



The REGISTER

Selective Service System

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Summer 2004

Jack Martin Appointed Selective Service System's Acting Director

On April 29, 2004, President Bush appointed Jack Martin as the Selective Service System's new Acting Director. Martin, Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the Department of Education (DoE), will be performing his SSS assignment on an "additional duty" basis, while continuing his primary responsibilities with Education. His appointment was necessitated by the retirement of Lew Brodsky in early May.

Jack Martin was sworn in as Chief Financial Officer of the U.S. Department of Education on Feb. 20, 2002. In this post, he advises the secretary on financial management, internal control and audit resolution, financial systems, contracts and procurement, and grants policy issues. He was formally nominated as Chief Financial Officer on Nov. 5, 2001, and confirmed by the Senate on Jan. 25, 2002.

Previously, Martin was managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Jack Martin & Co. P.C., Certified Public Accountants, and Chairman and Acting Chief Executive Officer of Home Federal Savings Bank of Detroit. From 1991-1994, he left the private sector to accept an appointment as Chairman of the Provider Reimbursement Review Board, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Prior to founding Jack Martin & Co., he began his career at General Motors Corporation in Detroit. After leaving General Motors, he joined Control Data where he held a number of management positions in the U.S. and Canada, including Manager of Product Planning in the Advanced Products Development Division, Controller of the Canadian Development Division, and Operations Controller for the company's Canadian

(continued on page 6)



Acting Director, Jack Martin

In This Issue:

Lewis Brodsky Retires Pg. 2

New Employee Pg. 3

Happy Retirement To... Pg. 4

Former Chief Counsel Dies Pg. 5

Lewis Brodsky Retires

On April 30, 2004, the Selective Service System said farewell to its Acting Director, Lewis Brodsky, after 18 years of service to the Agency.

Brodsky joined the Agency in 1986 as the Director of Public and Congressional Affairs. He joined the ranks of the Senior Executive Service in 1995 and in 2002 he was named SSS Deputy Director. Brodsky assumed the duties of Acting Director in 2003 when the Agency's Director, Alfred Rascon, resigned.

While with the SSS, Brodsky earned special standing in the Agency's long and eventful history by conceiving, planning, and implementing the first-ever self-diagnosis of all SSS programs and activities. This project, requiring over one year of constant dedication and necessitating extraordinary marketing and interpersonal skills, is charting the Agency's direction into the 21st century.

Brodsky also demonstrated his leadership by providing the Congress with compelling rationale that argued for Agency survival during federal downsizing and severe budget reductions. Further, by

working personally and diligently with top officials throughout the Executive branch, Brodsky ensured that the SSS remained in business to serve America.

For his many achievements with the Agency, Brodsky was awarded the SSS Distinguished Service Award with Gold Medal.

Before his distinguished career with the Selective Service System, Brodsky served as the Chief of Public Affairs for the U. S. Army Reserve, a civilian position at the Pentagon, which he occupied for more than six years. While in this position, he supervised the planning and execution of the Army Reserve's National Awareness Publicity Program, which included radio and TV materials, films, speakers' kits, publicity packages, exhibits, and media tours aimed at enhancing awareness and understanding of the Army Reserve. He was the editor-in-chief of Army Reserve Magazine, at that time the most widely distributed official military publication in the U.S. His work for the Army earned him two "Silver Anvil" trophies from the Public Relations Society of America.

Brodsky is a long-time member of the National Association of Government Communicators, having served as its coordinator for the prestigious "Gold Screen Awards Competition" in 1987 and 1988, vice president for administration in 1989, and national president in 1990.

Earlier in his 30-year Federal career, Brodsky was the Information Director for three U.S. Department of Agriculture agencies: Agricultural Marketing Service, Federal Grain Inspection Service, and Office of Transportation.

Additionally, he served as an Army Reserve officer concurrent with his Federal civilian career. He practiced military journalism and media relations in several Reserve units, at the Pentagon, and on tours of duty throughout the U.S., the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, and South Korea. He retired from the Army Reserve in 1996 as a lieutenant colonel, after 28 years of service in uniform.

Before moving to the Washington area in 1972, Brodsky, who is a native New Yorker, was a faculty member of the Television Center, Brooklyn College, City University of New York, where he hosted, produced, and directed several documentary programs on public television stations. He



Lewis C. Brodsky

spent two seasons as a production and editorial assistant with ABC-TV Network News in New York, contributing to national television coverage of the 1967 Six-day Arab-Israeli War, Gemini Space Flights 10 and 11, and the summit conference between President Johnson and Soviet Premier Kosygin in Glassboro, New Jersey.

Brodsky is a 1968 speech arts graduate of Hofstra University, Hempstead, New York. He earned a Master of Science degree in broadcasting from City University of

New York in 1970. He is a 1983 graduate of the Army's Command and General Staff College and completed the "Leadership for a Democratic Society" course at the Federal Executive Institute in 1990. In August 2000, he received certification at Harvard University after completing the Senior Managers in Government program. [SSS](#)

New Employee: Edward Blackadar

Edward Blackadar joined the Selective Service System in April of 2004 as the Associate Director for Support Services (formerly known as the Office of Resource Management). His responsibilities include all financial management, information technology, human relations and logistics activities for the Agency.

