



## **Governor's Military Council Member Biographies**

### **Chair:**

#### **Colonel Rocky Chávez, United States Marine Corps (Retired)**

Colonel (Retired) Rocky Chávez served in the Marine Corps as Chief of Staff for the 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Division and commanded 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 10<sup>th</sup> Marines. Since his retirement, Col (R) Chávez founded the School of Business and Technology and served as Director from 2002-2008. He also served as an Oceanside City Councilmember for seven years, beginning in 2002, as the Acting Secretary for the California Department of Veterans Affairs and as the California State Assembly representative for the 76th Assembly District (Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, Carlsbad, Vista and Encinitas) from 2012 – 2018. In addition to serving as Chair for the Governor's Military Council, Col (R) Chávez also serves as Assistant Secretary on the Tri-City medical Board of Directors.

### **Vice – Chair:**

#### **Vice Admiral Jody A. Breckenridge, United States Coast Guard (Retired)**

Vice Admiral (Retired) Jody A. Breckenridge served as Commander, Coast Guard Pacific Area until her retirement from the Coast Guard in 2010. Prior to this assignment, she served as the Director, Strategic Transformation Team where she was responsible for aligning and synchronizing the efforts to transform and modernize the Coast Guard. She has also served as the Commander of the 11th Coast Guard District, overseeing Coast Guard operations in the Southwest and the Eastern Pacific. During this time, the District stepped up its interagency collaboration, leading to record drug seizures including the largest maritime interdiction in US history and the arrest of the head of the Arellano Felix Drug Cartel.

## **Council Members:**

### ***Military Leadership***

#### **Colonel Deborah Aspling, United States Air Force (Retired)**

Colonel (Retired) Deborah Aspling served as the Deputy Chief, Air Force Physical Disability Division, responsible for executing the Disability Evaluation System interfacing with the Department of Veterans Affairs and U.S. Air Force. During her career, Col (R) Aspling also served as Chief Nurse of David Grant Medical Center, Commander of the 349<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Staging Squadron and 349<sup>th</sup> Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. She now serves as a management and program analyst, Air Force Physical Disability Review Board, tasked with reassessing the accuracy and fairness of military members combined disability ratings. Col (R) Aspling has held a succession of senior positions in the private sector as a senior vice president and area manager for Kaiser Permanente, chief operations officer at Lodi Memorial Hospital and assistant administrator at Sutter General Hospital.

#### **Major General Alice Astafan, United States Air Force (Retired)**

Major General (Retired) Alice Astafan was a member of the 2005 California's Council on Military Base Support and Retention, has been a member and chair of the California Veterans Board, and has been a member of the Southwest Defense Alliance, a group working to preserve and enhance critical defense missions and assets in the southwest United States. Prior to her retirement from the U.S. Air Force, General (R) Astafan was the highest-ranking woman military officer in the United States. She has also served as the CEO for the Federal Technology Center, a non-profit dedicated to federal technology transfer and economic development in the Sacramento region and the state. She currently serves on the board of directors for the Oak Ridge Association of Research Universities (ORAU), Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

#### **Lieutenant General Edward Hanlon, Jr., United States Marine Corps (Retired)**

During his 39-year career in the Marine Corps, Lieutenant General (Retired) Ed Hanlon served in a number of senior positions including Commanding General of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Commanding General of Marine Corps Combat Development Command and Deputy Commandant for Combat Development, and U.S. Military Representative to the NATO Military Committee. Following his retirement from military service, he joined Raytheon in 2007 as President of Raytheon International, Inc. Europe. He now serves as President of TransAtlantic Insights LLC, a consultant entity focusing primarily on defense and security programs and products vital to the US and NATO/EU.

#### **Major General Anthony L. Jackson, United States Marine Corps (Retired)**

Major General (Retired) Anthony Jackson served as the Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations West, with which he also served as co-chair of the Western Regional Council, tasked with coordinating renewable energy development within the Department of Defense and with other stakeholders. Previous assignments include Director of Operations and Logistics, U.S. Africa Command and Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Marine Forces Central Command. He has also served as a military advisor on national security and renewable energy to the Rockefeller Family Fund and Pew Charitable Trusts.

**Rear Admiral James Johnson, United States Navy, (Retired), M.D.**

Rear Admiral (Retired) Jim Johnson was the 2012 President of the San Diego Military Advisory Council (SDMAC). He retired from the Navy in 2005 as the Director of TRICARE Regional Operations West, where he oversaw five-year, \$10 billion health care contracts and integrated health care delivery system for more than 2 million beneficiaries in 21 states in the Western United States. During his career, Dr. Johnson also served as Chief Executive Officer of Naval Medical Center, San Diego, Medical Officer of the Marine Corps, and Principal Deputy for Clinical and Program Policy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs.

