

South Dakota National Guard

Public Affairs Office

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Rapid City man chosen as Air Force Chief of Staff Civic Leader

WASHINGTON – Mr. Al Cornella, of Rapid City, has been selected to serve on the Air Force Chief of Staff Civic Leader program beginning in January 2012, according to an Air Force press release. In this role, he will serve as the National Guard Bureau representative.

Cornella currently serves on the civilian advisory group to the Commander of Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, Ill., and is a member of the South Dakota Board of Military Affairs. This new honor is an Air Staff-level program whose membership is comprised of twelve respected community leaders selected from the Air Force major commands, National Guard Bureau and Headquarters Air Force.

“I am extremely honored to be selected as the National Guard Bureau representative for this prestigious Civic Leader program,” said Cornella in the press release. “I feel fortunate to have this opportunity to serve our nation in this capacity.”

“Mr. Cornella’s selection for this position is truly significant,” said Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch, adjutant general of the South Dakota National Guard. “He has a tremendous knowledge base of the U.S. military, which will serve him well as he represents the entire National Guard in this important role.”

According to the release, the Air Force Chief of Staff Civic Leaders are unpaid advisors, key communicators and advocates for Air Force issues. The members meet up to three times a year, once in Washington D.C. and at Air Force locations around the country. They provide ideas and feedback to advise the Secretary of the Air Force, Air Force Chief of Staff, and Air Force senior leaders about how missions can best be accomplished in their respective areas and about public attitudes toward the Air Force and Air Force activities.

Air Force Civic Leaders have a good degree of flexibility in outreach efforts which may include speeches, articles, and local, regional, state, and national activities. They also are asked to disseminate information to appropriate major commands, base civic leader councils, and other similar groups in which they may participate.

Air Force Civic Leaders are asked to serve for three years in a “Current” status and thereafter as a civic leader Emeritus. Both Current and Emeritus Civic Leaders serve as Air Force advocates and provide support to Airmen and their families through their outreach efforts.



Mr. Al Cornella (Courtesy photo by Al Cornella)

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please contact the Secretary of the Air Force Office of Public Affairs at (703) 695-9664.