Prior to joining the Agency, Blackadar served as Chief of the Claims Division at the National Pollution Funds Center (NPFC) in Arlington, Va. The Funds Center exercises fiduciary responsibility for the \$ 1 Billion Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund that was established by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 after the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska. He was responsible for the adjudication of the largest claims in the NPFC's history.

Blackadar graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Conn., in 1977 and served on active duty for over 22 years.

Blackadar's first assignment in his military career was as the Operations Officer of the Medium Endurance Cutter Acushnet in Gulfport, Miss. Later he became responsible for all training for the Coast Guard's Cutter fleet and served in several Coast Guard Cutters. He also served as an Operations/Rescue Center Controller for the Pacific Area Command. As Executive Officer of the Coast Guard Cutter Sweetgum in Jacksonville, Fla., he was responsible for the initial on-scene search and rescue planning in response to the Shuttle Challenger tragedy. As Commanding Officer of the patrol boat

Cape Starr in Atlantic City, N.J., he was responsible for saving numerous lives during the Cuban boatlift of 1980 and the rescue of a Cuban government tugboat that was experiencing a mutiny.



In 1984, after the Grenada invasion, he led a Coast Guard Technical Assistance Field Team that helped establish a coast guard for the island of Saint Lucia in the British West Indies.

(continued on page 7)

Happy Retirement To...

Freida Brockington

Freida Brockington said good-bye to the federal government after 37 years of service, 19 of which were with the Selective Service System. Brockington served as Director of the Agency's Resource Management Directorate.

Brockington joined the Agency in 1984 as the manager of the Administrative Systems Branch in the Information Systems Directorate. In 1987, she was promoted to manager of the Registrations Division in the Operations Directorate. While there she used




her knowledge of computers to implement several nation-wide initiatives such as the Acknowledgment postcards, Reminder Mail-back postcards, automatic registration via the Pell Grant applications and citizenship applications, and Internet registration.

In 1997, Brockington became the director of the Resource Management Directorate, currently known as Support Services. While in this position, she lead several programs to improve Agency operations and implemented such employee-friendly programs as Casual Dress Fridays, Alternate Work Schedules for managers, and the Telework Program.

Brockington began her career in federal government in the summer of 1965 as a student aid with the Atomic Energy Commission. In 1965, she became a clerk typist with the Civil Service Commission, currently known as the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). While attending college at night, Brockington joined the Defense Intelligence Agency as an Intelligence Library technician until she finished college in 1974 with a degree in Computer Science.

Brockington applied for an internship with the Department of the Army Military Personnel Center and was one of the 24 selected out of 200 applicants. She left the Department of the Army as manager of the Control Systems Branch to join the Selective Service System. During her tenure with the federal government, she received numerous awards and citations for her outstanding performance.

Brockington is a graduate of the Department of the Army's Personnel Management for Executives Program and the OPM's Federal Executive Institute. She is also a licensed realtor and interior decorator. Brockington plans to enjoy her retirement with her husband, Kenneth, and her daughter, Monique, a lawyer. 

Former Chief Counsel Dies

The Selective Service System family was saddened by the news that Dr. Henry Williams past away on March 30, 2004, at the age of 86. Williams retired as the Agency's chief counsel in 2001.

A native of Dickson, Tenn., Williams holds many degrees including a bachelor's degree in social science from Middle Tennessee State College, a master's degree in economics from the University of Tennessee, a doctorate in political science from the University of Chicago, an L.L.B. from Vanderbilt University, and an L.L.M. from Columbia University.

Williams served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1946. He served as an assistant professor of political science at Vanderbilt University from 1946 to 1953. Prior to joining the SSS in the late 1970s, he served as an attorney with the Department of Justice.


A personal reflection from former SSS employee Dorothy Alvery: "I remember Dr. Henry Williams as the general counsel of the Selective Service System --- a man of small stature behind a desk loaded with books, copies of many editions of the Code of Federal Regulations and other legal publications in a office filled with lots and lots of books.

"For many years there was a picture of a turtle on the wall of his office as a reminder that a turtle only makes progress with he sticks his neck out.



Dr. Henry Williams

"I remember him also as one who was always willing to take the time to explain any point in question until it was perfectly clear to the person concerned. Dr. Williams was one of a kind. His work was his pleasure."

Williams is survived by two sons, John and George, their wives and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, LaVerna Williams, in 1981. 



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Editor: Alyce Teel Burton, **Layout/Design:** Laurie Zaleski and Neal Dallmer.

The Register welcomes any news of interest to the Selective Service System employees. Send article submissions to Editor, *The Register*, Selective Service System, National Headquarters, Arlington, VA 22209-2425.

Happy Retirement To...

