



The REGISTER


Selective Service System

THE REGISTER

Summer 2010

Swearing-In Ceremony for the Director of Selective Service

On December 12, 2009, Texas Congressman Ciro Rodriguez administered the Oath of Office to the Director of the Selective Service System, The Honorable Lawrence G. Romo, at the Texas Military Institute in San Antonio, TX.

The colorful San Antonio ceremony in which Romo was sworn in officially as the 12th Selective Service Director ensured that he joined a long line of distinguished public leaders. His background, training, and life experiences groomed him for this important Administration assignment which hallmarks are fairness, equity, and customer service. Upon graduation from the U.S. Air Force Academy, he has served on active duty and in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. Beyond his tenure with the Federal Government as a career civil servant, he has given his time pro bono as a volunteer with military, public, and private associations. Each of his endeavors contributes significantly to the strength of our nation, the welfare of his community, and the richness of individual lives. 



12th DIRECTOR OF SELECTIVE SERVICE – Pictured above at this ceremony are left to right: Pete Van De Putte, Bexar County Local Board Member; Director Lawrence Romo; and Claude Hempel, State Director for Texas. Although sworn-in on the 12th, Romo was commissioned by the President to be the Selective Service System Director effective December 4, 2009. Mr. Van De Putte has served as a local board member for 18 years and his wife, Leticia, now a Texas State Senator, served as a local board member for 15 years.

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The Honorable Gil Coronado (right), 9th Director of Selective Service, October 7, 1994 - May 23, 2001, appointed by President Bill Clinton, and Director Romo.

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Swearing-In Ceremony



Above: Swearing-in ceremony with Congressman Rodriguez (foreground) reading the oath of service and Director Romo's parents, Jose and Mary Lousie Romo, assisting.



Texas State Senator Leticia Van De Putte and Director Romo



Birgit Romo, Director Romo's wife

Welcome New Deputy Director

Selective Service National Headquarters announces the arrival of two key individuals who will assist Director Lawrence Romo in the execution of his Selective Service responsibilities: Deputy Director Ed Allard and Chief of Staff Deborah Hubbard.



DEPUTY DIRECTOR — Edward T. Allard III

The Deputy Director has a long and diverse career of private sector management consulting, transforming organizations, and building operational excellence, together with service in very senior Federal Government appointments.

Our new Chief of Staff comes from the private contracting world of senior program management working at the Department of Defense level. This professional path follows a highly successful career as a U.S. Army officer in both command and staff positions of increasing responsibilities at the Department of Army, Joint Staff, and Office of the Secretary of Defense levels.

Selective Service welcomes these leaders as they bring their demonstrated accomplishments and unique talents added to Director Romo's leadership and the committed workforce. Selective Service cannot help but flourish.

Deputy Director Allard has served in three Presidential appointments for two Presidents: as Advisor to Secretary of Defense William Cohen, as Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson's Director of Performance Excellence, and, in April 2010, as Selective Service's Deputy Director.

For over 30 years, Deputy Director Allard worked directly as an international performance and organizational improvement management consultant with gurus like Dr. Edwards Deming and Dr. Peter Drucker, and became a recognized expert in the philosophies of Drs. Juran, Feigenbaum, Kottler, and Ishikawa among others. His talent for assessing organizational needs and tailoring world-class improvement strategic plans to advance behavioral and technical aspects in all types of organizations is recognized nationally and internationally. Allard was one of the first to develop and promote the benefits of 6 Sigma as a means by which to increase profitability and quality and helped to develop five-year programs among Texas Instrument, Allied Signal, and many others of his *Fortune 500* clients nationally and abroad. He is also board certified as an ISO 9000 Lead Auditor in the U.S. and in Europe.

Allard served 17 years in the private sector, where for seven years he was the President and CEO of the Roybal Foundation with its mission to provide scholarships to health care students wishing to practice in health facilities for low-income Spanish speaking communities. He also served five years each at both the national and local community levels as an executive with United Way of America.

