

PREGISTER Winter 2012

Driver's License Legislation Passed in Puerto Rico

Puerto Rican Driver's License Legislation (DLL) was signed by Governor Luis G. Fortuño on December 12, 2011. Puerto Rico was the last of Region II's 15 States and U.S. Territories to implement Driver's License Legislation.

Senator Lucy Arce introduced this legislation, P S2136, in the Puerto Rico's Senate in May, 2011; it was assigned to the Urbanism and Infrastructure Commission Committee. A hearing was scheduled, in which supporters of this legislation spoke about the importance of DLL. State Director Walter Perales Reves, Detachment Commander LTC Mario Morales, as well as other supporters, were instrumental in this effort. The Urbanism and Infrastructure Commission Committee approved the legislation and sent it to the Senate floor to be voted upon. Once approved by a vote of 19-05 the legislation was sent to Puerto Rico's House of Representatives. From there it was assigned to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. The legislation was approved by a vote of 45-05 and sent back to the Senate with revisions and amendments. The Senate approved the changes, and it was signed by the President of the Senate and the President of the House. Finally, the legislation was then sent to the Governor for signature.



Left to Right: Col. Walter Perales, Luis G. Fortuño, Lucy Arce

Director Romo and Region Director Scragg would like to give special thanks to State Director Walter Perales Reyes for his time, effort and hard work in this matter. Though the time-line for the passage of this legislation may seem short, State Director Perales Reyes has been working on this effort for many years. His perseverance in the passage of this legislation is to be commended.

This important law gives young men the opportunity to take advantage of federal benefits that are available for job training and financial aid for education. Region II is looking forward to the improvement of Puerto Rico's registration compliance rates from DLL in the near future.



Left to Right: Sen. Lucy Arce, Major General Antonio J. Vicens, Hon. Luis Fortuño, Kenneth McClintock

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Agency Receives Prestigious Media Placement Award

Selective Service System was awarded North American Precis Syndicate's (NAPS) "Extraordinary Achievement Award for Media Relations" for our record number of radio news placements.

NAPS is a premier news service and distributes Selective Service materials to 10,000 daily and weekly newspapers. 1000 TV stations, and more than 6,500 radio "news" departments. Additional TV, Newspaper and Radio "news" products will be distributed bimonthly in 2012.

To view a sampling of these ads, please see the link below:

http://media.sss.gov/media/Print.aspx http://media.sss.gov/media/Radio.aspx http://media.sss.gov/media/TV.aspx

Selective Service: What You Need To Know (NAPSA)—Getting the facts ay help young men understand hy it is so important that they gister with Selective Service retem

<text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text> young man takes the cath that U.S. citizan.
 You will not qualify for feddraft loans or grant programs, including Pell Grants, Cat. Stand WFN-Stark, U.S. Cath Stand WFN-Stark, U.S. Cath Stark, W.S. Stark, W.S.



Registering Made Easy

(NAPS)-For an increasing number of American men, technology is putting something they all have to do at their fingertips.

It's now possible to register with the Selective Service System online with a smartphone or computer. Young men are required by law to register with the Selective Service System within 30 days of turning 18. They can submit their names as early as age 17 years and 3 months. By doing so they will be registered automatically on their 18th birthday. It's easy to



Registering for Selective Service and the education and employment benefits it brings is much easier for young men now than in the past.

do in only a minute or so by logging on to www.sss.gov and clicking on the registration icon.

If you prefer, you can visit any U.S. Postal Service branch to get a Selective Service "mail-back" registration form. In addition, most high schools have a Selective Service Registrar.

Men must register to remain eligible for Pell Grants, College Work-Study and Guaranteed Student/PLUS Loans, federal job training via the Workforce Investment Act, and federal jobs.

For more information or to register, visit www.sss.gov or call (888) 655-1825.



immigration status. Immigrant men are required to register no matter their status.
3) Failing to register makes a person ineligible for: a) federal student loans, b) citizenship, c) student loans, b) citizenship, c) federal job training programs or d) all of the above. Answer: d) All of the above. In some states, failing to register can also make a person ineligible for a driver's license. To learn more

also make a person ineligible for a driver's license. To learn more, visit www.sss.gov or call (888) 655-1825.