Norman Miller

Norman Miller retired from the Selective Service System as the Agency's Director of Information Management, a position held since 1980.

Miller began his career in the computer field in 1966 while serving in the U.S. Air Force. He entered civil service in 1970 with the Department of Commerce and served with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for nine years prior to joining the SSS.

While with the Agency, Miller personally supervised the Agency's transition into the modern age of information management. As a result of his leadership, registrants can now access their information online and external organizations can receive and send data through automated means. For his outstanding service to the Agency, Miller received the Selective Service System Distinguished Service Award with Gold Medal.

Miller is a graduate of George Mason University. He holds a bachelor's degree in Business Management. He completed the Executive Excellence Program at the Federal Executive Institute and has appeared in the



Who's Who in Information Systems Management. Miller is married and has three daughters. He enjoys golf, collecting baseball cards, and spectator sports. [SSS](#)

Martin, continued from front page

and Development Operation. He commenced his public accounting career on the consulting staff of Touche Ross & Co. (now Deloitte and Touche).

Long committed to public service, Martin has served as Chairman of the Board of Health Alliance Plan (HAP), Michigan's largest health maintenance organization, Board Member of the Henry Ford Health System and on the Investment Committee of the Mercy Health System (now Trinity Health), Chairperson of the Michigan Advisory Committee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, Vice President of the Merrill Palmer Institute at Wayne State University, Treasurer of the Alzheimer's Association, Board Member of the Detroit Athletic Club, and numerous other positions.

A Certified Public Accountant in several jurisdictions, Martin served on the Practice Standards Subcommittee of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA).

A native of Ferndale, Michigan, Martin holds B.S. and M.B.A. degrees from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, and did post-graduate work in Labor Economics at the University of Minnesota. He and his wife, Bettye, reside in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, and Washington, D.C., and have two adult children, Randy and Ingrid. Martin is a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. [SSS](#)

Happy Retirement To...

Edward Groenert

Ed Groenert retired from the Selective Service System as a program analyst officer in the Office of Operations Readiness Division.

Groenert joined the Agency in 1991 and was assigned to the Training Division within Operations. As a program analyst in the Readiness Division, Groenert was responsible for the development of Area Office/Local Board Workload Study, Readiness Plans and Policy. He was also responsible for the oversight and policy development of the Standardized Board Member Program and managing and maintaining the computer applications for the Division.

Prior to joining the Agency, Groenert served as the Reserve Personnel Strength Planner for the Chief of Naval Personnel. As a civilian, he was employed by Hechinger Company as a department head.

Groenert is a retired Navy Commander who served 23 years on active duty. He served in Vietnam and was instrumental in the planning and execution of the Naval Reserve augmentation force in Operation Desert Storm.

Groenert and his wife, Nancy, have two sons. His eldest is employed as a research scientist for the Night

Vision Laboratory at Fort Belvoir, Va. His youngest son is employed as a forecast meteorologist for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and is forecasting in Boise, Idaho. Groenert enjoys



do-it-yourself projects, rock hounding, and beach combing. He and Nancy will be moving to Colorado and look forward to “the big sky country” and volunteer activities. [SSS](#)

Blackadar, continued from page 3

As Operations Officer at the U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office in Tampa, Fla., Blackadar directed the environmental response and cleanup operations on the west coast of Florida after Hurricane Andrew, the largest hazardous materials incident in the Florida marine environment and first major oil spill since the passage of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

Blackadar also served as Commander in the U.S. Coast Guard where he was the Director of the National Response Center (NRC). The NRC is the Operations Center for the 16 Federal Departments and Agencies

that comprise the NRC. The NRC is the only federal 911-service for reporting environmental, oil, chemical, nuclear, biological, and radiological incidents, and operates the Rail Hotline for all railway incidents. In 1995, working with the Chief of Security and Intelligence for the Department of Transportation, he established the NRC as the nation’s first terrorist hotline for all transportation related incidents.

Blackadar received his MBA from the Florida Institute of Technology in 1998. [SSS](#)

New Employee: Gregg Aldana

Gregg Aldana joined the Selective Service System in March 2004. He is serving as a system's architect with the Alternative Service staff in the Mobilization Directorate at National Headquarters.

Prior to joining the Agency, Aldana worked as a senior software engineer for Advanced Information Services where he led the development of a multi-tiered Microsoft based web-reporting system for the Office of International Debt at the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Prior to working for the federal government, Aldana spent several years as a senior solutions architect for MediaServ, an award winning Manhattan based Microsoft Solutions Partner. There he gave technical lectures and was responsible for leading the development of many different web-based and wireless systems for various financial, media-based and consumer-driven Fortune 500 companies.

Aldana holds several Microsoft certifications. His hobbies and outside interests include cutting edge technologies, home theater construction, HDTV and the 26-time World



Champion New York Yankees. A native of New York, Aldana relocated to the D.C. area in 2001. He currently resides with his wife in Alexandria, Va. [SSS](#)

