5 million members from a war-time total of 12 million personnel.

## A SHORT PEACE AND THE KOREAN WAR

President Harry Truman signed the *Selective Service Act of 1948*. In one of those 'believe it or not' quirks of fate, the peacetime measure was set to expire June 24, 1950.

On June 25, 1950, war broke out between North Korea and South Korea. Lawmakers rushed to extend the 1948 law. President Truman signed it June 30, 1950. During the Korean War, more than 1.5 million men were conscripted for Korea. About 5.7 million overall participated. Draftees made up nearly 27 percent.

Selective Service didn't employ a lottery during this era. Instead, local draft boards filled their quotas with those classified as

'1-A' or "eligible for military service."

From 1950 through 1964, Congress extended what was then known as the *Universal Military Training and Service Act* in four-year segments. The stage was set for one of the most controversial periods in Selective Service history: the Vietnam War.

## LESS THAN 2 MILLION DRAFTED

Contrary to popular belief, the percentage of conscripts who served in South Vietnam and related Southeast Asian countries during the Vietnam War was comparatively small — a little more than 21 percent of the 8.7 million who participated in the war, or nearly 1.9 million men.

During the Vietnam War, the Selective Service System came under great criticism. As the war grew less popular, the draft itself was seen by some as inequitable and discriminatory.

Discipline dwindled among draftees. Some said the draft fell unfairly on society's underprivileged.

This notion led President Lyndon Johnson to issue an executive order on July 2, 1966, that established the National Advisory Commission on Selective Service. In February 1967, the commission delivered its report *In Pursuit of Equity: Who Served When Not All Serve?* It did not suggest ditching the system. Rather it recommended:

- An impartial and random selection process.
- Consolidating local draft boards under centralized administration with uniform policies.
- Making sure the composition of those local boards represented the population they served.

Few of the commission's proposals made it through the legislative process intact. Congress did re-name the law. In the '60s, the new law became the *Military Selective Service Act of 1967*. Its authority was extended through 1973.

## LAST MAN DRAFTED IN 1973

Early in his presidency, Richard Nixon established the *President's Commission on an All-Volunteer Force*. Final draft calls went out during December 1972. The last man inducted entered the Army on June 30, 1973. By April 1975, President Gerald Ford had signed a proclamation tempo-

## HOW TO REGISTER AND WHAT COULD HAPPEN IF YOU DON'T

Virtually all male U.S. citizens, regardless of where they live, and male immigrants, whether documented or undocumented, residing in the United States, who are 18 through 25 years old, are required to register. The law says men must register with Selective Service within 30 days of their 18th birthday;

Selective Service spokesman Matthew Tittmann says, "The quickest and easiest way to register is by going to [www.sss.gov](http://www.sss.gov). Forty-five seconds online can save you 45 years of headache(s)." You also can go to the Post Office, fill out a registration card and mail it.

The headaches stem from the fact that failure to register "presents significant challenges. Individuals can be denied student financial aid, job training benefits, all federal and many municipal jobs and an increasing number of government contractor jobs," Tittmann said.

Finally, if you're an immigrant and want to become a citizen, failure to register can delay the process considerably.

Those are just the civil penalties. Tittmann said criminal penalties could include a fine of up to \$250,000 and five years in prison. The Selective Service spokesman said, "This is not the practice in peacetime, but it still remains the law."

## SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM BY THE NUMBERS

- \$23 million a year budget
- 125 full-time employees
- 135 reserve employees
- 10,000 volunteer board members





The iconic Uncle Sam poster celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2017. It was created by James Montgomery Flagg to recruit for WWI and WWII.

rarily suspending the requirement of young men to register, placing the Selective Service System into what President Ford called "deep standby."

However, in December 1980, the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan. President Jimmy Carter said he would resume registration.

### NO WOMEN IN THE DRAFT

Congress adopted Carter's registration initiative, while shooting down his proposal that the requirement include women.

"There is no distinction possible," Carter said, "on the basis of ability or performance that would allow me to exclude women from an obligation to register."

The issue is still being debated today. In 2016, *Military Times* reported that then-Defense Secretary Ash Carter, along with prominent senators such as John McCain (R-Ariz.), pushed hard for its inclusion in the *National Defense Authorization Act of 2017*. Echoing the sentiments of many before him, Carter argued women should be required to register.