**Major General Dennis Kenneally, United States Army (Retired)**

Major General (Retired) Dennis Kenneally currently serves as executive director of the Southwest Defense Alliance, a group working to preserve and enhance critical defense missions and assets in the southwest United States. A decorated combat veteran, he served in numerous assignments including Commanding General of the California Army National Guard, as well as its assistant Adjutant General and Director of the Office of Homeland Security. He has also served as Chairman of the Board of the San Diego Chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association, Associate Administrator of the Veterans Administration, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for the United States Department of the Air Force.

**Vice Admiral Daniel Oliver, United States Navy (Retired)**

Vice Admiral (Retired) Daniel Oliver was commissioned through NROTC in 1966 and became a Naval Aviator, flying P3 Maritime Patrol Aircraft throughout the world during the Cold War. As a Flag Officer, he was Commander Fleet Air Forces Mediterranean in Naples, Italy and subsequently was Director of a number of divisions on the Navy OPNAV staff in the Pentagon involving budget programming, planning and resourcing. He retired from active duty in 2000 as Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Manpower and Personnel) and Chief of Naval Personnel. In 2001, he moved to New Orleans and held a succession of senior executive positions in the private sector, primarily as a government contractor. In 2007, he was appointed by the Secretary of the Navy to be the first permanent civilian president of the Naval Postgraduate School. In 2012, he retired from Federal service and currently resides in Aptos, California.

**Major General Eldon P. Regua, United States Army (Retired)**

Major General (Retired) Eldon Regua last served as deputy commanding general (wartime), Eighth Army in Yongsan, Korea. His 36-year Army career includes assignments as Commanding General, 75<sup>th</sup> Mission Command Division and Commanding General, 104<sup>th</sup> Training Division. He also served as Personnel Committee Chairperson for the Secretary of the Army Reserve Forces Policy Board. Following his retirement from military service, Major General Regua has served as General Manager for Creation Technologies in the Silicon Valley and as a board member for the Campbell Veteran's Memorial Foundation. In addition to serving as board member to the GMC, MG(R) Regua currently serves as a senior consultant for NextStep Technologies and as the Men's Ministry Leader at Calvary Community Church in Manteca, CA.

### **Rear Admiral Kenneth D. Slaght, United States Navy (Retired)**

Rear Admiral (Retired) Kenneth Slaght's last assignment was as Commander of the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command where he was responsible for providing information technology and space systems for today's naval and joint services. Additionally, he was the chief engineer for developing, delivering and maintaining effective, capable and integrated command, control, communications, computer, and intelligence systems (C4I). He was also responsible for engineering and assessing FORCEnet, the foundation of the Seapower 21 vision. Currently, RADM(R) Slaght serves as the Co-Chair and President of the Cyber Center of Excellence located in San Diego, which serves to grow the region's cyber economy and position it as a global hub of cyber innovation. He currently serves on the Boards of the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA), the San Diego Military Advisory Council (SDMAC), the San Diego State University Industry Advisory Board, and the Point Loma Nazarene Business School Advisory Board. In 1970, RADM(R) Slaght was commissioned as a Naval Officer upon graduation from the United States Naval Academy and holds a Master's Degree in Computer Systems Management from the Naval Post Graduate School.

### **Lieutenant General Eugene L. Tattini, United States Air Force (Retired)**

Lieutenant General (Retired) Gene Tattini has served since 2001 as the deputy director of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. During his active duty service, he served as commander of the Space and Missile Systems Center at Los Angeles Air Force Base, where he was responsible for managing the research, design, development and acquisition of space launch, command and control, and satellite systems. His 36-year military career also included assignments ranging from Minuteman II missile combat crew member to an air staff acquisition policy staff officer in the Pentagon, as well as five tours in California.

### ***Civic Leadership***

#### **Thomas R. Berard, United States Air Force**

Mr. Thomas Berard retired in 2011 as the Executive Director of the Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards Air Force Base, California. Prior to this assignment, he was the Executive Director and Deputy to the Commanding General of the White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, where he was the first civilian to hold the position of Director. He has over thirty years of civil service experience in Developmental Test and Evaluation, including work on the B-1B and B-2 bombers and the F-15, T-38, F-22, and F-35 aircraft. Mr. Berard holds a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from California State University, Stanislaus, and a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from California State University, Northridge.

