

AFBA Board of Director Bios

Chairman/President

Ralph E. "Ed" Eberhart served as Commander, U.S. Northern Command and Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado. He retired from active duty after more than 36 years in the United States Air Force. General Eberhart has been a member of AFBA since 1987 and has served on the Board of Directors since 1997. He served as the Chairman from October 2002 – November 2004. On December 1, 2004, General Eberhart was appointed by the AFBA Board as the President of AFBA. In 2009, he was appointed the Chairman & President of AFBA. General Eberhart also serves as Trustee and Chairman of 5Star Life Insurance Company.

Vice Chairman and Lead Independent Director

John N. Abrams served as the Commanding General of the United States Army's Training and Doctrine Command. He retired from active duty in January 2003 after more than 36 years of service in the United States Army. General Abrams previously served as Commanding General, V Corps, United States Army Europe and Seventh Army, Germany. He graduated from Bowling Green University of Ohio with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and holds a Master of Science in Public Administration from Shippensburg University. General Abrams enlisted in the U.S. Army in February 1966 as a tank crewman. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant upon graduation from Officer Candidate School in 1967. General Abrams has been a member of AFBA since 1975 and currently serves as Vice Chairman/Lead Independent Director of the AFBA Board of Directors, Chairman of the Compensation and Personnel Committee, and a member of the Investment Committee.

Salvatore J. Cassano served as the 32nd Fire Commissioner of the New York City Fire Department (FDNY). He retired in 2014 after more than 44 years in the FDNY, holding every uniformed rank prior to his appointment as the FDNY's Commissioner in 2010. Commissioner Cassano played a crucial role in rebuilding FDNY in the wake of September 11, 2001. Prior to joining the FDNY, Commissioner Cassano served in the U.S. Army from October 1965 through July 1967, to include a combat tour in Vietnam. While a firefighter, he attended John Jay College of Criminal Justice and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Fire Science. He also received an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from St. John's University in May 2013.

Thomas H. Collins is the former Commandant of the United States Coast Guard and is currently a Security, Safety and Environmental Senior Consultant. As Commandant, Admiral Collins developed and led the USCG's increased security posture in the aftermath of the tragic events of 9/11/01 including the transfer of the service to the new Department of Homeland Security. Admiral Collins currently serves on the Boards of four security related corporations and has consulted on maritime related security matters at home and abroad. He has served on the AFBA Board since January 2009 and is currently the Chairman of the Investment Committee and a member of the Audit Committee.

Larry R. Ellis served as Commanding General of the United States Army Forces Command, Fort McPherson, Georgia, before retiring from active duty in 2004. He served over 35 years in the United States Army. General Ellis also served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans, USA, Washington, D.C. He attended Morgan State University earning a Bachelor of Science in 1969 and a Master of Science from Indiana University in 1974. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant through the Reserve Officer Training Corps Program. General Ellis has been a member of AFBA since 1981 and currently serves as an AFBA Board member and is a member of the Compensation & Personnel Committee.

Hal M. Hornburg served as Commander, Air Combat Command, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, and Air Component Commander for U.S. Joint Forces Command and U.S. Northern Command before retiring from active duty in 2005. He served over 36 years in the United States Air Force. Previously General Hornburg was the Commander, Air Education and Training Command, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. He graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from Texas A&M University in 1968 and holds a Master of Science in Human Resource Management from the University of Utah. He was commissioned through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program and entered active duty in 1968. General Hornburg has been a member of AFBA since 2006 and currently serves as an AFBA Board member, Chairman of the Planning & Governance Committee, and member of the Investment Committee.

James L. Jones served as the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe (SACEUR) and the Commander of the United States European Command (COMUSEUCOM) from 2003 to 2006 and 32nd Commandant of the Marine Corps from July 1999 to January 2003. He retired in February 2007 with 40 years of service in the United States Marine Corps. Following his retirement from the military, General Jones became the president of the Institute for 21st Century Energy until January 2009 when President Obama appointed him as the 22nd National Security Advisor. In 2011, he founded the consulting firm Jones Group International and serves as the company's President and CEO. He attended Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, from which he earned a bachelor of science in 1966. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps in January 1967. General Jones has been a member of AFBA since 1983 and is currently a member of the Compensation and Personnel Committee.