Congress eventually abandoned the idea of requiring women to register in Selective Services. Instead, a commission was created to focus on military and public service, including women registering with the Selective Service System.

Even if you don't serve in the military, registration says you're part of the fabric that has rendered the United States at the ready for the past 100 years.

EMAIL [magazine@vfw.org](mailto:magazine@vfw.org)

*Jerome G. Chandler is an Army vet of Vietnam, where he served as a medic. He also is a retired journalism professor and a frequent contributor to VFW.*

## TABLE TOP EXERCISES

On February 28, 2017, Selective Service held an Information Technology Contingency Plan (ITCP) table top exercise. Those taking part in the exercise were IT staff, the Region's Continuity of Operations (COOP) points of contact, the Agency's COOP Coordinator Mr. Charles Neely, and Year Up Intern, Mr. Marino Pereira.

Ms. Renee Miller, IT Specialist, coordinated and facilitated the exercise. The participants walked through a "real life scenario" to ensure that the Agency has all of the required staff, processes, and resources in place to allow for a successful restoration of functions following an event that impacts normal operations.



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Above, OPs team review case exercises; right, YEAR-UP student Marino Pereira follows along with the scenario.



In the scenario, NHQ had an earthquake, the building was without power and deemed for no occupancy by the building management for four days. This required all staff, except essential personnel, to telework or use the backup services provided by our contractor.

Despite the fact that most of those attending the meeting were new to the Selective Service System and the ITCP table top exercise, their participation was valuable and beneficial. As a result of the exercise suggested procedural and process changes were made that will be implemented going forward. By being proactive and having exercises the Agency is ensuring that it is prepared to perform the mission of the Selective Service System during an emergency.

## HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE

The Human Resources (HR) office has been very busy these last several months! Listed below are some of the recent changes.

- The agency has a new USA Staffing System which brings the hiring process back inside to SSS. For the past 13 years, the agency had contracted with Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for all of Selective Service's staffing and recruitment.
- HR developed a personnel security program which enables the agency to complete employee background investigations and security clearance in compliance with OPM regulations. The agency passed the OPM audit by modernizing the process and using electronic technology.
- The agency now has been given Delegating Examining Authority by OPM. HR created Standard Operating Procedures which addressed all deficiencies outlined in previous audits which enabled SSS to pass the most recent OPM audit.
- There has been a noticeable increase in the hiring and processing speed of new employees from 2014 to present based on historical data.
- HR personnel have built positive partnerships with managers and supervisors and have worked to keep the lines of communication open.
- Brown bag lunch presentations on topics of interest have increased employee engagement and morale.

- The agency's Wellness Program is also a success and many employees participate in the program.
- In an ongoing effort to keep our workforce healthy, HR has arranged for employees get their annual flu vaccine at NHQ.

Please contact your HR Representative listed below if you have any questions or need assistance.

Ms. Vernetta M. Fields  
HR Director

Mrs. Patricia A. Midgett  
Lead Human Resources Specialist  
(Servicing Headquarters & Backup for all areas)

Mrs. Lakisher Wright  
Human Resources Specialist (Servicing Military)

Mrs. Liuba Lockhart-Garcia  
Human Resources Specialist  
(Servicing the Regions and DMC Civilian)

Ms. Caroline Adams  
Human Resources Specialist  
(Servicing Headquarters)



# DIRECTOR VISITS THE VIETNAM MEMORIAL

Mr. Benton met Vietnam veteran Mr. Bock while visiting the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC. Mr. Bock told the Director, "The Selective Service System saved my life. I was drafted and the military helped me overcome ill health and gave me an opportunity for a better future."



Mr. Benton thanking a World War II veteran for her service.



ABOVE: Director Benton engages with two war veterans, Mayor Dale Berman from Aurora, IL, (left) and Mr. John Muschler (right), who exchanged family and personal war experiences.



Director Benton has a moment of reflection as he finds the names of friends.



# CFC CAMPAIGN

The Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area (CFCNA) is the local campaign for Federal employees in the Washington Metropolitan Area and is the largest single campaign within the Combined Federal Campaign. Through the collective contributions of civilian and military Federal employees, the CFCNA generated more than \$47.4 million in pledges for participating local, national and international charities in 2016.