Registration forms are avail-able at your local post office and online at www.sss.gov.



Donated Air Time Worth \$5,000,000

Selective Service System Public and Intergovernmental Affairs staff has created radio Public Service Announcements (PSAs) to remind young men and their influencers that men ages 18-25 must register with Selective Service. The PSAs are an integral part of the agency's 2012 media mix. The "What Young Men Need to Hear When They Turn 18" CD package has fourteen PSAs and several "announcer" read spots, some of which are translated into Spanish.

There are different styles of PSAs and varied lengths (15, 30, 60 second versions) in the CD package produced for different station audiences - contemporary, rock, news/talk, country and western, etc. They have to appeal to a particular station's style format and listener preference or they'll never be selected for air time.



Prior to the radio announcements being produced, PIA conducted focus group testing on the radio scripts inviting feedback and comments from a representation of our target audience. Participants in the focus groups were 18 and 19 year old young men from different states. Ultimately, the final PSA selections represent their best choices.

The radio PSAs package was sent to 5,000 stations and this summer they will be distributed to another 7,000 stations. Almost every radio station in the U.S. will receive the PSAs.

Historically, the PSAs average over five million dollars (\$5,000,000) worth of donated air time annually with almost 100,000 announcement airings.

If you would like a copy of the radio package or know someone who might be interested in playing our materials, please contact us at: Information@sss.gov.

For a behind the scenes look at how a PSA is made, click the link below to view and if you know someone in the media, download and pass it on!

http://media.sss.gov/media/radio.aspx

Behind the scenes of the making of a PSA.



Albert Gonzales Appointed to National Appeal Board

President Barack Obama appointed Mr. Albert Gonzales to the Selective Service National Appeal Board on November 28, 2011. Mr. Gonzales is the National Commander of the American GI Forum (AGIF), the largest federally chartered Hispanic Veterans organization in the United States with chapters in 40 states and Puerto Rico. Prior to being elected as AGIF National Commander, he served the organization in many capacities from local, state, and national elected positions. Mr. Gonzales is active in community service. He is the coordinator of the food pantry at his church and a member of the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Gonzales serves on several boards, including the Pikes Peak Educational Foundation, the Westside CARES board, Habitat for Humanity, and the Black/Latino Forum. Additionally, as the AGIF National Commander he serves on the Board of Directors for the Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility.

Mr. Gonzales believes that knowledge is power. In an editorial for the Winter 2012 issue of Latino Magazine, he explains that "For young Latino men especially, knowledge of the Federal requirement to register with Selective Service is the power to realize dreams and goals of success." He stresses that young men may be eligible for student loans, federal jobs, and citizenship when they fulfill their legal obligation to register. Mr. Gonzales said "Registration with Selective Service is the door to full participation in the greatest nation on earth."



By Albert Gonzales

Knowledge is power. For young Latino men especially, knowledge for the Federal requirement to register with Selective Service is the power to realize dreams and goals of success.

On the other hand, lack of knowledge can cripple a young man. He should know, for example, that many important benefits and privileges are conditioned to registering with Selective Service. They include student loans, federal jobs, and citizenship. I think there are three



reasons too many young Latino men are losing those benefits and privileges.

The first reason, as I said, is not knowing about the requirement. The second reason is knowing about the requirement but not understanding it. It's the unfounded fear that registration will lead to military service or deportation. The third reason is the prospect of taking one's claim for deferment or exemption before an all-Anglo draft board. That shouldn't make a difference. but in the

real world perceptions are important.

I appreciate this chance to set the record straight. We recently celebrated Columbus Day, an annual reminder of the Hispanic discovery of this continent. Since then, Hispanic men and women have enriched the cultural heritage of this nation and served with honor and distinction in the Armed Forces. As the National Commander of the American GI Forum, I have good reason to know how bravely and faithfully Hispanic veterans have served this nation. The young Latino man has every reason to love his country. Registration with Selective Service is another way to show it. It's the last link between the Armed Forces and the society they protect.

