

CMSGT (RET.) JAMES E. LOKOVIC

CMSGt (Ret.) James E. Lokovic is the Air Force Sergeants Association's (AFSA) Vice Chairman of the International Legislative Committee and the Legislative and Retired Affairs Trustee for AFSA Division 12 (Nevada, Arizona, and New Mexico) and for Chapter 1252 at Nellis AFB, Nev. He is also the author of the AFSA International Legislative Committee Bulletin that is distributed throughout the Association and to selected military leaders as well. He regularly travels to chapters throughout the Association to provide legislative and military quality-of-life benefits briefings and to promote Association membership.

After a 25-year Air Force career, in 1994 he joined the Association's headquarters staff as Deputy Executive Director and Director of Military and Government Relations. While there, he fashioned AFSA's lobbying and testimonial programs that have been largely responsible for many improvements in the quality-of-life programs enjoyed by Airmen, retirees, veterans, and their families. He also worked directly with officials from the White House, the Department of Defense, and with top military leaders—in particular with the Chief Master Sergeants of the Air Force. Over his 15 years working with and for AFSA, he testified dozens of times before the United States Congress and served as one of AFSA's registered lobbyists. On Capitol Hill, he led campaigns for higher military pay raises; enhancements to military health care, dormitories, housing, and the G.I. Bill; improvements to permanent change of station moves; the creation and improvement of family programs; the creation of TRICARE for Life; the protection of annual retiree COLAs; improved veterans' and retirement programs; protection of the commissary and base exchange benefits; creation and protection of programs for Guardsmen and Reservists; and the upgrade of Airman William H. Pitsenbarger's Air Force Cross to the Medal of Honor, just to name a few. In 2007, Chief Lokovic and his wife, Linda, moved to Cedar City, Utah, where he continued to work for AFSA's CEO as a legislative consultant and writer for SERGEANTS Magazine and the Association's on-line weekly newsletter. He periodically traveled for the Association, and provided training to the AFSA headquarters staff upon request. In 2009, he joined Division 12 and Nellis AFB Chapter 1252 and recently was named to the AFSA International Legislative Committee.

Chief Lokovic's Air Force assignments included Okinawa, Japan; San Vito, Italy (2 tours); Crete, Greece; Pensacola, Florida; Fort Meade, Maryland; San Antonio and San Angelo, Texas (3 tours), and the Pentagon. He worked in the Morse and Non-Morse Systems career fields, served as a Unit OJT Manager, Unit Career Advisor, MAJCOM IG inspector, and as an instructor and director of education at NCO Academy and Leadership School levels. His final assignment was on the Air Staff at the Pentagon where he two-hatted as the functional manager for Air Force First Sergeants and as the Chief, USAF Enlisted Professional Military Education. Chief Lokovic received the Levitow Award in 1985 at the Goodfellow NCO Academy and, in 1988, at the USAF Senior NCO Academy. His civilian education includes a Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Arts and associates degrees from the Community College of the Air Force in Communications Technology and in Instructional Systems Technology. His decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (5 OLCs), the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal and the Air Force Achievement Medal.

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