Selective Service System was recognized for their participation in the campaign and was awarded the following awards: The Summit Award, given to departments or agencies that achieve a three percent increase in total dollars raised from the previous year; the Participation Achievement Award, for departments or agencies that achieve a two percent increase in participation; the eGiving Award, for departments or agencies that have at least a 10 percent increase in online donations with a minimum



*CFC Key Workers: Renee Miller, Vernetta Fields, Charles Plummer, Gail Simmons, (not shown Brian McHugh)*

of 10 online donations; President's Award, for reporting units with 75 percent employee participation or \$275 per capita gift; and the 100 Percent of Goal Award, exceeding our giving goal by 40 percent! Because of the generosity of our employees and the efforts of the agency key workers, many lives have been changed for the better.

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## ALTERNATIVE SERVICE REACHES OUT

In FY 2009, the Alternative Service Program (ASP) began using technology to reduce the barriers that distance and funding put between some of its key conscientious objector (CO) constituency. In July and June of that year, it hosted two electronic outreach sessions using the telephone, the Internet, and the U.S. Postal Service to bring together Selective Service leadership and advocates for CO issues. It has since hosted at least two of these outreach sessions in every fiscal year. They are called "webinars," but not all participants participate via the Internet. In that first session, participants with the Internet connected to an ASP PowerPoint presentation via an introductory copy of online meeting software GoToMeeting. Other participants in that pilot session received the presentation in the mail in advance of the session; most of that group still does. All participants used the telephone.

Then and now, the outreach sessions last about an hour and follow a standard agenda. The Public and Intergovernmental Affairs Directorate provide an update on the status of the agency and draft related legislation in the Congress in that first session. Public Affairs Specialist, Mr. Matthew Tittmann, provided that for the April 11, 2017, session. Mr. Charlie Neely, from the Planning, Registration, and Training Division, provided an update on driver's license legislation (DLL) around the country. Ms. Cassandra Costley, ASP manager, brought participants up-to-date on ASP activities.

Subject Matter Expert (SME) participation from other Operations or agency operations is a common feature

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of the ASP outreach sessions. This outreach effort is designed to answer constituent questions about agency operations and where possible, the agency SME is used to do that. DLL, for example, is of special interest to historic Anabaptist peace churches, the part of CO advocacy community with which we interact most frequently. DLL affects the way young men in Anabaptist communities become registered with Selective Service and they are especially keen to comply with the law. We answer their questions about the nuances of the various laws enacted so that they can ensure they are on top of how their young men can become registered in their states. Over the years we have also invited agency SME's to answer questions about the draft lottery, specific draft-related policies, and concerns about the registration of women for the draft, to name but a few topics.

The pilot outreach session was conducted on a weekday morning, with a repeat of the weekday session on Saturday morning to optimize participant involvement. Over time, best practices evolved and there is now one session approximately every six months, with staggered



*Clockwise from far left: Charles Neely, Irish Massey, Matthew Tittmann, Cassandra Costley*

start times in the different time zones allowing all to connect. Participation is maximized by making taped copies of the sessions available for 15 days after the sessions and providing almost verbatim transcripts of the sessions to participants without access to the Internet and the taped sessions.

These outreach sessions have proved very popular and the live sessions average about 50 participants nationwide, though in 2010 we reached an all-time high of 60-plus participants for our April session.

Conduct of the pilot session was motivated by a desire for ASP and Selective Service to control their own public messaging as opposed to being defined by others. The sessions will continue into the foreseeable future because controlling its message has never been more important for the agency or for the Alternative Service Program.



## RFO RECEIVES AWARD



Acting Deputy Director Adam J. Copp presented Reserve Force Officer Captain Keith Branner with an End of Tour Award/Navy, the "Defense Meritorious Award," as the Assistant Director for Compensation Military Personnel Policy, Office of Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel Readiness.

## NHQ NO/SD

New Officer State Director (NO/SD) Training was conducted at National Headquarters for new employees on April 3-5, 2017. Training was developed specifically for these employees. The training focused on the duties of the Regions and the DMC during peacetime and mobilization. The three

Region Operations Managers, Ms. Katherine Murphy, Mr. Michael Corbin, and Mr. Brett Williams, conducted the training. Topics included the day-to-day operations of Region Headquarters; and supporting the field structure, their compliance with the SSS mission, and military service requirements.