Three of the last four directors of Selective Service, including my good friend and the current incumbent, Lawrence G. Romo, are Hispanic. That will tell readers of this magazine how important Latino outreach is to Selective Service.

But first, the young Latino man needs to know that if he is living in this country he has to register, citizen or not. He needs to know that he should register within 30 days of his 18th birthday, and certainly before his 26th birthday, after which it's too late.

High school is where most young men find out about the

registration requirement. But what if the Latino immigrant went to high school in his original country and came here at the age of 20? How else would he learn about the law? It isn't exactly a common topic of talk on the streeet. And even if it were, what if his English skills were still poor? He probably wouldn't understand Selective Service posters if he saw them, or understand Selective Service radio spots if he heard them.

And then there are several fatal misperceptions. Registration does not mean military service. Military service in the United States has been 100 percent voluntary since 1973. Registration provides a data base of names in case of a future dire emergency. It's an insurance policy against being caught unprepared for a crisis. Nothing more, nothing less.

Worse yet is the fear that registration will attract the attention of the U.S Department of Citizenship and Inmigration Services (USCIS, formerly INS), and open the door to deportation. A common reaction is to keep a low profile and register for nothing. Selective Service does not share its data with immigration officials. In fact, it couldn't even if it wanted to. Registration requires the basic information. Name, date of birth, current address. It's even possible to register without a Social Security Number, although the registrant should add that to his file once he receives it. There is nothing on any Selective Service form which identifies the registrant's residency staus.

Selective Service concentrates on its mission to prepare for a future draft, however unlikely that possibility is today. Having learned its lessons from the Vietnam War era, it knows that if Congress ever authorizes a draft in the future, it will have to be a fair and equitable draft, and to be perceived as such by the general population. That's especially true for the Latino population, which is now the most important minority in the U.S. Part of that fairness and equity would deal with tightening deferments and making every young man equally at risk of induction.

Who would decide who gets deferments and exemptions? Local boards. The claimant for a deferment or exemption would have no confidence in the process unless he felt his case were decided by his neighbors and peers. That's why the local boards of Selective Service reflect the communities they serve. Common sense and fairness dictate that local boards in, say, San Antonio, El Paso, or Miami should be proportionately Latino. And yes, women bring their own fresh and unique perspective. There's a role for women on local boards, too. I write to appeal to influential Latinos everywhere. Find out if there is a vacancy on your local board. Apply yourself, and ask civicminded friends to apply. You'll find the information link (http:// www.sss.gov/BM.htm) on the Selective Service web site.

Registration is quick, it's easy, and it's the law. It's such a small step. Keys and keyholes are small, too, but they unlock doors. Registration with Selective Service is the door to full participation in the greatest nation on earth.

Albert Gonzales is the National Commander of the American GI Forum.

Recruiting Board Members

It's easier than ever to recruit Board Members with the new DVD video. "People Like Me". Just gather some of your friends at church, a club meeting, a work luncheon, or a speaker's bureau program, and drop the DVD into the machine. By the end of the DVD, your audience will have a much better idea of who a board member is. what they do, and how to join. The Public & Intergovernmental Affairs Directorate (PIA) knows lot of credible selling is required on your part, but PIA hopes these materials help your recruiting efforts.

"People Like Me," features a mix

of real Board Members who provide their thoughts and emphatic support for the program. Rather than scripts, 27 Board Members from the District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia speak their own words. "That's what makes it so credible," comments Selective Service System Director Lawrence Romo.

