



Comrades,

April 29, 2025

I am seeking your endorsement for the position of National Surgeon of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. I served 16 years in the United States Navy as a Submariner, holding roles as a Culinary Specialist Manager and Law Enforcement Officer. I am married to my wonderful wife, and together we have a son, a daughter-in-law, and four amazing grandchildren. We reside in our loving home in Layton, Utah.

I am a Gold Legacy Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). From 2020 to 2024, I served as the Department of Utah's National Legislative Committee member and had the honor of being the Western Conference Sergeant-at-Arms for two years. Additionally, I was the Department of Utah Commander from 2017 to 2018. I earned recognition as a VFW All-American Commander while serving as both the District 2 Commander and the Commander of Post 409.

I am in my fourth year as the Commander of VFW Post 409 and have been elected for another term. I have held the Post Service Office position, where I assisted veterans and their family members in connecting with our state VFW Veterans Service Officer and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to help them obtain the benefits they are entitled to. I am also an active member of the VFW Military Order of the Cootie, VFW Riders, and a Centennial Life Member of the VFW National Home.

I was privileged to be appointed for a lifetime position as a Board Member of the Selective Service System by the President of the United States, which underscores my commitment to serving our nation.

I began my academic journey at Morrison University in Reno, Nevada, where I earned a Bachelor's Degree in Medical Management, gaining essential skills in health administration and leadership. In October 2008, I became a certified emergency responder, reflecting my dedication to public service. While serving as the Medical Assistant Team 1 leader on the USS Georgia, I helped rescue a man trapped 400 feet below the surface. At Commander Submarine Group 9, I collaborated with medical officers to develop advanced first aid protocols and organize medical support teams. As an intake floor manager at the Reno VA Medical Center, I facilitated patient registration, discharge, and follow-up appointments. In the 1990s, I contributed to a Johns Hopkins University study on stress management for submarine personnel. Currently, I work with the Department of the Navy, the Department of Defense, and Navy Medicine (NAVMED) in Washington, DC, to gather information benefiting Navy veterans who served on submarines. This research addresses the unique toxic exposures they faced, ensuring they receive the necessary medical treatment from Veterans Administration facilities.

Currently, I hold the position of Chairman and CEO of the Submarine Advocacy Group (SAG), where I have actively held this position since 2024. As a life member of SAG, I work tirelessly to advocate for the rights and needs of submariners and their families. Additionally, I am a proud life member of several other distinguished organizations, including the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), which supports veterans in various capacities; the Fleet Reserve Association, which advocates for the interests of enlisted Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard members; and the American Legion, dedicated to serving veterans and their communities. Each of these memberships allows me to remain engaged in meaningful initiatives that honor and uplift those who have served our country.

I strongly feel that 'Our goal as an organization is to work together for our Veterans and their families.' As the Navy always says, "Dam the Torpedoes and Full Speed Ahead." Let us continue our journey together as members of the greatest veterans' organization in the world, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Loyally,
Stanley J. Martinez
Past Department Commander 2017-2018
Past Member National Legislative Committee 2020-2024
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