



Chairman Charlie Dent

*Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs
House Committee on Appropriations*

Fiscal Year 2016 - Quality of Life February 25, 2015 Opening Statement As Prepared

Good morning. I want to welcome everyone to today's hearing on Military Quality of Life for our service members.

Today's hearing is on the quality of life for our enlisted soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, and their families. The four witnesses at the table are the senior enlisted members of their respective branches. Members should know that we have roughly 120 years in combined military experience before us today. This hearing is a great opportunity to identify areas where we can do more to help those who protect us and defend this Nation.

Our witnesses today are:

Sergeant Major of the Army, Daniel A. Dailey (from Palmerton, PA)

- Sergeant Major Dailey is a first time witness
- Sergeant Major Dailey was sworn in as the 15th sergeant major on January 30, 2015
- 26 years of service (enlisted in the Army in 1989)
- Attended Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training at Ft. Benning, GA
- Sergeant Major Dailey's awards include the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star Medal with Valor

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, Michael D. Stephens

- Master Chief Stephens is a returning witness
- Appointed on September 28, 2012 becoming the 13th Master Chief Petty Officer
- 32 years of service (entered the Navy straight from high school, 1983)
- Master Chief has served as Wing Command Master Chief for the largest Helicopter Wing in the U.S. Navy
- Most recently served as 16th Fleet Master Chief for U.S. Fleet Forces Command

Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, Ronald Green

- Sergeant Major Green is a first time witness
- Sergeant Major Green assumed his current post as the 18th Sergeant Major of the Marines Corps on February 20, 2015
- 31 years of service
- He has served as drill sergeant and master drill sergeant at Parris Island

- He has served at two three-star commands, a rare distinction for the rank. He served Marine Corps Forces Europe and Africa in Stuttgart, Germany in 2010.

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, James A. Cody

- Chief Master Sergeant Cody is a returning witness (his wife Athena is in attendance as well and is too a retired AF Chief with over 25 years of service)
- Appointed in January 2013 as the 17th Chief Master Sergeant
- 31 years of service (entered Air Force in 1984)
- His background includes various duties in air traffic control at the unit and major-command levels
- He served overseas in Germany, South Korea, Turkey and deployed in support of Operations Southern Watch and Enduring Freedom.

Thank you all for taking the time to be here. Without objection, your written statements will be entered into the record. Please feel free to summarize your remarks in about five minutes each.

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