The "high definition" video is designed in three formats:

- 2 minute version, for kiosk, TV and other visual advertising opportunities
- 10 minute version for speaker opportunities
- 35 minute continuous loop version for exhibits (included in the package is a SSS high school video)

Tune in and listen to comments about the important role, the service opportunities, and the specialized training of a Board Member. You can find the videos on SSS web site, www.sss.gov . Go to the Board Member Info tab on the left side of the web page or http://media.sss.gov/media/Video.aspx

Copies will become available in the next few months from either your supporting Region headquarters or by sending a request to information@sss.gov at National headquarters. Board Member Recruiting Video Cover

Board members featured in the video:



Board Member Information

Bob Delosso



Cynthia Leon



Paul Gilmer

Board members featured in the video (Continued)







Charles Mapp





Judy Travis



Roberto Martinez



Nicholas Huynh









Glenna Taylor







Mike Rush





Linda Watts



Stuart Eisenberg



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Board members featured in the video (Continued)



Gilbert Noriega



Harry Shovelin



Nancy Hazzard



Issiar Santa-Torres





Pat Rhodes





Alfonso Garcia



Jewel Davis



James DiDonato staffing the SSS booth at the ROA Conference

National Headquarters Exceeds Combined Federal Campaign Goal

The Selective Service System employees showed their compassion and generosity towards others by exceeding our goal for the 2011 Combined Federal Campaign National Capitol Area by 6.3%. Agency contributions totaled \$11,163.00 with 68% of employees participating. Special thanks to Ms. Evelyn Eriksen for the outstanding job she did as SSS CFC Chairman, and to all those employees who made a contribution.



Colorado State Director Presented Award

On Saturday, December 10, 2011, the Region III Headquarters, represented by Mr. Robert Vaccarella, presented COL (R) Paul S. Baldwin with the Selective Service System Distinguished Service Award with Gold Medal, commemorating nearly 28 years of service as the Colorado State Director. A farewell in his honor took place in the home of former Region III Director, Col (Retired) Debby N. Bielanski. We thank COL(R) Baldwin for his many years of service and wish him well in the future.



COL (R) Baldwin and Robert Vaccarella, Region III



(Left to Right) COL (R) Sam Thiessen, Former Region III Director; MAJ Alan Smith, Colorado Reserve Force Officer; COL (R) Gary Bress, COL (R) Baldwin's replacement; Mr. Brian McCormick, Former Colorado Reserve Force Officer; LTC Michael Goldsborough CO3 Detachment Commander; COL(R) Paul Baldwin; Col (Retired) Debby Bielanski, Former Region III Director ; CDR Rick Gerkin, CO3-7 Detachment Commander; CPT Adam Morgan, Former Colorado Reserve Force Officer; MAJ (R) Richard Hume, Former CO3-7 Detachment Commander; Maj Lisa Seltman, Former Colorado Reserve Force Officer (RFO)

Stockings For Soldiers

Delaware Local Board member Mrs. Judy Travis' son, Scott, a 2001 graduate of West Point, was deployed to Iraq in 2003 - 2004. After his safe return, Mrs. Travis realized that other parents needed to know that their children were not forgotten by the American people, so she started a small neighborhood project, "Stockings for Soldiers" to send our troops some smiles, hugs and goodies for the Christmas holiday. What started as a small endeavor, with a handful of volunteers, soon grew with the help of hundreds of volunteers and has become an annual holiday event in Delaware.

This past holiday season, over 500 volunteers sent 1,500 boxes packed with 10,140 homemade, personalized Christmas Stockings that were filled with over 45,000 pounds of Christmas goodies. Volunteers also made 2,500 polar fleece blankets and

over 1,000 knitted hats for our brave and courageous troops. Included in these figures were several special boxes of stockings for 70 children. These stockings were delivered by a U.S. military chaplain to the children of Afghanistan as a gift from the children of America. In addition, several big boxes of dog biscuits were sent for a K 9 unit. Additionally, over 10,000 personal greeting cards and several hundred letters of appreciation from children from many, many schools were mailed to our deployed troops.

This amazing local initiative, humanitarian rather than political or religious, would not have been possible had it not been for the charitable actions of volunteers from all over America. Our sincere thanks to Mrs. Travis and all of the wonderful volunteers who made a difference in the lives of our troops.

