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Biography of
Ronald R. Sticka, Colonel (Retired), USAF
Executive Director, Kim Sticka PTSD Music and Arts Foundation

I attended North Salem High School, Salem, Oregon, graduating in 1965. I was involved in student government, participated in track and cross country, and was a member of National Honor Society and the Athletic National Honor Society. I also played trombone in the school band and orchestra. During these years I was involved in scouting and served as president of the local Air Explorer unit.

I entered Willamette University, Salem, Oregon, with honors, graduating in 1969 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics. I was involved in student government, treasurer for my fraternity, treasurer for the junior class, and student body treasurer my senior year. I was cadet commander for the AFROTC unit my senior year and commissioned at graduation as a second lieutenant with the U.S. Air Force. I received the General Dynamics Outstanding Cadet award and was a delegate to the Arnold Air Society convention in New York City. I was active in drama, the university choir, and track. I made the Dean's List and was honored as a top 10 student with a senior key and also received a key and admission to the Omicron Delta Kappa honorary society. Summer work during my college years was largely with the State of Oregon Highway Department, Sign Division, and one summer with USP Cannery as a forklift driver and refrigeration system monitor. I was a member of the Teamsters union. The summer after graduation I worked at Westab in the shipping department and was a member of the Pulp and Paper Mill Workers Union.

I received an educational delay before activation to attend the University of Oregon School of Law, and received my Juris Doctor upon graduation in 1972. During my law school years, I worked as a student accountant and auditor at the U of O Business Department until graduation. I was a member of the Oregon State Bar from 1972 until my retirement in 2017.

I was ordered to active duty November 1972 at March Air Force Base, California, as a judge advocate. My next assignment was the Turkish United States Logistics command in Izmir, Turkey, from August 1974 until August 1976, during the crisis on Cyprus and conflict between Turkey and Greece. Much of my work involved

assisting all military branches of service as a trial observer for the southwest quadrant of Turkey, helping American service personnel and dependents accused of crimes in the local courts, observing trials for fairness, and reporting my observations to the U.S. Embassy, and consulting with the U.S. consulate in Izmir. I was the district chair for the Boy Scouts of America, while there, for dependent scouts. I also reported to and assisted NATO commanders and Sixth Fleet naval operations in this region. From August 1976 until November 1977, I was the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate at Fairchild Air Force Base and JAG liaison to the Air Force Survival School, a tenant unit at this SAC base, and received specialized training in the law of armed conflict. My last assignment while on active duty was to serve as the first chief Air Force prosecutor for what was then the 5th Circuit, a newly created position within Air Force Trial Judiciary, handling and supervising the prosecution of serious general courts martial cases in the six CONUS western states, Alaska and Hawaii. I separated from active service in 1979 due to adverse health conditions for my father and my oldest brother, who died later that year.

My reserve career was quite active from 1979 until my retirement the end of 2002. My assignments were varied at many locations, but primarily involved assignments to McChord Air Force Base, Washington, Travis Air Force Base, McClellan Air Force Base, and March Air Reserve Base, California. I served at several headquarter level positions and my last assignments were to serve as Staff Judge Advocate for 4th Air Force, supervising JAG units at 12 airlift installations across the nation, and finally as a General Court Martial Military Judge assigned to the Western Circuit for the United States of America, committing to a week of service each month. I retired the end of December 2002, I am a veteran of service during the Vietnam conflict, and I performed extensive volunteer service during Operation Desert Shield. I was also involved with planning for the Kosovo intervention during my tenure as SJA for 4th Air Force, but I have not served in combat zones nor been in combat myself. I was involved with implementation of new procedures for combat personnel as part of POW experiences shared with me and evaluating lessons learned. I was reporting for an active duty tour when Iraq invaded Kuwait, and was heavily involved with a task force to formulate the U.S. response and the recall of reservists to duty on short notice. For my time in service I received the Legion of Merit medal, five Meritorious Serve medals, three Air Force Commendation medals, the National Defense Service medal with device, and other honors and unit citations. When tapped to be a military judge I finished with the second highest score and graduated with honors at the interservice

Military Judges School at the University of Virginia. I also attended the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada, with a large number of civilian judges from around the nation. I have practiced before the Supreme Court of the United States, the Armed Forces Court of appeals, the Supreme Court of the State of Oregon, and other intermediate appellate courts.

I was a deputy district attorney and grand jury supervisor during my time at the Lane County District Attorney's office upon separation from active military service in 1979. I then went into practice for myself as Ronald R. Sticka, P.C., in 1981 and concurrently served as a standing panel Chapter 7 bankruptcy trustee from 1982 until 2014. I also founded and operated Western Oregon Mediation, LLC, to serve as a mediator and court-appointed receiver in mediated cases until 2022. I am now retired from all except my duties with the Kim Sticka PTSD Music and Arts Foundation.

I have been involved with service organizations. I was president of the Eugene Southtowne Rotary Club in 2008-2009, on faculty for the Rotary Leadership Institute for District 5110 and for the President Elect Training Seminar held in Seattle. I am still active as a Rotarian. In 2017 I was president of the Emerald Empire Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), involved with the Moving Wall project to bring the half-size Vietnam War memorial replica to Eugene for the benefit of thousand of veterans and families. I am the executive director of the Kim Sticka PTSD Music and Arts Foundation which, among other activities, has instituted an annual PTSD Symposium discussed on our website at www.ptsdmusicarts.com. I teach music at the Jasper Mountain SAFE Center, helping severely traumatized children. I have been an instructor with Guitars for Vets, and have provided music and art services and support to St. Vincent de Paul of lane County, Emerald Valley Boys and Girls Clubs, Hosea, Head Start, and Youth Era.<http://www.ptsdmusicarts.org>

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