Peter Pace retired from active duty in October 2007 after more than 40 years of service in the United States Marine Corps. He served as the sixteenth Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 2005 to 2007. Prior to becoming Chairman, General Pace served as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He holds the distinction of being the first Marine to have served in either of these positions. General Pace graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1967, holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from George Washington University and attended Harvard University Senior Executives in National and International Security program. The General is also a graduate of the Infantry Officers' Advanced Course at Fort Benning, Ga.; the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, in Quantico, VA; and the National War College, at Ft. McNair, Washington, DC. General Pace has been a member of AFBA since 1975 and has served on the Board since April 2009. He is currently a member of the Audit Committee.

Kenneth O. Preston served as the 13th Sergeant Major of the United States Army. He is the longest serving Sergeant Major of the Army with more than seven years in the position. He retired from active duty in 2011 after serving 36 years. Previously, Sergeant Major Preston served as the Command Sergeant Major for Combined Joint Task Force 7 in Baghdad, Iraq. He is a graduate of the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy and earned a master's degree in Business Administration from Trident University International. After retiring from active duty, Sergeant Major Preston served as President of Homes for Our Troops from February 2012 – January 2013. He then joined the AUSA national staff in May 2013 and is currently the Director of NCO and Soldier Programs. He is currently an AFBA Board member, and a member of the Compensation and Personnel Committee, and Planning and Governance Committee.

James A. Roy served as Chief Master Sergeant of the United States Air Force, the 16th Chief Master Sergeant appointed to the highest non-commissioned officer position. He retired from active duty in 2013 after serving more than 30 years. Previously he served as the Command Senior Enlisted Leader for the U. S. Pacific Command. Chief Roy graduated from Park College with a degree in Engineering Management and earned a master's degree in Human Resource Management from Troy State College. After retiring from active duty, Chief Roy joined Scientific Research Corporation, Integrated Systems and Solution Division and is currently the Air Force Senior Program Manager. He is currently an AFBA Board member, and a member of the Planning and Governance Committee.

Roger C. Schultz is the former Director of the Army National Guard and is currently the Vice President of Universal Systems and Technology, Inc. (UNITECH)®. He is also a Senior Executive Associate of the Association of the United States Army and a Senior Fellow of Logistics Health Incorporated. General Schultz also previously served on the 5Star Life Insurance Company Board of Directors (a related enterprise of AFBA). He has served on the AFBA Board since January 2009, and is currently a member of the Investment Committee and Planning & Governance Committee.

Patricia A. Tracey served as the Director, Navy Staff before retiring from active duty in 2005. She served over 35 years in the United States Navy. Admiral Tracey's previous assignments included Chief of Naval Education and Training and Director of Naval Training. She graduated from the College of New Rochelle with a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics and earned a master's degree in Operations Research from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. Admiral Tracey completed Women Officers School and was commissioned as an ensign in 1970. She was the first woman in the U.S. Navy to achieve the rank of Vice Admiral. Admiral Tracey has been a member of AFBA since 2006 and is currently an AFBA Board member and a member of the Audit Committee.

Thomas W. Walsh has over 40 years of auditing and accounting experience. He began his career with PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP in 1970, retiring in 2007. Prior to his retirement in 2007, Mr. Walsh served as the audit engagement partner on numerous SEC registered and private financial services industry clients including insurance companies; commercial and retail bank holding companies; and, securities broker/dealers. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from DePauw University and holds a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Michigan. Mr. Walsh is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Fellow, Life Management Institute (FLMI) and Certified Bank Auditor (CBA). Prior to becoming a Director on the AFBA Board, Mr. Walsh served as a Senior Advisor to the Board from 2010-2015. He is currently an AFBA Board member, Chairman of the Audit Committee and member of the Compensation and Personnel Committee.