

## COMMITTEE MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

### **Charles L. Cragin (Chair)**

Charlie Cragin is a Senior Government Affairs Counselor for Maine Street Solutions, LLC. He provides strategic government and public affairs planning and execution advice to companies operating in the government sectors at the federal and state levels. He has served in several senior capacities in the Department of Defense including Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel & Readiness, Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Personnel & Readiness, Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, and Acting Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Civil Support. In 1990, Mr. Cragin was nominated by President Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate in 1991 as Chairman of the Board of Veterans' Appeals of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Mr. Cragin received a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Maine School of Law in 1970 and practiced law with the Portland, Maine firm of Verrill Dana, LLP until he entered federal service in 1990. Following retirement from federal service in 2001, Mr. Cragin became a partner in the Washington, DC office of Blank Rome, LLP. In 2003 he joined System Planning Corporation (SPC) of Arlington, VA as its Senior Vice President for National Intelligence, Security and Response. He continues to serve as Senior Advisor to the CEO of SPC.

Mr. Cragin enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1961 and served on active duty and in the Navy Reserve until his retirement as a Captain in 1998. His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit and Meritorious Service Medal. He is a Life member of The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, and Veterans of Foreign Wars. In 1982, Mr. Cragin was the Republican nominee for governor of Maine. He served for many years as Chairman of the Budget Committee of the Republican National Committee.

### **Martha Douthit**

Martha's husband Major David A. Douthit served in the enlisted ranks in the Army from 1970 to 1977. In 1977 he received a direct commission to First Lieutenant. Major Douthit was posthumously promoted to Lieutenant Colonel during his service in Gulf War I.

In addition to working full-time, Ms. Douthit has served as a volunteer in various schools, churches, and organizations. Martha Douthit is a member of the Gold Star Wives of America. She participates in the electronic board for Legislative issues on surviving military spouses. Ms. Douthit is a graduate of George Mason University, Institute of Public Policy. Ms. Douthit and her two daughters reside in Ashburn, VA.

### **Henry Falk, M.D., M.P.H.**

Dr. Henry Falk serves as Director, Coordinating Center for Environmental Health and Injury Prevention (CCEHIP), which is one of four Coordinating Centers at Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). CCEHIP includes the National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (NCEH/ATSDR), and the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC). Prior to this, he served as Director for both the National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). Dr. Falk is also a member of the Executive Leadership Board (ELB) of CDC. Dr. Falk arrived at the CDC in 1972 and is a 30-year Veteran of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. This service culminated with his being named Rear Admiral and Assistant U. S. Surgeon General. Dr. Falk earned his medical degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. He received a master's degree from the Harvard School of Public Health, and he is board-certified in pediatrics, and public health and general preventive medicine. During his career, Dr. Falk has been recognized many times. His honors include the Vernon Houk Award for Leadership in Preventing Childhood Lead Poisoning and the Homer C. Calver Award in Environmental Health from the American Public Health Association. He has also received CDC's William C. Watson Jr. Medal of Excellence, as well as the Distinguished Service Award from the U.S. Public Health Service.

### **Mark Garner**

Mark Garner, a manager with Battelle Memorial Institute, supports multiple government departments and agencies in all aspects of Chemical, Biological, and Nuclear Defense and Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction. He joined Battelle after retiring from the U.S. Marine Corps in 1999 as a Chief Warrant Officer-3. As a Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Defense Officer, Mr. Garner participated in Gulf War operations: Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Desert Sting on Maradim Island, Kuwait, Desert Saber Amphibious Feint off Ash Shuaybah, Kuwait, and the EPW Evacuation of Faylaka Island, Kuwait. He also participated in operations Desert Stay, Eager Mace Kuwait, Nautical Mantis, Saudi Arabia, and the U.N. transport of Pakistani Forces to Somalia while on subsequent deployments in the Persian Gulf and North Arabian Sea. Mr. Garner holds a Bachelors of Business Administration and a Masters of Business Administration degree in Finance. He currently resides in Lorton, VA.

### **Lynn Goldman, MD, M.P.H.**

Dr. Lynn Goldman, a pediatrician and an epidemiologist, is a Professor at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, where her areas of focus are environmental health policy, public health practice, and children's environmental health. Her appointment is in the Department of Environmental Health Sciences with a joint appointment in the Department of Health Policy and Management.

In 1993, Dr. Goldman was appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate to serve as Assistant Administrator (AA) for the EPA's Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances (OPPTS). She served in that position for more than five years. As AA for OPPTS she was responsible for the nation's pesticide, toxic substances and pollution prevention laws. Under her watch, EPA expanded right-to-know under the Toxics Release Inventory and overhauled the nation's pesticides laws. At EPA Dr. Goldman was successful in promoting children's health issues and furthering the international agenda for global chemical safety.

