



Flag Officers 4 America

December 9, 2024

## An Open Letter of Support for Peter Hegseth's Nomination for U.S. Secretary of Defense

The undersigned retired Generals and Admirals are offering our strong support for Pete Hegseth's nomination to be the next Secretary of Defense (SECDEF).

There is no doubt that Pete Hegseth is passionate about our country, our military, and the men and women who serve in our armed forces. He is a warrior who volunteered to join the military and he served tours in Iraq and Afghanistan as an infantry officer. He understands combat from the grass roots level and will take that much needed perspective with him as the next SECDEF. He has studied and experienced the disastrous effects Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) has on our military and he is committed to expunging it from our armed forces. His focus is solely on warfighting readiness so that our military is prepared to fulfill its mission—to fight and win our Nation's wars.

Former President Trump had many talented people to consider in selecting his SECDEF nominee in order to implement his plans for the Department of Defense. From those many people, he selected Pete Hegseth as the best qualified person he trusts to succeed as SECDEF. President Trump has the right and responsibility to select key people who are capable of fulfilling his promises to the American people. Prominent in that mandate was making our military strong and lethal, to include removing what is called "wokeness" in the form of (DEI) from our armed forces.

He has selected Pete Hegseth to carry out that mandate and he stands behind him in the face of those opposing Pete's confirmation. We, the undersigned retired generals and admirals, stand with President Trump in endorsing Pete Hegseth for Secretary of Defense.

Signed:

RADM Philip Anselmo, USN (ret)  
MG Joseph Arbuckle USA (ret)  
BGen John C Arick, USMC (ret)  
BG Ernest Audino, USA (ret)  
BrigGen Paul Bauman, USAF (ret)

Gen BB Bell, USA (ret)  
RDML James B. Best, USN (ret)  
Lt Gen Rod Bishop, USAF (ret)  
MG Patrick Brady, USA (ret) MOH  
RADM Peter J Brown USCG (ret)  
Lt Gen Richard E Brown III, USAF (ret)  
BrigGen Frank Bruno, USAF (ret)  
VADM Toney Michael Bucchi USN (ret)  
MG David Burford USA (ret)  
MajGen Bob G Butcher, USMC (ret)  
RADM John T Byrd, USN (ret)  
RADM James J Carey, USN (ret)  
BrigGen Jim Cash, USAF (ret)  
LTG Dennis D Cavin, USA (ret)  
LtGen James E Chambers, USAF (ret)  
BrigGen Lawrence Christensen, USAF (ret)  
RADM Arthur Clark, USN (ret)  
MajGen Jay Closner, USAF (ret)  
MG David C Coburn, USA (ret)  
BrigGen Michael J Cole, USAF (ret)  
BGen Richard Coleman, USAF (ret)  
BGen Peter B Collins, USMC (ret)  
MG Richard Colt, USA (ret)  
MajGen Richard Comer, USAF (ret)  
BrigGen Keith B Connolly, USAF (ret)  
VADM John G Cotton, USN (ret)  
RDML David J Cronk, USN (ret)  
BrigGen Howard G DeWolf, USAF (ret)  
MG John Deyermond, USA (ret)  
BrigGen Philip M Drew, USAF (ret)  
RADM Ernest Elliot, USN (ret)  
VADM George Emery, USN (ret)  
BG Steven J Feldmann, USA (ret)  
LTG Michael Flynn, USA (ret)  
BrigGen Rufus L Forrest, Jr., USAF (ret)  
MajGen Steven E. Foster, USAF (ret)  
BG Jimmy E Fowler, USA (ret)  
BG C William Fox, Jr., USA (ret)  
MG John T Furlow, USA (ret)  
MajGen David C Garza, USMC (ret)  
MG Brian I Geehan, USA (ret)  
MG Francis C Gideon, Jr., USAF (ret)  
LtGen Thomas B Goslin, Jr., USAF (ret)  
MajGen Lee V Greer, USAF (ret)  
RDML Michael R Groothousen, USN (ret)  
MajGen Ken Hagemann, USAF (ret)