Mr. Brent Downs, DMC, gave a detailed presentation outlining the high volume of public inquiries that are answered by the call center staff and the vast number of letters that are prepared and processed through the DMC. Mr. Downs also elaborated on the DMC's responsibilities during a mobilization. This training was followed by an intense Professional Development Course Training, which is typically provided to all State Directors and new officers. The course provided a detailed description of the Region, State, Area Offices,



Alternative Service Office, Local and District Appeal Boards roles and responsibilities during mobilization. The training was very thorough and well presented. Everyone was in agreement that it would be beneficial for all new personnel to attend. Ms. Murphy, Mr. Corbin, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Downs did such an outstanding job that all attendees passed the RFO Certification Exam!

Following the NO/SD training there was an Operations Manager Summit for the Regional Operations Managers and NHQ Operations Directorate staff, facilitated by Mr. John Longshore, Program Manager, Operations. The summit was an excellent opportunity for everyone to discuss a myriad of issues and to provide input and feedback on those topics.



# DIRECTOR BENTON ATTENDS NO/SD AND TOURS DMC

Region I held their New Officer State Director Training on May 4-5, 2017, at the Region I Headquarters, North Chicago, IL. There were a total of 16 in attendance, including Director Benton, Connecticut State Director Mark Fullerton, and fourteen RFOs. Included in the program was the Professional Development Course Training, provided to all State Directors and new officers, covering the field structure, (Region, State, Area Office, Alternative Service Office, Local and District Appeal Boards) roles and responsibilities during mobilization. The entire class passed the RFO Certification Exam. Region Manager Kenney expressed his appreciation to the Director for his vision and leadership.

While in Chicago, Director Benton was given a tour of the Data Management Center (DMC) by Ms. Nicole Harris, DMC Manager. He made it a point to introduce himself to every employee and personally congratulated employees on their recent promotions. All of the staff really enjoyed meeting Mr. Benton and are looking forward to working with him.



*Left to Right: Manager T.J. Kenney, Director Benton, Operations Manager Katherine Murphy*

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## CONNECTICUT STATE DIRECTOR



*Mr. T.J. Kenney and Mr. Mark Fullerton*

On March 4, 2017, Mr. T.J. Kenney, Region I Manager, met with the 1CT Detachment of Connecticut at Camp Niantic in Niantic, CT. The CT team is relatively new and for the first time in three years has all of its authorized members on board and ready to go. The CT detachment is led by ARNG LTC Robert Lugli and supported with USCGR CW2 Brandon Scott. During the meeting Mr. Kenney presented Mr. Mark Fullerton his appointment certificate on behalf of the Selective Service Director. The CT team is fired up to ensure the readiness of CT is improved significantly with this new team!

## STATE DIRECTOR MEETS WITH STATE APPOINTMENTS SECRETARY

Mr. John Cumicek, Wisconsin State Director, met with Mr. Daniel Sievert, Wisconsin Appointments Secretary. During the visit Mr. Cumicek was able to explain the Selective Service System efforts and thank him for his cooperation in ensuring that the State of Wisconsin remains fully operational.



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## 35<sup>TH</sup> U.S. HISPANIC LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE'S (USHLI) NATIONAL CONFERENCE



*Region II Manager Carlos Perez addressing the students*

Region I Reserve Forces Officers (RFOs), and Mr. Perez, Region II Manager, represented the Selective Service at the 35th U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute's (USHLI) National Conference at the Sheraton Hotel and Towers in Chicago, IL, on February 16-17, 2017. This conference provided opportunities to spread registration awareness to thousands of high school and college students as well as young professionals. It also provided information to potential local volunteer draft board members. The USHLI's agenda included a College and Career Fair, a reception for Latino Professional Networking, and a Career Expo, each focused upon a particular audience. Mr. Perez also had an opportunity to speak with the press during a general assembly, in addition to assisting and answering inquiries from several attendees at the exhibit booth.