Prior to joining the EPA, Dr. Goldman served in several positions at the California Department of Health Services, most recently as head of the Division of Environmental and Occupational Disease Control. She has conducted public health investigations on pesticides, childhood lead poisoning and other environmental hazards. She has a B.S. in Conservation of Natural Resources from the University of California, Berkeley, an MPH from the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health, and an M.D. from the University of California, San Francisco. She completed pediatric training at Children's Hospital, Oakland, California.

Dr. Goldman has served on numerous boards and expert committees, including the Committee on Environmental Health of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control Lead Poisoning Prevention Advisory Committee, and numerous expert committees for the National Research Council including IOM committees related to the Gulf War and Health. She currently is Vice Chair of the Institute of Medicine Roundtable on Environmental Health Sciences.

### **John Hart, Jr., M.D.**

Dr. Hart is the Medical Science Director at the Center for Brain Health at The University of Texas at Dallas. He also holds the Jane and Bud Smith Distinguished Chair for the Medical Science Director, the Cecil Green Chair in Systems Biology, and is a Professor of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, all at the University of Texas at Dallas. Dr. Hart also holds a joint appointment as Professor of Neurology and Psychiatry at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. He is one of the world's foremost experts in semantic memory. Dr. Hart has held several impressive faculty and staff positions, which include serving as Deputy Director of the Division of Cognitive Neurology and Neuropsychology in the Department of Neurology at The Johns Hopkins University, as well as Assistant Professor in the Depts. of Neurology and Cognitive Science at The Johns Hopkins University. At the University of Arkansas for the Medical Sciences (UAMS), Dr. Hart served as an Associate Professor in the Departments of Geriatrics, Neurology, and Radiology, as well as the Director of the Laboratory of Cognition and Brain Imaging, at the Donald W. Reynolds Center on Aging at UAMS. In addition, Dr. Hart served as Associate Director of Clinical Programs and Evaluations at the Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center (GRECC) of the Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System (CAVHS); Director of the Geriatric Memory Disorders Clinic at the CAVHS, and as a Staff Physician there as well. He is past President of the Society for Behavioral and Cognitive Neurology and of the section of Behavioral Neurology in the American Academy of Neurology. He has served on many committees related to behavioral neurology and conducted significant research on Gulf War Illnesses.

## **William R. (Rusty) Jones**

Colonel Wm. R. “Rusty” Jones, US Marine Corps (Retired), served on active duty from 1969 to 1998. His operational experience is primarily in tactical aviation including two combat tours, one in AH-1J Sea Cobras in Vietnam and another in AV-8B Harrier IIs during Desert Storm. He was the Commanding Officer of Marine Attack Squadron 231 (VMA-231) during Operation Desert Storm and later served as Commanding Officer, Marine Air Group 32 (MAG-32). His staff tours included Headquarters, US Marine Corps (HQMC), the Navy Staff (OPNAV) and the Joint Staff (J-8). He served as member of the 1994 Honor Review Board at the US Naval Academy. He is a graduate of the US Naval Academy, the University of Southern California, the College of Naval Command and Staff, the National War College as well as a fellow in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Seminar XXI program. Colonel Jones is a resident of South Riding, VA.

Colonel Jones was a Senior Associate at SYColeman Corp. where he worked on various Marine Corps Aviation and Army projects from 1998 until 2006. He has served as a Proxy Holder/Board Member at GKN Structures in Cromwell, CT since 2003. He served as an Outside Director at Aerospace Filtration Systems in St Charles, MO. He has worked as a volunteer counselor and later Board Member and Trustee with Missouri Boys State for over forty years.

## **Kirt Love**

Kirt Love is currently Director of the Desert Storm Battle Registry. The DSBR was formed to accumulate data concerning the War and post effects.

Mr. Love served as a Power Generation Equipment Specialist with the Army’s 141st Signal Battalion, 1st Armored Division during Desert Shield and Desert Storm. He was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for his performance. Post deployment illness kept him from returning to his pre-military occupation of commercial sign illustrator, and muralist. Mr. Love re-trained in the electronic information processing field, to include electronic document research, transmission, and electronic security.

Mr. Love keeps an ongoing Registry of over 1,000 Veterans he has met. He has personally interacted with over 3,900 in the last 4 years. Mr. Love has attended meetings with the IOM, Independent Gulf War Illnesses Conferences, Pentagon Conference with Gulf War Investigative Offices, OSAGWI Town Hall Meetings, Presidential Special Oversight, and CDC Chemical/Biological Conference, etc.

## **Daniel Ortiz**

Daniel Ortiz enlisted in the U. S. Army in May 1990 as an Infantry soldier. He participated in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm while serving with 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. After his honorable discharge in 1993, he immediately joined such organizations as the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and others. Daniel is a disabled combat Veteran and has served as the VFW Service Director for California where he was accredited to present claims before the Department of Veterans Affairs and has done so for the past 10 years. His area of expertise was in disability compensation for Veterans. Mr. Ortiz is active in his community and continues to be an advocate for Veterans and their families. He resides in East Los Angeles, California.

