

The Beverly Hills Council of the Navy League Swears in New President

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LOS ANGELES –The Beverly Hills Council of the Navy League of the United States swore in in Raphael Magaña as its new President on Saturday February 24, 2015, succeeding Sherre Lovick.

“I’m just proud to be a member involved in the Navy League of the United States, and the Beverly Hills Council,” said Magaña. “It’s been a rewarding journey for me and I’m pleased to have this opportunity to continue the great work of this organization.”

“The Navy League strengthens our local communities across the country, thanks to leaders like Sherre Lovick and Raphael Magaña who understand the issues challenging our nation and how the Beverly Hills Council can help address them,” said Ron Dutton, President Emeritus of the Council. “Raphael brings deep and varied experience and a strong record of accomplishment on behalf of communities to this position—one he has been building toward his entire career. He is an exceptional, driven leader who is committed to the direction and growth of the organization.”

“I am excited to be part of this great organization and collaborate with other community leaders to build on our collective impact,” Mr. Magaña said. “I have dedicated a part of my career to our great organization for over a decade because the Navy League has an unmatched capacity to enrich individual lives and the common good. I am honored for the opportunity to lead the organization and build on everything we achieved as an organization during Ron and Sherre's tenure.”

Mr. Magaña, will be the 26th president to lead organization, and he is the first Hispanic. A native of California, Mr. Magaña earned a Bachelor’s Degree from the University of California Los Angeles.

About the Navy League

The Navy League of the United States was founded in 1902 with the encouragement of President Theodore Roosevelt. The Navy League has provided a powerful voice for a stronger sea service to Congress and to the American people. It has since grown into one of the foremost citizens' organizations to serve, support, and stand with all the sea services – the U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Merchant Marine.

The Navy League is comprised of thousands of civilians in more than 240 councils in the US and around the world working to support sea service members and their families through a variety of education programs that remind our fellow citizens that the United States is a maritime nation whose national economic and security interests are inextricably tied to the freedom of the seas. It also seeks to provide meaningful support directly to the officers and crews of the sea services by encouraging its Councils to adopt and sponsor ships, stations, and bases.

About the Beverly Hills Council of the Navy League

The Beverly Hills Council, chartered in 1957, currently sponsors four military commands: The USS HAMPTON (SSN 767), USCGC HALIBUT, USCG Air Station Los Angeles, and the NROTC Contingent at UCLA, plus its Naval Sea Cadet unit, the SS Lane Victory Division.

At the request of the Navy in 1958, the Navy League established and became the primary sponsor of the Naval Sea Cadet Corps, a nationwide nautical program for young men and now young ladies between the ages of 13 to 18. The Beverly Hills Council is proud that it founded one of the first Naval Sea Cadet Corps Divisions in Southern California, which it continues to sponsor and support.

This NLUS youth program, which operates with the guidance of the US Navy / Coast Guard and Marine Corps, offers (optional) its young cadets entry into those services at an advanced (enlisted) rank, or priority selection into their officer academies, such as the Naval Academy in Annapolis. It also has a highly successful anti-drug and anti-gang program.

Since receiving its charter 58 years ago the Beverly Hills Council has sponsored numerous sea service commands as well as its Naval Sea Cadet Corps unit. The Council is particularly proud that it, lead by then Council president, Don Stone, took the initiative in forcing UCLA to reverse its decision to drop its NROTC and AFROTC programs during those turbulent years during the Viet Nam War.

The Council over the years has, and still has many programs and activities which provide a forum where sea service officers and crew can mix and mingle with the Council members and their families and friends, and also keep them up to date with the latest developments needs in their particular service.