Allard is a veteran with ten years of active service (1963-1973) in the United States Marine Corps, having served six years as an enlisted Marine and non-commissioned officer and four years as an officer. He was one of a select few enlisted Marines chosen for Officer Candidate School and received a regular commission in the USMC. He served as an electronics officer, design engineer, air traffic and air strike control officer, and training officer. While serving two combat tours in Viet Nam (1967-69) during the Tet Offensive, he earned the Navy Achievement Medal with Combat "V" for valor. An excellent marksman, he also competed with the USMC Rifle and Pistol Team and was honorably discharged from the USMC as a Captain in 1973. [SSS](#)

Chief of Staff Joins Selective Service Team

Chief of Staff Deborah Hubbard is a United States Army Air Defense Artillery Officer, who served 29 years in uniform, retiring as a Colonel. Her final assignment was as the TRADOC Capability Manager for the Ballistic Missile Defense System.

Graduating magna cum laude from Texas College in Tyler, TX, in 1980 with a bachelor of science degree, she was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Air Defense Artillery branch. She was an ROTC scholarship recipient, Distinguished Military Graduate, and member of the ROTC Drill Team. In 1990, she earned a masters of business administration degree from Syracuse University in New York, and earned a master of science degree in national resource strategy from National Defense University in 2002.

Chief of Staff Hubbard is a graduate of the Air Defense Artillery Officer Basic course, the Improved Hawk Officer course, the Air Defense Artillery Officer Advanced course, Command and Control Officers course, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

She has served in a variety of command, staff, and joint assignments both in the United States and overseas, to include tours in Southwest Asia and Kuwait during Desert Storm, and Joint Task Force Provide Promise

in Naples, Italy. Other assignments include duty at Fort Bragg, Fort Bliss, Fort Banning, and various locations in Germany. She served as Commander of a PATRIOT firing battery, Battalion Executive Officer, Battalion S3, and Operations Officer. She commanded 1st Battalion, 7th Air Defense Artillery

(PATRIOT) in Kaiserslautern, Germany, as one of the first women to command a combat battalion.

Hubbard's awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Six Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with Five Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters, Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge, and the Army Staff Identification Badge. [SSS](#)



CHIEF OF STAFF — Deborah H. Hubbard

A Good Samaritan

One afternoon last March, Mrs. Joann Swain, an administrative officer for Region II, was on her way home when she witnessed what would have been an unfortunate event.



As Swain sat waiting for the light to turn, a car directly facing her had turned right. Swain noticed that a purse, which had inadvertently been left on top of the car, fell onto the road. Realizing that the occupant was unaware of what had happened, Swain jumped into action.

Swain immediately drove across to where the purse had fallen to retrieve it. Inside, she found a wallet that held the driver's license. After a brief phone call, she was able to obtain the cell phone number for the person who lost the purse and made arrangements for its return. The next day, the purse's owner came to Swain's office. The woman was so grateful she rewarded Swain with a box of items from Colgate, the company where she worked, and an offer of lunch. Swain graciously declined the offer of lunch saying she hopes that someone would do the same had the situation been reversed.

Hats off to Swain for being a great samaritan! [SSS](#)

Mennonites Voluntary Service Is A Faith-Based Organization Recognized As An Alternative Service Employer

Officials from Selective Service and national leaders from Mennonite Church USA signed an agreement in April, in which the Mennonite Voluntary Service became a faith-based service organization to be recognized as a member of the alternative service employer network for conscientious objectors. This event marks the first alternative service employer network signing in 25 years, since Selective Service came out of deep standby.

Selective Service Director Lawrence Romo, Mennonite Mission Network Executive Director Stanley Green, and Mennonite Voluntary Service Director Hugo Saucedo, came together for the signing ceremony held at the San Antonio, TX, Mennonite Church. A culmination of years of talks and negotiations between Mennonite Voluntary Service and the Selective Service System have led to the agreement.

The second part of Selective Service's mission is to be prepared to implement an alternative service program for registrants classified as conscience objectors. "Few people are aware of that second mission, but we take it seriously and devote time and resources to ensuring a just and productive alternative for men sincerely opposed to war," Director Romo said at the agreement signing ceremony.

Saucedo said, "This event gives us a formal avenue as a denomination to have expanded job assignments for our young people to perform this conscientious objector obligation." "It's particularly important for young African-American and Latino American Mennonites who broader society doesn't always recognize as Mennonite. We know that minorities are disproportionately represented in the armed forces, and this agreement gives them an extra level of assurance that they will be treated equally in the event of a draft," he concluded.