## **Daniel Pinedo**

Daniel Pinedo began his Marine Corps career as a Private in March 1974 and is currently still on active duty as a Colonel serving as the I Marine Expeditionary Force Comptroller. After nearly 10 years as an enlisted Marine, he was commissioned in Dec 1983 as an infantry officer. During 12 years as an infantry officer, he served as a platoon commander, executive officer, and company commander. During this same time period, he served nearly 4 years as an aircrew man in the OV-10 Bronco, Cobra, and Huey that included combat operations during Desert Shield/Storm. Non flying duties included working in the operations department and squadron intelligence officer. Flying duties included aerial reconnaissance, radio relay, airborne forward air controller, airborne tactical air controller and supporting arms controller for airborne artillery and naval gunfire spotting. He flew a total of 27 combat missions over Saudi Arabia and Kuwait through and around burning oil field fires in support of ground forces. Subsequent infantry duties included combat operations as a company commander and MEU fire support coordinator in Mogadishu Somalia in support of the withdrawal of remaining UN multinational personnel at the conclusion of that Operation.

In 1995, he switched career paths and has served as a financial management officer managing Navy and Marine Corps operational budgets exceeding \$975 million. In 2001, he served as the commanding officer of a Marine Security Force Company on a submarine base responsible for the security of more than half of the nation's SSBN Trident nuclear weapons. He subsequently deployed to Iraq in 2004 and was instrumental in the initial build up of the infrastructure at Al Asad Air Base. He has deployed six times to various countries throughout the world. He will retire in October 2009 after more than 35 years in the Marine Corps. Daniel Pinedo resides in Oceanside, CA.

## **Thomas Plewes**

Lieutenant General (Retired) Thomas J. Plewes served as Chief, Army Reserve, and Commanding General, U.S. Army Reserve Command until his retirement on May 25, 2002. Prior to assuming this position in May 1998, he served as Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army Reserve Command. He became the first three-star Chief, Army Reserve, in the history of the Army Reserve on June 13, 2001.

In his civilian capacity, Lieutenant General (Retired) Plewes serves as a program director for the National Academy of Sciences. LTG Plewes has been Vice President of Logistics Management Resources, Inc., a supplier of logistics automation services to the Federal government, and the Associate Commissioner of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, where he had responsibility for the Nation's labor force information. He graduated from Hope College, Holland, Michigan, with a Bachelors Degree in Economics, and received a Masters Degree in Economics from the George Washington University. He is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association.

He was a member of the congressionally chartered Reserve Forces Policy Board, and is a past president of the Senior Army Reserve Commanders Association. He is currently an active member of the Reserve Officers Association and the Association of the United States Army, where he serves as a Senior Fellow in the Institute of Land Warfare. Lieutenant General (Retired) Plewes resides in Annandale, VA.

## **Valerie Randall**

Valerie Randall is a human resources specialist for the Department of Homeland Security with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection. She specializes in program management for managers and senior executives to a workforce of nearly 60,000 strong.

Valerie Randall served in the U.S. Army from 1986 to 2006 and retired as a Sergeant First Class. Her military occupational specialty was Petroleum Supply Specialist. During her career, she served on a full range of staffs, from the company level to the installation level. In addition to serving in Desert Shield and Desert Storm, she had several other deployment locations to include Bosnia and Albania. Ms. Randall has a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management, Masters in Human Resource Management, and is currently pursuing her PhD in Applied Management and Decision Sciences. She resides in Savage, MD.

## **Edward R. Reese**

Edward R. Reese, a disabled combat Veteran of the Persian Gulf War, was appointed National Service Director for the 1.3 million-member Disabled American Veterans (DAV) in June 2002. Mr. Reese works at DAV National Service and Legislative Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Mr. Reese enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1984, and was an Airborne Infantry Rifle Squad Leader in the 82nd Airborne Division during the Persian Gulf War. Following the war, he served as an elite "Black-Hat" instructor in the Air Movement Operations Course and Jump Master Course at Fort Bragg, N.C. Mr. Reese attended Fayetteville Technical Community College and Kaplan College for Professional Studies earning his Paralegal Degree. He resides in Stafford, VA.

## **Steve Robertson**

Steve Robertson served in the DC National Guard when his unit was activated for service in Operation Desert Shield/Storm in late 1990. He is Legislative Director of the American Legion and has served in several legislative positions for that organization since 1988. Since his return from the theater of operations in 1991, he has been deeply involved in Congressional deliberations on numerous legislative measures affecting Gulf War Veterans. Like many Veterans of that era, Mr. Robertson has experienced several unexplained illnesses. His active military service also includes more than ten years in the Air Force in the 1970s and 1980s. Mr. Robertson is a resident of Fredericksburg, VA.