*Left to Right: CW4 Roland Ashby (IL 1-2), LtCol Chris Brennan (IL 1-2), Mr. Carlos Perez (Region II), Maj Frederick Kahl (IL 1-1), and Maj Arnie Weber (IL 1-2).*



# REGION I INITIAL BOARD MEMBER TRAINING



On Saturday, February 11, 2017, 1NJ held one of the largest detachment learning events where 23 upstanding New Jersey citizens attended Initial Board Member Training (IBMT) and completed the final phase in becoming an official part of the Selective Service System Team. During this IBMT session, board members, many who travelled more than 100 miles to attend, included teachers, veterans, businessmen, and retirees. The course covered subjects including Local Board Member's (LBM) expectations in the event of a draft, including a capstone mock board in which the board reviewed a complicated case and rendered a decision based upon the facts. Afterwards, the class was afforded the opportunity to review the final determination and discuss other options and resources available, and participate in active discussions. The board members learned that cases can be complex. As well as the importance of the board member's role, and how each board member represents part of a diverse and dedicated cross section of New Jersey, crucial to a fair and equitable draft board system. The 1NJ team is proud of our LBM's commitment and thankful to have them as part of the SSS team.

Attendees listed below:

Mr. Kwame H. Baptiste,  
Mr. Arron N. Burrows,  
Mr. Eugene T. Caulfield,  
Mr. Eric R. Daleo,  
Mr. Leonard D. Fitts,  
Mrs. April B. Gardner,  
Mr. Bharatgiri J. Gosai,  
Mr. Ronald T. Haas  
Mr. Rajesh D. Jani,  
Mr. Michael J. Kappmeier,  
Mr. Steven J. Katz,  
Mr. John G. Kiernan,  
Ms. Linda M. Kierstein,  
Mr. Gene Marino,  
Mr. Michael F. McGrane,  
Mr. Michael Olszak,  
Mr. Albert D. Porter,  
Mr. Russell S. Robinson  
Mr. Andrew M. Rodgers,  
Mr. John R. Roncoroni,  
Mr. Paul A. Simons,  
Mr. Roger D. Timpson,  
Mr. Adam S. Zaranski

## ARKANSAS SSS DETACHMENT

Region II Manager, Mr. Carlos Perez, visited the Arkansas Detachment in Camp Robinson, North Little Rock, AR. Mr. Perez conducted the quarterly field teleconference from the Arkansas Detachment's office in the National Guard building. After the teleconference, LTC Chism (ARNG) and Maj Isaac Wright (USAFR) conducted IBMT for two new Board Members.



*From Left to Right: Mr. Perez, LTC Chism, AR SD Gassaway, Maj Wright, and new BMs.*

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## TEAM GEORGIA IBMT



The Georgia Reserve Force Officers (RFOs) conducted an Initial Board Member Training (IBMT) on Saturday, April 22, 2017. The training was conducted in conjunction with the Region II New Officer/State Director (NO/SD). A total of seven new Local Board Members (one missing

in picture) received initial training and interacted with the RFOs attending NO/SD. Region II schedules NO/SD and IBMT semi-annually on the same weekend to allow the new RFOs to experience how IBMT is conducted.



## REGION II CONDUCTS NO/SD

Region II conducted its semi-annual New Officer/State Director (NO/SD) training from April 20-23, 2017. A total of eight new Reserve Force Officers (RFO) were trained as well as two new Region II staff employees.

An Initial Board Member Training (IBMT) was held in conjunction with NO/SD. Seven new Board Members received initial training. Training was conducted by the region staff and the Georgia RFO team.



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## RFO RECEIVES FIELD GRADE OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD

On Wednesday, April 12, 2017, COL(R) Everett Bonner, Louisiana State Director, presented Major Dewayne Wells with the Selective Service System Region II – Field Grade Officer of the Year Award. MAJ Wells has been with the Agency for 11 years. He was awarded the Junior Grade in 2008, Officer of the Year in 2013, and Top Gun in 2015. MAJ Wells is a top recruiter and well deserving of this award.



*Left to Right: LTC Trevino (RFO), LA SD Everett Bonner, MAJ DeWayne Wells (RFO), and LTC Robert Remy (RFO)*

## LOUISIANA DETACHMENT ATTENDS AASA EXHIBIT



Louisiana State Director Everett Bonner, and Lieutenant Colonel John Trevino, DET 2LA, staffed the well attended SSS Exhibit at the School Superintendents Association Conference on Education which was held March 2017, in New Orleans, LA.

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## LTC ADAMS SELECTED AS DEPUTY BRIGADE COMMANDER

Lieutenant Colonel Jonathan Adams, Georgia ARNG, is leaving Region II to become the Deputy Brigade Commander of the 201st Support Group, Georgia Army National Guard in Marietta, GA. LTC Adams is a District Attorney in his civilian profession, covering the counties around Forsyth, north of Macon, GA. The Georgia Team presented him with a picture of all the Georgia Reserve Forces Officers in the Region Headquarters. The Agency wishes him the best on his new assignment.