If you would like to learn more about Stockings for Soldiers, please contact the charity by phone: (302) 475-2526 or online at: www.stockingsforsoldiers.org



Troops enjoying their stockings



Judy Travis & Delaware Governor Markell



Goodies donated for the stockings

CW5 Mark Kelsey and the Snowball Express

CW5 Mark Kelsey, Texas State Resource Volunteer and former Region II RFO, served on the Board of Directors as the Volunteer Coordinator for this year's Snowball Express, an organization that helps "create hope and new memories for the children between the ages of 5 and 18 of fallen military heroes who have died while serving our country since 911". This year approximately 1,400 volunteers participated in the event. When asked about scheduled activities, CW5 Kelsey stated "On our last night after the Terry Fator concert, we all assembled in front of the Winspear Opera House and we had fireworks. Then Santa rappelled down the front of an 11-story office building. Then Rocketman, dressed as Santa, flew all round the square to the delight of all who witnessed these three almost magical events. What a night!"

For more information on the Snowball Express, you may visit their website at <u>www.snowballexpress.org</u>.



CW5 Mark Kelsey pictured with the Snowball Express Christmas Tree Winner of the Old Red Museum Contest

92nd Annual Veterans Day Parade

CPT Jose Espinoza and California State Director Major General Ronald Markarian (Ret) participated in the 92nd Annual Veterans Day Parade, held in Fresno, California on November 11, 2011. General Markarian served as the Parade Marshall for the event. He had the car banners made especially for the occasion to advertise the agency. There were an estimated 35,000 people lining the streets of downtown Fresno to see the parade.



CPT Espinoza of Detachment 3CA with his daughter Carolina (in the back seat)

Like Father Like Son

Being a SSS Board Member is a family affair for the Lanzaras of New Hampshire! Mr. Thomas Lanzara was appointed to Local Board 6 soon after his father, Dr. Ron Lanzara, retired from the Board after 20 years of service. Both father and son share a sense of patriotism and civic duty.

Thomas Lanzara, a former eagle scout, is a graduate of the University of New Haven in Connecticut where he majored in Fire Science and earned a Bachelor's degree in Arson Investigation, a Bachelor's degree in Fire Administration, a Fire and Occupational Safety Associate's degree and an OSHA Associate's



Thomas Lanzara and his father, Ron Lanzara

degree. He joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary and was a student government representative during college. After graduation, Mr. Lanzara worked with the Concord, NH, Fire Department before becoming a Nashua Firefighter/ EMT. He is now in his 12th year with the Hollis, NH, Fire Department Call Force. While he is studying to become a Fire Lieutenant he is also preparing to become a New Hampshire Fire Academy Instructor. He is married and has a four-year-old son and a one-year-old daughter.

Former Board Chairman Dr. Lanzara has three daughters and four sons. He served as an active chiropractor in Nashua for 43 years. Over the years, he has served on the New Hampshire Board of Chiropractic Examiners, as President of the New Hampshire Chiropractic Society, as a member of the Board of Trustees of Sherman Chiropractic College and the New Hampshire Multiple Sclerosis Society. Dr. Lanzara was the recipient of the Business Excellence Award in Health Care by the New Hampshire Business Review magazine in 2008.

They are proud to have served our nation and the Selective Service System.



Wreath Laying Ceremony

Ms. Gloria Chavez-Sampson, SSS Board Member, Valencia County District III and her granddaughter Savannah Sampson, visited the Santa Fe National Cemetery during the "Wreaths Across America" wreath laying ceremony honoring our fallen heroes on December 10, 2011.

Lee Holton Retires



Lee Holton

Τ Senior Region Headquarters State Board Programs Manager Mrs. Lee retired Holton on December 31, 2011, with 30 years Federal Civil Service. She began her career in November of 1981 at the Naval Regional Medical Center Great Lakes. in Illinois and in 1983 transferred to the Air Force Engineering Office at North American/Rockwell International in

Columbus, Ohio. In 1986, Lee moved on to the Navy Finance Center in Cleveland and was promoted to a Management Analyst position in 1989. In 1996 she transferred back to the Navy at Great Lakes and in 1998 joined the Region I Headquarters staff as a Program Assistant. She was promoted to a Program Analyst in 2000 and was selected for promotion to the Board Program Manager's position in 2003. In this position Lee was responsible for the Board Program Management and Registration Improvement activities for half of the states in the Region. She was a major player in the New Officer Training programs and the Region's visitor briefings. One of her biggest contributions was her expertise with computer systems that she willingly shared with the staff, the State Directors and RFOs. She was a friend and valued resource to the entire Region and will be terribly missed. We wish her health and happiness in all of her future endeavors.