SIGNING CEREMONY— Selective Service Director Lawrence Romo (right) and Mennonite Mission Network Executive Director, Stanley Green sign the alternative service employer network agreement.

Alternative service was included in the 1940 Selective Service Training and Service Act. During World War I, conscientious objectors served in noncombatant roles or went to jail if they couldn't avoid the draft. Before that, conscientious objectors paid fines, provided substitutes, or found other ways to support the war efforts.

Mennonites have received conscientious objector status since World War II, working in community and government positions instead of the military. Rooted in the Anabapist faith tradition which emphasizes peace, justice, and service as important components of the Christian faith journey, the Mennonite Voluntary Service is a program of the Mennonite Mission Network, the mission agency of Mennonite Church USA.

Mennonite Church USA includes more than 109,000 members, 939 congregations, and 21 conferences in 44 states. [SSS](#)

American Legion Honors New Director

American Legion Alamo Post 2 hosted a reception for Director Lawrence Romo on December 16, 2009, San Antonio, TX. Active and former Selective Service associates attended as well as friends of Director Romo. [SSS](#)



Left to right: Lieutenant Colonel Eric Layne, U.S. Army Reserve, Commander of Selective Service San Antonio Detachment; Valerie Grace, local board member; Lawrence Romo, Director; Joyce Peters, local board member; and Claude Hempel, State Director for Texas.



Left to right: Director Romo, Linda Valdez, 20-year former local board member and club manager of American Legion Alamo Post 2; Rosa and Fred Vasquez, Alamo Post 2 Commander and his wife; and State Director Hempel. The plaque with the Selective Service seal Mrs. Vasquez is holding reads: Presented to American Legion Alamo Post 2 in appreciation and recognition of your outstanding support in honoring the appointment of the 12th Director of the Selective Service System, The Honorable Lawrence G. Romo, dated December 16, 2009. LTC Layne, who was "on the ground" supporting this effort commented, "Mr. and Mrs. Vasquez and the Alamo Post bent over backwards to make this a great event."

Farewell to California Adjutant General

Major General William H. Wade was honored at a farewell dinner at the Doubletree Hotel in Sacramento, CA, January 23, 2010. MG Wade left as Adjutant General for the California Army National Guard and assumed a role with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Italy. MG Wade was a strong supporter of the Selective Service System and will be missed. Region III State Director for California, MG Ronald Markarian presented MG Wade with a memento for his service to the California Army National Guard. SSS



AMBASSADOR CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION — Selective Service State Director, MG Ron Markarian (left) and former Adjutant General for the California Army National Guard, MG William Wade

National Headquarters Visited by State Director and American GI Forum




NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS VISITORS — Lawrence Romo, Director of the Selective Service System, poses with two visitors at his Arlington, VA, headquarters. They are Brigadier General Manuel Flores, U.S. Army Ret. (left), Virginia State Director of Selective Service, and Antonio Gil Morales (right), of Fort Worth, TX, past National Commander of the American GI Forum. Director Romo is a native of San Antonio, TX. SSS

Special Recognition to Former State Director of Guam

Upon his retirement from Selective Service, Larry Aflague, former State Director for Guam, was presented with a distinguished service award for his outstanding contributions of extraordinary benefit to the Nation and the Selective Service System. Region III presented an eagle plaque to Aflague in appreciation for the 45 years of his hard work and dedication.

Having served the agency from January 20, 1964 to November 30, 2009, Aflague is the longest serving state director on record. Aflague helped secured the driver's license legislation in Guam. He was a significant player in the peacetime registration efforts and training initiatives. He was also recognized for having maintained a personal relationship with all local board members and Reserve Force Officers assigned in Guam.

The Territory of Guam falls within Region III's purview. Region Director Ken Bing said, "Larry brought an excellent work ethic and a special dignity to the position. He was superbly suited for position of state director and wore it exceptionally well."

On behalf of the agency, Bing wished Aflague and his family the absolute best, adding, "Larry, we salute you and we say 'Thank you.'" 



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Editor: Jennifer Burke, **Layout/Design:** Laurie Zaleski and Lee Alexander.

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.