



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

### **Chair**

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

Vice Admiral 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.

### ***Military Leadership***

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

Colonel 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, Colonel 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. Colonel 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.

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

During his 39 year career in the Marine Corps, Lt. Gen. 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 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 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 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.

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

Major General Regua last served as deputy commanding general (wartime), Eighth Army in Yongsan, Korea, responsible for non-combatant evacuation, and the reception, staging, and onward movement and integration of Soldiers and equipment into the Korean peninsula in time of hostilities. His 36-year military 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 a 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 the General Manager for Creation Technologies and board member for the Campbell Veteran's Memorial Foundation and RightStep Services, Inc.

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

General 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***

### **Mr. Thomas R. Berard**

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.

### **Mr. Philip E. Coyle**

Phil 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.

### **Mr. Joseph A. Czyzyk**

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.

## ***State Leadership***

**State Senator Bob Archuleta, Staff Sergeant, United States Army (Retired)**

Senator Archuleta currently represents the 32nd District in the California State Senate. He served with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division and is the Chair of the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. He is the first Latino Army Veteran named to the position. Senator Archuleta served as a Presidential Appointee under the 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama as a member on the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy at West Point. The senator was the first Mexican-American to be appointed by any president to the board, and was immediately elected as co-chair. He also served on the Los Angeles County Military Veteran Affairs Commission, the United States Army Advisory Board for Military Recruitment, and the Los Angeles County Library Commission. He also served with the Montebello Police Department after attending Rio Hondo Police Academy.

**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 PhD MD 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.

**Ms. Kate Gordon, Director, Governor's Office of Planning and Research**

Director Gordon was appointed Director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research and Senior Advisor to the Governor on Climate by Governor Gavin Newsom on January 7, 2019. Prior to her appointment, Gordon was the founding director of the Risky Business Project, which focused on quantifying the economic impacts of climate change on U.S. energy demand, crop yields, and coastal infrastructure as well as on human health and mortality. As part of this work, Gordon consulted numerous investors and corporations on strategies to reduce climate risks across investments and assets, and also served as a co-author on the Fourth National Climate Assessment's chapter on "Reducing Risks Through Adaptation Actions." Prior to her work on Risky Business, Gordon served in senior leadership positions at several nonpartisan think tanks including the Henry M. Paulson Institute, the Center for the Next Generation, the Center for American Progress, and as a nonresident Fellow at the Center on Global Energy

Policy at Columbia University. Gordon earned a J.D. and a Masters in City and Regional Planning from the University of California-Berkeley, and an undergraduate degree from Wesleyan University.

#### **State Senator Shannon Grove**

Senator Grove currently represents the 16<sup>th</sup> District in the California Senate, where she serves as the Vice-Chair for the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs and as a member for the Senate Committee on Health. After graduating from high school, Senator Grove served overseas in the United States Army and is the first woman veteran to serve in the California Legislature, where she was elected to serve as State Assemblymember for the 34<sup>th</sup> District from 2010-2016. In addition to her state service, Senator Grove also serves as CEO of Continental Labor and Staffing Resources, which serves Bakersfield and Ridgecrest.

#### **Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin**

Assemblymember Irwin currently represents the 44th District in the California Assembly, where she is the Chair of the Veterans Affairs Committee and the Select Committee 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 was also an engineer at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab.

#### **Ms. Dee Dee Myers, Director, Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development**

Appointed in 2019 as Director of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz), Director Myers also serves as a Senior Advisor to Governor Newsom. An author and former co-host of a political talk show, Ms. Myers also served as White House Press Secretary for the Clinton Administration and has extensive experience in strategic communications, public affairs and corporate governance.

#### **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.