Mary Neely Retires

Veteran Region I Headquarters State Programs Manager Mary M. B. Neely retired on December 3, 2011 after 30 years with the Selective Service System. Mary began her career in the Data Management Center in November of 1981 and held a number of positions of increasing complexity for the next eight years before joining the Region I Team in December, 1989. As a Senior Program Analyst serving as a State Programs Manager, she managed the board and registration improvement programs for half of the Region I states and performed other operations work in training, mobilization readiness, relocation site management, public affairs, and general analysis. She has a long list of school and course certificates and has stayed very busy in local volunteer work with civic, police, symphony, art, and theater organizations. Mary was a giant in the Region I world and left many contributions that will live on for years to come. She will be greatly missed.



Mary Neely with her significant other, Joe Cropin

Board Member Henry P. Van De Putte Retires

Mr. Henry P. Van De Putte, Jr., a resident of San Antonio, Texas, recently retired as a Local Board Member with the Selective Service System. In a ceremony at the American Legion Post #2, Mr. Van De Putte was recognized for his dedicated service and was presented a "20 Years of Service" medal, a Retirement Certificate and a Letter of Appreciation from Director Romo. Mr. Van De Putte has served his community since 1950 and has been involved in many organizations, some of which are the Boy Scouts of America, the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, and the San Antonio Rotary Club. He continues to serve as a member of the National Independent Flag Dealers Association and many other organizations within his community. We are very proud that Mr. Van De Putte has agreed to serve as a Region II State Resource Volunteer.



Mr. Henry P. Van De Putte, Jr.

Region II Officer of the Year Retires

CWO3 Anthony Atwood, USNR, retired on February 1, 2012 after 30 years of distinguished service in the United States Navy. Warrant Officer Atwood was assigned as a Reserve Forces Officer (RFO) to Selective Service System Detachment 2-6, Miami, FL from September 15, 2005 to January 31, 2012. He was instrumental in the recruiting and training of new board members in the South Florida area. As a result of his exceptional performance, he was named as the Selective Service System Region II Officer of the Year (Junior Grade) for 2011. In his civilian career, Warrant Officer Atwood is a renowned military historian at Florida International University. We thank you for your service and wish you 'Fair Winds and Following Seas' in your retirement!



CWO3 Anthony Atwood

Stilke and Grinton Selected to Fill Region I Vacancies

Mrs. Margaret "Midge" Stilke was selected to fill the Program Analyst, Board Program Manager vacancy created when Mrs. Mary Neely retired recently. Midge came to the Region I Headquarters in 2001 and served as a Program Assistant before assuming her current job as Program Analyst, Assistant Board Program Manager in 2009. She and her husband Glenn live in Lake Villa, IL with their three children.

Mr. Rob Grinton was selected to fill the Program Analyst, Board Program Manager vacancy created when Mrs. Lee Holton retired recently. Rob first joined the Agency in 1999 as the Data Management Center and came to the Region I Headquarters in 2001 as it's Management Services Assistant. Rob makes his home in Gurnee, IL with his wife Dianne and their three children.

Congratulations Midge and Rob! We know you will work well together in managing the Region's Board Programs.



Margaret "Midge" Stilke and Rob Grinton

Contributors

Mary Berglund Gloria Chavez-Sampson Sabrina Cunningham James DiDonato Rob Grinton CW5 Mark Kelsey Carol Mills Mary Neely Walter Perales Reves Jose Rivera **CAPT** Thomas Ryer Keith Scragg Margaret Stilke Rene Thompson Judy Travis **Robert Vaccarella** Tom White



Email Articles and photos to BettyLou.Wingo@sss.gov

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