

Serving Those Who Served

Serving our country runs in Wil Quintong's blood. The County of San Diego's Director of the Office of Military & Veterans Affairs has always been in a military household. Both Wil's grandfather and father were in the U.S. Navy before he graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1979.

Wil spent 28 years as a Surface Warfare Officer, stationed onboard several types of ships including Destroyers, Guided Missile Frigates, several Amphibious ships, and served as Executive Officer aboard USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7), Chief Staff Officer for Naval Beach Group ONE, Chief Staff Officer for Afloat Training Group Western Pacific in Yokosuka, Japan, and Surface Warfare Operations on the Staff of Carrier Group ONE here in San Diego. He made several deployments to the Persian Gulf, participating in Operation EARNEST WILL, DESERT STORM, served as Commander, Naval Support Element during Maritime Prepositioning Force operations in the Persian Gulf, and was directly involved in the Global War on Terrorism. Wil ultimately rose to the rank of Navy Commander.

Upon his retirement from the Navy, Wil transferred his operational and leadership skills to a job with the County of San Diego. In 2008, he joined Aging & Independence Services as Deputy Director of Administration. With the transformation of the County's Veterans Services Office to the Office of Military and Veterans Affairs, Wil could not pass up the opportunity to engage his other passion — helping his “brothers and sisters who served.”

So, in 2014, Wil was formally appointed as the Director, Office of Military and Veterans Affairs. He quickly received his marching orders from County Board of Supervisor Chairman Bill Horn, who declared 2015 to be the ‘Year of the Veteran.’” He now reports directly to the Self Sufficiency Services Director, Rick Wanne.

Wil took the helm of an organization that was already boasting an impressive string of success. The office has been recognized as the most productive veteran service office in the state based on the number of veterans served, disability claims processed, and college fee waiver applications submitted, and this

distinction continues into 2021. He served as a Vice Chair to the National Association of Counties Military and Veterans Committee and is an active member of the California Association of County Veteran Service Officers. Wil is a father of four and his spouse is a registered nurse serving active-duty military, veterans, and dependents at the Naval Regional Medical Center in San Diego.

Wil never hesitates to wish anyone a “Happy Veterans Day” no matter what day of the year it is...because, according to Wil, Every Day in San Diego is Veterans Day!