

## ***Perch Base, United States Submariners***

# ***Flash Traffic***

**Number: 06-02-2025**

**Date: 06-13-2025**

**Subject: USSVI Western Region District Commander Election**

## **Candidate Ballot Information**

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The candidates are Mike Ortiz who hails from the Tucson Base and Joe Trotter from the Perch Base. There is a provision for write-candidates on the ballot. This Flash Traffic is the promised follow up to FT 06-01-2025 and contains the "Ballot Information" for each candidate. Both candidates are well qualified for the WD1 Commander position.

### **Mike Ortiz**

#### **Qualifications:**

- Plank owner of Tucson Base when chartered in 2004. Left in 2006 due to responsibilities of my job, then rejoined 2010-current. USSVI life member
- Base Secretary
- Base Treasurer
- Membership Coordinator
- Vice Commander
- Base Commander
- Currently serving as Vice Commander Western District-1
- Participates in parades and static functions
- Attends National Conventions and Western Region Round Up
- Dual member of Perch Base
- Co-Chair National Submarine Convention 2023, Entertainment Coordinator, Magazine production, processed all manual registration payments.
- Robert Link Award
- As Base Commander Tucson Base receives class 1 Golden Anchor Award.
- USS Tucson SSN-770 club board member. 770 Club supports crew and family members serving on the USS Tucson SSN-770.

### **Joe Trotter:**

Qualifications:

Joined USSVI in 2017

- Life Member Since 2017
- Base Treasurer
- Perch Base Foundation treasurer
- AZ Silent Service Memorial president
- ASSM maintenance, general cleanup and brick laying
- Participates in parades and static functions
- Attends National Conventions and Western Region Round Up
- Phoenix Naval Reserve sponsor
- PCU USSVI Boat Sponsorship program
- Provides updates to Base members about USS Arizona Legacy Foundation and their activities
- Attends events with SSN-803 crew when in town
- Visits other USSVI Base
- Eagle Scout presenter
- Presentations to elementary school students
- Presentations to Veterans groups
- Eternal Patrol ceremonies for USSVI members

I have been a life member of USSVI since September 2017. Over the past four years I have held six leadership positions, many concurrently, in USSVI and related submarine organizations for a total of 13 years of service. I am actively involved with Perch Base and the Arizona Silent Service Memorial Foundation having attended more than 80

events in addition to the normal base and Board of Director meetings. A summary of the

leadership positions and events are included in the attachment. I am also a sponsor for

the Phoenix Naval Reserve Center and the PCU Arizona under the USSVI Boat Sponsorship program.

My immediate goals, if elected, are to provide improved coordination between the

district's bases with immediate attention to sharing best practices for retention and

recruitment and working with the USS Arizona Legacy Foundation to provide united WD1

support for PCU Arizona. This will be done while working with base commanders and

leadership to be a resource they can turn to for identifying information in areas they

want to improve.

Both candidates pledge to provide coordination and communication to WD-1 Bases and to regional peers. Strong focus on recruitment of Submarine Veterans and retention of USSVI members.

The position of the Western Region District Commander is vital to the robust operation of USSVI's chain-of-command. Therefore, the BOD strongly encourages your participation in this election. Keep the voting deadline in mind and any questions or concerns should be directed to Perch Base Commanding Officer, Dave Heighway ([commander@perch-base.org](mailto:commander@perch-base.org) or 480-809-2848).

**This is an official email communication from the USSVI Perch Base and does not require a response.**