RDML Dale Hagen USN (ret)  
BrigGen Norman Ham, USAF (ret)  
Gen Alfred G Hansen, USAF (ret)  
BrigGen Murray Hansen, USAF (ret)  
BrigGen James W Hart Jr., USAF (ret)  
MajGen Harald Hermes, USAF (ret)  
MG Kent H Hillhouse, USA (ret)  
BG Robert Hipwell, USA (ret)  
MG William B Hobgood, USA (ret)  
ADM James R Hogg, USN (ret)  
MajGen Bob Hollingsworth, USMC (ret)  
MajGen Jerry Holmes, USAF (ret)  
BrigGen Blaine D Holt, USAF (ret)  
MG Alan D Johnson, USA (ret)  
BG Phillip Jolly, USA (ret)  
BG Charles Jones, USA (ret.)  
BG Gary L Jones, USA (ret)  
RDML Herbert C Kaler, USN (ret)  
BG John S. Kasper, USAR (ret)  
BG Jack Kotter, USA (ret)  
RADM Charles Kubic, USN (ret)  
RADM Richard Landolt, USN (ret)  
BrigGen Enrique Lanz, USAF (ret)  
BG Jerry L Laws, USA (ret)  
RADM Mark Leavitt, USN (ret)  
VADM William Dean Lee, USCG (ret)  
MG Jack Leide, USA (ret)  
MG Vernon B Lewis, Jr., USA (ret)  
MajGen James E Livingston, USMC (ret) MOH  
MajGen John D Logeman, USAF (ret)  
BrigGen John M Lotz, USAF (ret)  
BrigGen Robert W Lovell, USAF (ret)  
RDML John T Lyons, USN (ret)  
LtGen Fred McCorkle, USMC (ret)  
Lt Gen Thomas McInerney, USAF (ret)  
BrigGen Michael McRaney, USAF (ret)  
RADM William F. Merlin, USCG 9ret)  
RADM Mark Milliken, USN (ret)  
BrigGen Michael W Miller, USAF (ret)  
MajGen John F Miller, Jr., USAF (ret)  
RADM James A Morgart, USN (ret)  
RADM David Morris, USN (ret)  
VADM Charles Moore, Jr., USN (ret)  
Mg James H. Mukoyama, Jr. USA (ret)  
BG Ben Murdock, USA (ret)  
BrigGen Charles W Neeley, USAF (ret)

BGen Michael I Neil, USMC (ret)  
MG Joe S Owens, USA (ret)  
RADM Russ Penniman, USN (ret)  
MajGen Richard Perraut, USAF (ret)  
RADM Leonard Picotte, USN (ret)  
BG Guido J Portante, USA (ret)  
MajGen David S Post, USAF (ret)  
MajGen Kevin Pottinger, USAF (ret)  
RDML James Quinn, USN (ret)  
MajGen Bentley Rauburn, USAF (ret)  
LtGen Clifford H Rees, Jr., USAF (ret)  
RDML Edward Reidy, USN (ret)  
MajGen Dave Richwine, USMC (ret)  
MG Douglas Robertson, USA (ret)  
MG Lee Rodgers, USA (ret)  
RADM William D Rodriguez, USN (ret)  
RADM Michael S Roesner, USN (ret)  
MajGen Edward A Sauley, III USAF (ret)  
MajGen John Schoeppner, USAF (ret)  
BrigGen Terry Schwalier, USAF (ret)  
MajGen Paul M Van Sickle, USAF (ret)  
RADM Kenneth Slaght, USN (ret)  
MajGen James Sluder, USAF (ret)  
LTG Hubert G Smith, USA (ret)  
Gen Lance L Smith, USAF (ret)  
BG Danny K Speigner, USA (ret)  
MajGen James N Stewart, USAF (ret)  
LtGen David J Teal, USAF (ret)  
VADM Howard Thorsen, USN (ret)  
LtGen William E Thurman, USAF (ret)  
MG Paul Vallely, USA (ret)  
BrigGen Christopher Walker, USAF (ret)  
MajGen Kenneth W Weir, USMCR (ret)  
BrigGen Bill Welch, USAF (ret)  
BrigGen William L Welsh, USAF (ret)  
Maj Gen John M. white, USAF (ret)  
MajGen Michael Wiedemer, USAF (ret)  
MG Richard O Wightman, Jr., USA (ret)  
MajGen Michael Wilson, USAF (ret)  
RADM H Denny Wisely, USN (ret)  
BrigGen Brent Wright, USAF (ret)  
BG Mitchell Zais, USA (ret)