#### **Philip E. Coyle, Department of Defense**

Mr. Philip Coyle serves as a Senior Science Fellow at the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, and is a recognized expert on national security policy, military research and development, and defense spending. In 2005, Mr. Coyle served on the nine-member Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC), appointed by President George W. Bush. He has also served in the Obama Administration as the Associate Director for National Security and International Affairs in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Mr. Coyle also spent seven years as the Assistant Secretary of Defense and Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, in the Department of Defense.

**Joseph A. Czyzyk**

Mr. Joseph Czyzyk currently serves as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Los Angeles-based Mercury Air Group. He was the 2011 Chairman of the Board of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, and has served as a member of the Board of Governors of the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC). He is a decorated U.S. Veteran, having volunteered for two tours of duty (1966-1969) with the U.S. Navy Mobile Construction Battalion (Seabees) in the U.S. and Republic of Vietnam. Mr. Czyzyk is a Board Member of the CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation, and is on the Board of Directors of U.S. VETS.

**Mr. Charles A. Giacchi**

Mr. Charles Giacchi retired in 2007 as Technical Director of the Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) where he was the recipient of the Distinguished Executive Presidential Rank Award, the highest award given to members of the Senior Executive Service. Prior to this role, Mr. Giacchi served as Executive Director of NSWC's Port Hueneme Division, where he managed Port Hueneme Division's 2,200 employees and operating budget of \$600 million. Mr. Giacchi holds a Master of Science in Systems Engineering from the University of Southern California, and a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology from Chapman University.

***State Leadership*****Major General David S. Baldwin, Adjutant General, California Military Department**

Major General Baldwin serves as the 46th Adjutant General of California, leading the largest, most frequently deployed National Guard force in the United States, with an authorized strength of more than 23,000 personnel. He is responsible for the operation of the state Military Department; consisting of the California Army and Air National Guard, State Military Reserve, and California Youth and Community Programs. He has twice deployed to Afghanistan, where his assignments included Executive Officer of the Combined Forces Command, Deputy Commander of the 101st Airborne Division Tactical Command Post, and Senior Mentor to the Commanding General of the 201st Afghan Army Corps.

**Secretary Vito D. Imbasciani, PhD MD, Colonel, United States Army (Retired)**

Secretary Vito D. Imbasciani completed medical school at the University of Vermont College of Medicine, and his surgical and urologic residencies at Yale-New Haven Hospital and the West Haven VA Hospital (Connecticut). He earned MA and PhD degrees from Cornell University, and was a Fulbright Scholar to Rome, Italy in 1973. He held academic teaching positions at the University of Florida, Cornell University and Middlebury College (VT). Governor Edmund J. Brown appointed Dr. Imbasciani as the 16th Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs in September 2015 followed by a State Senate confirmation several months later. As member of the Governor's Cabinet, he also serves on the Board of the California Housing Finance Agency, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Honor Committee, and the Governor's Military Council.

**Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin**

Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin currently represents the 44th District in the California Assembly, where she is the Chair of both the Veterans Affairs Committee and the Select Committee on Cybersecurity in addition to serving as Co-Chair to the National Conference of State Legislatures Task Force on Cybersecurity. Prior to her election to the Assembly, she served two terms as Mayor of Thousand Oaks and was first elected to the Thousand Oaks City Council in 2004. Prior to her public service, Assemblymember Irwin was an employee of Teledyne Systems and an engineer at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab. Asm. Irwin graduated from UC San Diego with a Bachelor of Science in Systems Engineering where she also competed in national championships as an All-American swimmer for all four years.

**State Senator Richard Roth, Major General, United States Air Force (Retired)**

Senator Roth currently represents the 31<sup>st</sup> District in the California State Senate, which includes March Air Reserve Base. He retired in 2007 from 32 years of military service in the United States Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps, where he served as Mobilization Assistant to The Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Air Force, overseeing more than 900 Reserve judge advocates and paralegals assigned to more than 200 offices at every level of command. He also has over 30 years of experience in the practice of labor and employment law, having worked as an attorney with the National Labor Relations Board and various Riverside-based firms.

***Chair Emeritus:*****Honorable Ellen Tauscher**

Ellen O. Tauscher represented California's 10th Congressional District for more than 12 years in the U.S. House of Representatives, where she chaired the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Strategic Forces. Following her appointment by President Obama and confirmation by the U.S. Senate, she left Congress to serve as Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Affairs, and later as Special Envoy for Strategic Stability and Missile Defense at the State Department. Before winning a seat in Congress, Tauscher spent 14 years working on Wall Street and was one of the first women to hold a seat on the New York Stock Exchange.