*Left to Right: LTC Adams and Region II Manager Perez*



## REGION II JUNIOR OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Captain Andrew Corum, the Region II Junior Officer of the Year, was presented his plaque by Major General Holmes, the Deputy Adjutant General of Tennessee. COL Reece, the Chief of Staff of the Tennessee ARNG also attended the presentation. Capt Corum is an Air Force Reserve officer assigned to Tennessee. He served on active duty as a missiles officer. State Director LTC (Ret.) Bruce Henry coordinated the event. Congratulations for a job well done!



*Left to Right: TN SD Henry, Capt Corum, MG Holmes, and COL Reece*

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## REGION II JOAN GREEN HONORED



*Left to Right: Dr. Marvin Bynes, Principal of Austell Elementary School, Joan Green, Region II Program Analyst*

On Monday, April 17th, Ms. Joan Green, Region II Program Analyst, was presented with the Cobb County Schools Volunteer of the Year Award. Ms. Greene was selected by Dr. Marvin Bynes, Principal of Austell Elementary School in Austell, GA, where her daughter attends. For the past four years she has been a diligent volunteer, attending field trips, reading to children, acting as a parent class monitor, and volunteering when needed with the prior PTA Officers. Also, Ms. Greene was elected the President of the PTA Board of Officers for the 2015 – 2017 sessions.

This May, her current PTA post will end, but also on Monday, April 17th, she was voted in as the new 2017 - 2019 South Cobb Council PTA President. Her position will cover the entire South Cobb District which encompasses 29 schools to include 17 Elementary Schools, 7 Middle Schools, 4 High Schools and 1 Christian Academy.

Congratulations, Ms. Green!

# VIETNAM WAR 50<sup>TH</sup> COMMEMORATION CEREMONY

Mrs. Velma Kidwell of Region III Headquarters attended the Vietnam War 50th Commemoration Ceremony on April 7, 2017. The Commemoration was to honor the service and sacrifice of those who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces between the time period

of November 1, 1955, to May 15, 1975. Mrs. Kidwell was presented a lapel pin as well as certificate by Colorado Congressman Ed Perlmutter, Major General Steve Best, and Brigadier General Michael Willis. Thanks, Mrs. Kidwell, for your service.



*Left to Right: Brigadier General Michael Willis, Major General Steve Best, Velma Kidwell, and Congressman Ed Perlmutter*

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## DMC ENDURED MAJOR DISRUPTION WITHOUT MISSING A BEAT

This past February, the building that DMC occupies started renovations including a major overhaul of its air ventilation system. Large sections of the ceiling and ductwork in the DMC had to be torn out and replaced.

As a result, the staff had to move their work spaces to accommodate the different work crews. Moving from your customary work space to another is hard enough. Adding to this the nature of construction work and you have the makings of some harsh working conditions. One construction crew would move ahead of schedule

while another fell behind. Last minute changes to the scheduled moves were the norm rather than the exception.

Despite all of these challenges, the DMC staff continued to get their jobs done answering the hundreds of phone calls and thousands of mail pieces generated every week. The renovations were completed in April. The staff is looking forward to the promise of better air conditioning that the new ductwork will bring this summer!



## Ms. LeAnne Price, DMC, RETIRING



LeAnne Price, the Lead Mail Processing Assistant at the DMC, will retire on May 26, 2017, after 35 years of service. She joined Selective Service shortly after the DMC opened in 1981.

Ms. Price has served in two of the five branches in the DMC. She started as a Data Transcriber in May of 1982, and transferred to the Mail/Logistics Branch in October of 1982, as a Mail and File Clerk. From there, Ms. Price was promoted to Computer Operator, and then promoted to Mail Processing Assistant. She was further promoted to Lead Mail Processing Assistant in 2012.

She has consistently taken on additional assignments. Throughout her career with Selective Service, Ms. Price has provided outstanding support to SSS by ensuring the timely processing of all incoming and outgoing mail.

Ms. Price won the DMC Employee of the Quarter Award First Quarter FY 1989. She has won numerous Special Act Awards and Performance Awards throughout her 35-year tenure with DMC. Ms. Price's work ensured a high-quality product and timely service to all departments. Her abilities and outgoing personality will be greatly missed.

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