



American Hellenic Institute

Nicholas Larigakis
President & Chief Operating Officer

Nick Larigakis, Alexandria, Va., became president & chief operating officer of the American Hellenic Institute (AHI), a non-profit Greek American public policy center, in January 1, 2011. He has held different positions with the AHI since joining the organization in 1987. He has been with the AHI for over 30 years. In this capacity, he manages the day-to-day operations of AHI and its affiliated organizations. He directs all aspects of strategic planning, policy analysis, public affairs programming, government relations, financial development, and media communications. During his tenure, Larigakis has organized more than 70 legislative conferences, two trade conferences on “Doing Business in Greece,” Seventeen conferences on the *Future of Hellenism in America (2002-2018)*, and a number of congressional fact finding delegations to Greece.

Larigakis’ responsibilities at AHI have included working with the U.S. Congress on U.S.-Greece-Cyprus relations. He serves as AHI’s liaison to the grass roots community, traveling throughout the U.S. to inform the public about AHI’s policy issues and other aspects of its mission. He has testified before Congressional Appropriations committees on foreign aid policy numerous times. Moreover, Larigakis is a frequent visitor to Greece and Cyprus where he regularly meets with Greek and Cypriot government officials. As a result, he is regularly interviewed by mainstream, Greek-American, and Greek media outlets on issues affecting U.S.-Greece relations, including the *New York Times*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Newark Star Ledger*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Pensacola News Journal*, *AP*, and *Reuters*. He has been published in various Greek American newspapers, including the *National Herald*, *Greek News*, *Hellenic Chronicle*, *Hellenic Voice* and *Hellenic News of America*. In addition, he has had numerous “Letters to the Editor” published in the *Washington Times* and the *Washington Post*. In addition, during the recent economic crisis of Greece, Larigakis has been interviewed by Chinese and German media outlets.

Prior to AHI, he worked at the National League of Families for POW/MIA’s from Southeast Asia where he assisted in the coordination of the organization’s grass roots network.

For his work in support of Hellenic ideals and values, Larigakis has been honored with the “Medal” of the *Hellenic Parliament (2011)*, the *Inaugural AHEPA Outstanding Public Advocacy Award (2012)*, *1995 Hermes Expo International Award*, the *2007 Hellenic News of America Award*, the *2008 Society of the Argonauts Award*, and by the *Greek Independence Day Committee of Tarpon Springs, Florida*, where he served as *Honorary Grand Marshall* of the 2001, 2009 parades, and Grand Marshall in 2017. And he was the *Honorary Grand Marshall of the 2012 Philadelphia Greek Independence Day* parade. He was recognized with an honorary award from the Hellenic National Defense General Staff, and in 2015 was awarded the Community Service Award by his Parish of St. Katherine, Falls Church, VA. Larigakis is a member of AHEPA Chapter 438, Arlington, Va., He has also served on the Boards of the Greek Orthodox Young Adult League for four years (president in 1989); and the Delian League, an organization of young Greek American professionals, for three years (president in 1992). Larigakis has served his St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, Falls, Church, Va., in many capacities, including its Parish Council (2000-2002; 2004 – 2007; & 2012 -2018), Vice-President 2015 and 2017, and he has organized numerous events to raise funds for his church. He currently also serves on the Board of Directors of the Diabetes Research & Wellness Foundation, the American Hellenic Institute (AHI), AHI Foundation, and is on the Board of Trustees of the American Community Schools of Athens in Greece

He has traveled to forty-two U.S. States and twenty-three countries.

Larigakis received his B.A. in Political Science from the College of New Jersey, formerly Trenton State, and did post graduate work in International Affairs at the American University in Washington, D.C.

In 2003, Larigakis was invested an Archon in the Order of St. Andrew the Apostle of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. This is the highest lay award presented within the Orthodox Church.

During the historic 2004 Athens Olympic Games he served as a volunteer where he was a “Protocol Venue Attendant” at the Olympic Indoor Hall.

Larigakis is from the island of Skopelos, Greece and has a daughter, Panayiota.1/19