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Admiral Nimitz Foundation Announces CEO Retirement and Appointment of Successor

Fredericksburg, TX – [The Admiral Nimitz Foundation \(ANF\)](#) has announced the retirement of President & CEO Michael W. Hagee and the appointment of Steven L. Salazar, currently of San Antonio, as its new chief executive.

Hagee, who grew up in Fredericksburg, returned here after capping off his military career as the 33rd Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps and has led ANF and the [National Museum of the Pacific War](#) for over 16 years. During his tenure, the Museum has gained stature with national accreditation and Smithsonian affiliation. While Hagee's service for ANF and the Museum will conclude on November 8, he and his wife Silke remain committed to Fredericksburg. They are both active in the community and intend to continue contributing to the area they call home.

"The Admiral Nimitz Foundation was fortunate to have Mike Hagee as its leader," said ANF Board Chair Greg Shrader. "Under his leadership the foundation and the National Museum of the Pacific War has gained prominence, expanded the campus, and Mike has developed an excellent staff. We all owe Mike our gratitude for a lifetime of service to our country and to the Museum."

Salazar, who will assume duties as ANF's President & CEO on November 9, brings both military and private sector executive experience to the position. A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY, he retired from the U.S. Army at the rank of Brigadier General following 36 years of service. Since leaving the military, Salazar has worked in the aviation/logistics and healthcare industries as well as founding 360 Military-Veterans Partnership, a non-profit that supports first-line military leaders.

"The board of directors is excited to have Steve Salazar as the next Chief Executive Officer of the Foundation," said Shrader. "Steve brings knowledge and experience to the Museum, but the most important attribute is his enthusiasm for his new role. Steve and his wife have also clearly expressed their excitement about becoming members of the Fredericksburg community."

Shrader continued, "Mike (Hagee) has laid the foundation for several major enhancements to the Museum that will soon take place and leaves the foundation in excellent condition. The ANF board is confident that Steve will be able to pick up the thread of fine leadership and stewardship that has now become the bedrock of this organization."

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About the National Museum of the Pacific War



The National Museum of the Pacific War (NMPW), founded in 1967, is the only institution in the continental United States dedicated exclusively to telling the story of the Pacific and Asiatic Theaters in World War II. The Museum annually welcomes more than 120,000 visitors, including at least 15,000 students from across the state. The museum sits on six acres in downtown Fredericksburg, Texas featuring three galleries with more than 55,000 square feet of exhibit space, 40 media installations, approximately 900 artifacts, 15 macro-artifacts, and hundreds of photographs. The Museum is a Texas Historical Commission Property, managed and supported by The Admiral Nimitz Foundation, a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization. For more information, visit <http://www.pacificwarmuseum.org>. Follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

About Smithsonian Affiliations

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