



## **Craig R. McKinley** National Chair of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

Craig McKinley was appointed National Chair of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), by Secretary of Defense James Mattis on June 1, 2017.

As National Chair, Mr. McKinley leads ESGR, a Department of Defense program, in its mission of facilitating and promoting a cooperative culture of employer support for National Guard and Reserve service. ESGR operates through a network of more than 3,700 volunteers throughout 54 committees located in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam-CNMI, Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands.



Mr. McKinley retired after 38 years in the Air Force as a four-star general in November 2012. His last assignment was as the Chief, National Guard Bureau, where he also served as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In this capacity, he was a military adviser to the President, the Secretary of Defense, and the National Security Council. He was the Department of Defense's official channel of communication to the Governors and to State Adjutants General on all matters pertaining to the National Guard. Following military service, he served as President of the Air Force Association and as President and CEO of the National Defense Industrial Association.

He received his commission in 1974 as a distinguished graduate of the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Southern Methodist University. He served in numerous assignments in flying and operations, as well as command positions at group, wing, sector, and field operating agency levels.

He was a command pilot in the Air Force with more than 4,000 hours, primarily in the T-38, F-106, F-16, and F-15.

He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, in 1974; and received his Master's degree in Management and Economics, at Webster College, St. Louis, Missouri, in 1979. He completed studies at the National War College, National Defense University, in 1995, earning a degree in National Security Management.

In addition to his role as National Chair, Mr. McKinley currently serves on the following boards:

- Analytic Services, Incorporated – 2012-Present
- Guardian Center – 2012-Present
- National Guard Youth Foundation – 2012-Present
- Our Military Kids Foundation – 2012-Present
- Shattuck School Trustee – 2013-Present
- K-9s for Warriors – 2013-Present
- Vaughn College – 2014-Present
- Tower Center Program, Southern Methodist University Senior Fellow – 2016-Present
- United States Air Force Academy Falcon Foundation – 2012-Present
- Aspen Institute's National Commission on Social, Emotional, and Academic Development – 2016-2018

*Current as of January 31, 2019*